



Mobility Scholarship Questionnaire



University of Brighton

Telfer
International Exchange Programs
October 30, 2017

Please describe your experiences and comment on the following:

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

- **Courses (Modules):** The Brighton School of Business offers a variety of undergraduate modules; I had the opportunity to take the following modules in the International Business (BSc) course as outlined in the table below.

Weekly Module Hours

Module	Module Name	Module Value (ECTS)	Hours/Week	Total Hours/Module
EC119	Understanding Contemporary Britain (SEMESTER 1)	5	2	100
CA316	Independent Study Elective (SEMESTER 2)	5	3	100
IT384	E-Commerce and Online Behaviour	10	3	200
IT382	Digital Marketing	10	3	200
CA381	Small Business and Entrepreneurship	10	2	200
CA382	Social Enterprise: New Business Planning	10	2	200
HR377	International Human Resource Management	10	2	200
	TOTAL ETCS	60*		1,200

* It is required that students take 60 ECTS per academic year.

- **Module Descriptions:** Please see the brief module descriptions below.
 - **EC119 Understanding Contemporary Britain I (COMPULSORY ECONOMICS COURSE):** The course focuses on the evolution of Britain's distinctive social, economic and political structures as well as the principal characteristics of British culture - the values, attitudes, beliefs and behaviour - that underlie and support such arrangements.
 - **CA316 Independent Study Elective (BUSINESS):** The module gives students the opportunity influence the professional content of their degree by designing their own independent programme of advanced study. This could allow the student to follow particular interests in greater depth or to introduce new topics that are relevant to the student's needs. For the independent study topic, I will investigate current and emerging uses of big data and business intelligence. These topics are wide ranging and include: data analytics, data mining, data warehousing, the business application of neural networks, sentiment analysis and data visualization with respect to business strategy and operations.

- **IT384 E-Commerce and Online Behaviour (BUSINESS):** The module enables students to analyse and evaluate electronic commerce systems and constructs. We explore the role and impact of e-commerce technologies and also focus on some of the main concepts used in understanding online behaviour in the marketplace. It considers how individuals behave as consumers in online settings.
 - **IT382 Digital Marketing (BUSINESS):** The Internet has had a profound impact on marketing, providing opportunities for a more personal means of reaching customers. There are also more opportunities to understand and analyse customer requirements and preferences. This module examines the choices and opportunities facing businesses that want to benefit from digital marketing.
 - **CA381 Small Business & Entrepreneurship (BUSINESS):** The module aims to provide students with the opportunity to simulate in as near a 'real world' scenario as possible the preparatory process for starting up a business. Provide students with the possible opportunity to work with a local enterprise in aiding the development of a business plan. The module also aims to inculcate and implement an entrepreneurial team spirit that cuts across not only business studies disciplines but also across other industry/professional approaches by potentially working with Engineering and or Computing students within the university.
 - **HR377 International Human Resource Management (BUSINESS):** The module provides students with a sound knowledge and understanding of the way in which international organisations manage their human resources across different national contexts. The module is designed to enable students to research the meaning and implications of the concepts of international and comparative HRM. Students will be encouraged to link their understanding of established theory with research into comparative or country-specific practice in order to produce a well justified report in their chosen area of study.
 - **CA382 Social Enterprise: New Business Planning (BUSINESS):** The module provides the opportunity to differentiate the business and voluntary environment, identify and apply appropriate tools and concepts that are specific to and transcend both sectors. Apply marketing research tools to identify/evaluate market opportunities. Initiate tools and processes to filter and identify one specific opportunity. Develop a marketing mix, legal and financial strategy relevant to the market opportunity identified. Identify and research a current issue within the social enterprise environment that results in conclusions and recommendations suitable for a social entrepreneur to take action.
- **Module Format:** Most modules are comprised of lectures, seminars, and/or workshops. Typically there will be one lecture, seminar, and/or workshop per week. There is a strong emphasis on independent learning and team work; therefore, some modules have 'seminars' where you are expected to discuss and engage in current module content.
 - **Summative Assessments:** Each course is different with respect to summative assessments; however, there are typically no midterms, assignments, or online assessments to complete throughout the term. Depending on the module selected, the summative assessment is either a final exam or coursework (term paper). The assessments are more interactive and have more "real-world" application than theoretical work.

