

A. My program of study at the University of Ottawa is International Management. Currently at the University of Strathclyde I am taking 3 Business classes :

a. MS311-Knowledge and Innovation Management

The class goes to the very basis of what constitutes knowledge and knowledge work, based on this we develop the notion of creativity, as creation of new knowledge, and subsequently conceptualize innovation as new value created from the new knowledge. This is a unique conceptual development accompanied with numerous exercises at various levels of applicability as the students gradually complexify themselves. The class consists of weekly lectures for 2 hours and 8 tutorials for 1 hour. The final mark is determined by a combination of the mark of final test (30%), tutorial contribution (10%), group discussion (30%) and group essay (30%).

b. WE211-Managing Services and Experiences

This class discusses designing, staging and managing service experiences within the contexts of hospitality, tourism and events – and other service dominant sectors. This class aims to provide students with the knowledge to recognize the consequences of technological, sustainable, and various other societal developments and trends, and find new and successful ways to differentiate themselves from the competition. The class consists of lectures and workshops. Additionally, the mark is determined by an individual assignment (60%), group presentation (20%), group essay (10%) and group contribution (10%).

c. Z1218: New Venture Planning

The class mark is determined by group tradeshow pitch (25%), group business plan (35%), and individual analysis of venture growth live case (40%)

B. The arrival date for the residence was September 8, 2023. On September 12, 2023 there was an orientation for all exchange students. Classes officially started on September 18, 2023 and officially end on December 3. The exam period is from December 4, 2023 and ends on December 12, 2023. Since I will be studying abroad for a whole school year, I can stay in the student accommodation until June. For the second semester classes start on January 15 and officially end on March 31st.

C. Prior to your arrival, the University of Strathclyde will email you the option to register for a welcome greeting by school representatives, which includes a complimentary cab ride. Initial course selection will be completed online through PEGASUS before your departure,

and any subsequent changes must be requested through the undergraduate office and require approval upon arrival. For social activities, the university offers many societies and sports teams. Usually, the sports teams have socials every Wednesdays. I personally go out with the tennis team and every Wednesday they have pub nights and recreational tennis.

D. In Scotland there is the young Scot program which gives everyone under 22 a free bus pass, so using the bus is free for me. Additionally, Glasgow has a subway and a roundtrip tickets costs around £3.30. For weekend trips I take the bus since it's free but you can also take ScotRail but its more expensive than the bus. For my day to day I just walk, Glasgow is a small and walkable city and everything in the city center is close. For trips, I stay in hostels since they are cheaper than hotels and I make sure to book them with time so the prices are cheap. For travelling, I use Hostel World and stay in the Youth Hostel throughout Scotland since they are cheaper than hotels. Additionally, for my classes I have not bought any textbooks as they are available for free online in the library and the link is given in the class main page online.

E. During April, Strathclyde sent out the official acceptance letter with all the next steps and details to create an online portal. Once my online portal was created, I was provided with my contact information, details to apply for residence, and finalize picking the classes for the semester. The application for housing opened on April 7 and I was given my details to sign up the day after. Later on, the school informed me the residence that I will be staying and I had to pay a £400 deposit by a week before my arrival. Lastly, since I will be studying for a whole academic year (8 months), I had to apply for a student visa. The university of Strathclyde provided me with a CAS number which I used to apply for the visa. I followed what the university's website says and I filled out all my details for the U.K visa online. Then, I had to go to an office in Toronto for my biometric information. Overall, the application for the student visa was really easy and straightforward and 3 days after my biometric information, I received my passport back home via mail with the visa.

F. This semester, I was given a room in a flat in Birbeck Court. Each flat in Birbeck has 6 bedrooms, 2 shared bathrooms and share the kitchen and living area. During the application process I decided to be in a female only room and my roommates are all Scottish/English students. The costs is £110.25 per week. Overall, I have no complaints the flat is just like every other student accommodation and it is right in campus and close to everything

H. An important thing to know is that for the grading scheme here is different. For instance the pass mark here at Strathclyde is 40% and a 60%-70% is considered a pretty good mark. Additionally, the cheapest and closest supermarket to the student accommodation is Aldi which is around a 10-minute walk from campus, then Tesco has a club card which gives really good deals and discounts. Additionally, since I will be studying for the whole academic school year, I opened a UK bank account with HSBC since I was able to open it online while I was still in Canada. For my phone plan, I got a plan with Vodafone which is really close to the university and I have a pay-as you go plan that each month I recharge my account. Then for buying the things for my room such as pillows, blankets and kitchen utensils I went to this place called TJ Hughes which is a discount shop and it also had a 10% discount for students. Additionally, there is also a student store from the union that sells used items from past exchange students however, I found out after I had bought my items. Another option is getting a Studentkit which the university of Strathclyde sent an email and it delivers you a kit with all the essentials for the kitchen and room to your dorm.

I. Overall my experience at the University of Strathclyde and Glasgow has been amazing. Glasgow is an amazing city where there is always something to do and the bars are always full. Additionally, the locals are really warm, friendly and talkative. The university also has many societies, events, and sports teams which has allowed me to meet many local Scottish students and visit places throughout Scotland. Lastly, I have met many exchange students from all around the world. So far I have been able to travel, meet new people and I have created many memories. I am excited for what the second semester has to offer and I am looking forward to meet more exchange students and travel throughout Europe and the U.K.

