



# Exchange Experience Reports

## University College London, UK

### Host University Evaluation

#### Reports

**Name:** Stephanie S.    **Term Abroad:** F'19    **Faculty:** Arts ..... 1

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#### Academic life

**How easy was it to figure out your course selection at your host university?**

- Super simple!
- Relatively straightforward
- Pretty difficult to navigate
- It was complicated and frustrating

**What did the process look like? Was it easy to register in your preferred classes?**

When I applied originally I was asked to select courses that I was interested in taking (which I thought I would be enrolled in). But then, two weeks before classes began, I was emailed saying that I needed to complete pre-registration and sign-up for classes (and to do it quickly because some were going to fill up), which was stressful.

**Were your courses as academically rigorous as your McGill courses?**

- Yes, they were as rigorous as my McGill courses
- They were similarly rigorous to my McGill courses
- No, they weren't as rigorous as my McGill courses

**We'd love to know more about the academic level of your courses compared to McGill. Please explain your answer to the previous question using examples, ex: assessments, readings, labs.**

The assessment structure here is very different from McGill psychology. Instead of large multiple choice exams (mid-terms and final exams), we simply have to write essays.



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**How did the teaching quality at your host university compare to what you're used to at McGill?**

- It was better!
- Pretty similar
- It was much worse

**Tell us about it! How did it differ from the teaching quality at McGill? What can other students expect from their profs and course work?**

In some cases it was better (computer programming - the professor was very hands-on, attended all tutorials and gave each student time to ask questions. He even stayed after the two-hour tutorial to keep helping students who hadn't finished). Other professors just seem to read off the slides.

**What were the main evaluation methods in your courses?**

For affiliate students it is two 2000 word essays per course. Some courses, like computer programming, have a different requirement.

**How would you describe the evaluation and grading methods at your host university? Please select as many adjectives as applies!**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair           | <input type="checkbox"/> Unfair                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transparent               | <input type="checkbox"/> Complicated                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Easy to understand        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Difficult to understand       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Similar methods to McGill | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Different methods from McGill |

### Student Life

**Were you satisfied by the welcome and orientation services provided to you by your host university?**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Very satisfied, everything was clear                   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Pretty satisfied |
| <input type="radio"/> I was able to figure things out, but it took some time | <input type="radio"/> Pretty confusing            |
| <input type="radio"/> Very confusing, I was lost                             |   |

**What is the best resource that helped you find your way at your host university?**

They sent out extremely helpful informational emails leading up to move-in. There were also tons of helpful informational packets in my room when I moved in as well.



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***What was the campus environment like at your host university? Please describe your experience on campus with regards to safety, social opportunities, accessibility, etc.***

The campus feels pretty safe considering it's in a major city. There are tons of events and social activities (networking events, clubs, associations, classes). The campus is accessible for students who need elevators.

***Where did you live? Was it easy to find housing? Did you receive any support from your host university?***

I live in Camden in student housing. The host university provided information on how to apply. It was not guaranteed for students going for only one semester like me, but I ended up being accepted and offered a spot.

***What advice would you share with students travelling to your host university? Briefly give up to 3 tips!***

Definitely live in student housing - it makes everything so much easier and encourages you to meet new people and become involved in the university!

Reach out to your flatmates and ask them to go to a group dinner within the first few days. That way you can make a group chat and get to know everyone before it becomes late and awkward.

Go out and be social in the first few weeks so that you can make a good group of friends.

***What advice would you share with students who will live in your host city? Briefly give up to 3 tips!***

Keep track of your belongings (phone, laptop, wallet).

Take advantage of the free museums!

Explore a new area of the city every weekend and try tons of restaurants!