B) The timetable (academic calendar, registration dates, orientation, beginning and end of classes, exams, holidays, number of semesters, etc). Please submit the precise dates so students will know when to book their flights next year.

- **Academic Calendar:** Please see the table below for the academic calendar including breaks and holidays.

Academic Calendar		
	Begins	Ends
Orientation	19/09/2017	23/09/2017
Semester 1	25/09/2017	04/02/2018
Reading Week 1	06/11/2017	12/11/2017
Winter Holiday	15/12/2017	08/01/2018
Semester 2	05/02/2018	08/06/2018
Reading Week 2	29/01/2018	04/02/2018
Spring Holiday	23/03/2018	16/04/2018
Bank Holiday	07/05/2018	07/05/2018
Bank Holiday	28/05/2018	28/05/2018
Exams	14/05/2017	04/06/2018

- **Registration Dates:** To register for modules, the Brighton Business School will send an email with the instructions to enrol in modules that will be the basis of a Learning Agreement in April. Please see *Section E: Module Registration* for more information on the Learning Agreement.
- **Weekly Schedule:** Classes can begin at 9AM and can finish at 8:00PM. Typically lectures will either last one or two hours; while seminars and workshops will last two hours. Therefore, it is the responsibility of students to independently learn materials outside of lectures and seminars.
- **Examination/Submissions:** Most submissions occur between mid January and late May near semester end dates. Please see the Academic Calendar above for more precise dates.

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C) 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.

- **Biometric Residency Permit (BRP):** If the student has applied for a Tier 4 (General) student visa, a BRP will be issued and available for pickup at BRP participating Post Offices in Brighton. It is important to pickup the BRP within 10 days of arrival or prior to the expiry of the vignette in the student's passport.
- **Registration:** Within the first week of arrival in the United Kingdom students will register. The student is required to bring their passport as photo identification. The student card will be issued once the registration is completed.
- **Information Sessions:** The Brighton Business School offers a variety of welcome information sessions that aids students in becoming more familiar with the United Kingdom education system and services available to students. These sessions also provide the opportunity to network with other international students.
- **CAS Engagement Booklet:** The University of Brighton will issue a CAS Engagement Booklet to all students with a Tier 4 (General) student visa. It is the students responsibility to ensure that modules are attended and the booklet is signed every two weeks during the academic year. Failure to comply with the Engagement Booklet can result in students' Tier 4 (General) student visa being revoked.

D) Budget outlining the cost of studying abroad (i.e. airplane tickets, housing, vacation and daily travel costs, textbooks, meals, etc.).

- **Budget:** My budget was split into university expenses and travel expenses as outlined in the two tables below.

University of Brighton Expenses

Item	Budget Amount (\$CAD)
Flight (September)	280
Tier 4 (General) Student Visa	900
Accommodation (8 months Paddock Field; Includes Wifi, Hydro, Water)	10,000
Accommodation (Bedding, Towels, Supplies, Ect)	200
Accommodation (Cleaning Supplies, Laundry)	200
Health (Sanitary Products)	150
Health (Haircuts, Spa)	150
Food (Groceries)	1,500

University of Brighton Expenses

Item	Budget Amount (\$CAD)
Food (Restaurants, Pubs)	1,000
School (Stationary Supplies)	60
School (Textbooks)	200
Extracurricular Activities/Events (Freshers Week, Social Events, Etc)	1,000
Transportation (School, Downtown, Etc)	600
Personal (Clothing)	600
Miscellaneous	1,000
TOTAL	17,840

Travel Expenses

Item	Budget Amount (\$CAD)
England (London) (September 5 - September 6)	300
Italy (September 6 - September 19)	2,000
Sweden (October 6-8)	400
Belgium (October 13-16)	600
United Kingdom (London, Edinburgh, Glencoe) (October 19 - October 26)	1,500
Germany (Berlin) + Czechia (Prague) (November 3 - November 9)	1,500
Canada (Return for Winter Holiday) (Return Flight Only)	1,200
TOTAL	7,500

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E) Application procedures before your arrival (visa deadlines, documents required for visa, course registration, housing deposit, etc.).

