

Please describe your experiences and comment on the following:

**1. Your program of study (courses, assignments, course format). Add the exact number of class hours per course.**

My program of study was International Business and I was enrolled in three core courses: Services and Retail Marketing (MK212), People at Work (WE202), and Knowledge and Innovation Management (MS311).

The first course, Services and Retail Marketing (MK212), focused on marketing strategies within the service and retail sectors. This module was assessed through a combination of a group report, a multiple-choice quiz (MCQ), and a final exam. The group report contributed 30% to our overall grade. This assignment helped enhance my ability to work collaboratively, conduct market research, and apply marketing theory to real-world scenarios. The MCQ tested our understanding of theoretical concepts taught during lectures, while the final exam evaluated our ability to apply these concepts critically and analytically. The lecture structure for MK212 consisted of two two-hour sessions per week, totaling four hours weekly. Additionally, tutorials were held once every two weeks for two hours. Over the span of 11 teaching weeks, the total contact hours for this module added up to approximately 30 hours.

The second course, People at Work (WE202), examined organizational behavior, workplace culture, and human resource management. Like MK212, this module was also assessed through a group report worth 30%, a group presentation, and a final exam. The group report involved exploring a contemporary workplace issue and proposing evidence-based solutions. The presentation gave us the opportunity to build our communication skills, which are essential in any international business setting. Lectures were once a week for two hours, and tutorials were held biweekly for one hour. Additionally, we participated in a weekly workshop for the first four weeks of the term, each lasting two hours. In total, the module accounted for approximately 36 contact hours over the term.

The third course, Knowledge and Innovation Management (MS311), was particularly focused on how organizations create, share, and apply knowledge, and how they manage innovation in an increasingly global and digital landscape. This course did not have a final exam. Instead, assessment was carried out through a group report worth 30% and a structured classroom debate. The report allowed us to investigate how companies innovate and the challenges they face in managing organizational knowledge effectively. The debate was a unique component that tested our ability to articulate arguments, think critically, and respond quickly in a high-pressure setting. The

teaching format for this module was primarily through tutorials, which occurred weekly. Each tutorial was highly interactive and discussion-based, making it one of the more engaging courses. With one tutorial per week over 11 weeks, and additional contact sessions spread throughout the module, this course accounted for around 52 hours of contact time, the highest among the three modules.

Overall, the term included 11 weeks of teaching, during which I gained significant academic knowledge and practical skills across all three modules. Each course offered a different structure and workload, which required effective time management and adaptability.

### **The timetable for my Exchange Semester.**

#### **Semester 2 (S2)**

**13 January 2025 - 23 May 2025**

Event	Dates	Standard academic year structure*
Consolidation and development week	13 January 2025 to 19 January 2025	1 week
S2 Teaching block 2	20 January 2025 to 6 April 2025	11 weeks
Spring Graduations	17 March 2025 to 18 March 2025	<a href="#">Find out more about Graduations</a>
University closed	18 April 2025 and 21 April 2025	
Student holiday: spring vacation	07 April 2025 to 17 April 2025 (inclusive)	2 weeks
Formal assessment period	22 April 2025 to 23 May 2025	5 weeks
University closed	5 May 2025	

### **2. Procedures to follow upon arrival. List and description of services offered by the International Exchange Office of the host institution. Registration and course selection. Social activities.**

Upon arrival in the UK, it is important to demonstrate that you are a registered student at the University of Strathclyde. Immigration officers may ask for proof of your student status, so having your acceptance letter and any relevant documentation on hand is essential. Once you have entered the country and settled in, the next step is to begin the class selection process. You also must have an ETA to enter into the UK. It cost 10 pounds.

As an exchange student, you are invited to an orientation meeting for incoming international and exchange students. During the meeting, the staff guide you through the class registration process and introduce you to the university's online learning

platform, Myplace. They also provide helpful resources, including a tutorial on how to navigate and use the platform effectively.

Once you have access to Myplace, you can browse available courses and register for the classes that best fit your academic goals. It's important to make sure there are no timetable clashes between selected modules.

Strathclyde also offers a variety of social events for exchange students. One of the highlights is the ERASMUS Exchange Club, which is a student-led group that organizes social events and trips throughout the semester. This club is a great way to meet other international students and make new friends. They host a variety of activities, including weekend excursions around Glasgow and beyond, giving students a chance to explore Scotland's culture and landscapes while building connections in a welcoming environment.

### **Budget:**

Since I was on winter vacation in Doha before arriving in the UK, I flew from there to Glasgow. My flight cost around \$800, although I was able to use airline points.

Textbooks were not required for any of the classes I took, which helped keep expenses low. Most course materials were provided through the university's online platform or shared by instructors.

For daily living, groceries typically cost between 10 to 35 pounds each day, depending on individual habits. Since I enjoy cooking, I tend to spend on the higher end of that range. My total monthly expenses, including food, essentials, and occasional outings, ranged from 500-600 pounds.

Housing was the largest expense. Due to the current housing shortage in Scotland, I opted to stay at The Social Hub, a short-term accommodation for exchange students. I had a private room with my own kitchen and bathroom. The total cost for the semester was approximately 5600 pounds, which breaks down to roughly 1500–2000 pounds per month. One major benefit was that it was within walking distance of the University of Strathclyde, so I had no daily commuting expenses. For those using public transport, a daily bus pass costs around 10 pounds.

Before arriving in the UK, the only application I needed to complete was for the Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA). The form is available on the official UK government website and requires a passport photo and information about how long you

intend to stay. The application costs 10 pounds. Since I was staying for less than six months (just one semester), I did not need to apply for any additional visas.

Overall, the costs were manageable with some planning.

### **Overall experience:**

My experience in Glasgow was nothing short of fun. I attended many gatherings where I met lots of people, who are all very nice. I was scared that being in a different country and looking the way I do might have been met with various reactions, but everyone was welcoming. I went around Glasgow and saw amazing sights and fun activities. There are a lot of cafes around central Glasgow as well which is nice when you want a change in scenery for studying. Overall, my time in Glasgow was well-spent and I hope I have the chance to come back here.

My experience in Glasgow was nothing short of amazing. From the moment I arrived, I was welcomed into a friendly community. I attended many social gatherings where I met people from all over the world, and everyone I encountered was kind, and easy to talk to. Before arriving, I had some concerns about how I might be perceived in a new country, especially looking the way I do, but I was met only with warmth and respect. That sense of inclusivity made settling in a lot easier.

Exploring the city was one of the highlights of my time there. Glasgow is full of character, with beautiful sights, historic buildings, and plenty of fun activities to try. Whether it was walking through the parks, visiting museums, or just wandering around the city center, there was always something interesting to do.

One of my favorite things was discovering the many cozy cafes around central Glasgow. They became great places for both socializing and studying when I needed a change of scenery.

Overall, my time in Glasgow was incredibly enjoyable and meaningful. I made great memories and truly hope I get the chance to return someday.