- **Module Registration:** After approval from the Telfer School of Management has been received for the selected courses, the Learning Agreement with the University of Brighton can be generated. The Agreement requires to have the signatures of all parties (i.e. student, Telfer administrative staff, and Brighton administrative staff). The modules can be modified once in the United Kingdom. Once the Learning Agreement has been created, the University of Brighton will issue a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) number. This CAS number is critical in the Tier 4 (Student) Visa application.
- **Tier 4 (General) Student Visa:** Students studying for a duration for more than 6 months require a Tier 4 (General) student visa. Once a CAS number has been issued, the applicant will be able to apply and pay for the visa online. The applicant will then have a scheduled appointment at the United Kingdom Visa Centre in Ottawa for fingerprinting and to submit the application form, passport, proof of sufficient funds, and other supporting documents. More information can be found at the following address: <https://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa>. It is advisable to apply for the visa as soon as possible since processing times can vary. Once I submitted my forms and supporting documentation, I received the visa in three weeks.
- **Online Accounts:** Students will be given access to activate their StudentCentral (Blackboard Learn) and student email prior to arrival. It is advisable to set these accounts up prior to avoid long queues for technical support.
- **Housing Deposit:** The accommodation team will assign housing near the end of July. Prior to accepting the offer, the student must either pay a deposit of £550 GBP (\$950 CAD) or the entire year. Note: the payee is able to select the currency of their preference upon payment. If the entire amount is not paid, reoccurring payments will be made automatically.

F) Address and description of housing. Cost of housing.

- I lived on-campus in the halls of residence for my exchange at the University of Brighton; most international students are placed on the Falmer campus in Paddock Fields Halls of Residence. On-campus housing was the most easiest and feasible option for accommodation in the United Kingdom. I was also able to build social connections much easier in residence.
- The total cost of housing was approximately £5,500 GBP (\$9,000 CAD). The cost of residence included heat, hydro, water, and wireless internet. The rooms are furnished with a dresser, a wardrobe closet, a bookshelf, desk, chair, bed, and ensuite bathroom.

G) Other comments or recommendations.

- **Module Selection:** I recommend exploiting the opportunity to take courses that you would normally not have the opportunity to at Telfer. For example, I was enrolled in social entrepreneurship, digital marketing, e-commerce and online behaviour, and an independent study elective.
- **Enrolment Difficulties:** There was some difficulty with the course enrolment process. In one of the introductory sessions, you will be given a personalized file that has your timetable, learning agreement and other important documents enclosed. Ensure to carefully review your timetable for conflicts since the computer system does not detect overlapping courses.
- **Terminology:** The words and descriptions of certain things are different and take time to adjust to. For example, a course in Canada is called a module in the United Kingdom; while an academic program in Canada is called a course in the United Kingdom.
- **Flights:** The closest international airport to Brighton is Gatwick (LGW). It is always advisable to book flights to the United Kingdom in March, April, or May; typically, flights are less expensive in the spring and if booked 5 months prior to departure. For example, I booked my flight to the United Kingdom for September 2017 in March 2017 for \$280 (one-way) with WestJet.
- **Accommodation:** Initially I wanted to stay off-campus in Brighton; however, there are many legal and financial barriers for international residents to rent in the United Kingdom. Most leases last 12 months and require 6 months of down-payment (international residents only).
- **Important Documents:** Ensure to make physical copies and store encrypted copies of your passport, BRP, and other important documents in the event the originals are lost or stolen.
- **Cost of Living:** The cost of living in the United Kingdom is significantly higher than Canada. Therefore, try to bring as many essentials as possible when coming.
- **Health Services:** Purchase comprehensive health insurance while studying abroad; the insurance is useful while travelling outside of the United Kingdom. While studying, international students have access to the National Health Service (NHS) where you are entitled to visit a general practitioner for no cost.
- **Culture:** Brighton is a diverse and inclusive city. I strongly encourage to explore and experience what Brighton has to offer — from beautiful beaches to artisan coffee shops/

H) Add a description of about five to seven sentences summarizing your experience.

- My experience at the University of Brighton has been truly incredible. Travelling abroad has changed my life completely; I have had the opportunity to learn about a new culture, develop a different perspective on higher education, and have experiences that extend beyond an educational setting. After I have completed my time abroad, I will return to Canada with a new set of knowledge, skills, abilities, and connections. With the proximity of the United Kingdom to European countries, travelling while studying is feasible; so far in the two months that I have studied at the University of Brighton, I have been to 5 countries in 18 different cities. I would strongly encourage any student to take this opportunity to study abroad.

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