

**2012-2013**

**University Attended:** Ohio State University

## **FEEDBACK 1**

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### **INDUCTION/ORIENTATION PROGRAMME**

What did this involve, how long did it last, was it useful?

We had an introductory package with information on getting a Buck ID and other documents we had to sign and fees in order to become a full time student. Also had a meeting with the international students to find out about the year and meet other students. It was fairly useful and it lasted less than an hour.

### **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

Style of teaching, courses, ease of access to courses, methods of assessment, teaching support

Most of the classes I took were fairly small with class number of around 30 or less. Most teachers encouraged participation within the class, but mainly they talked from the lecture slides. A lot of group work was required for most classes with presentations and this was assessed alongside various midterms and exams throughout the year. Most courses were easy to sign up too and they made exceptions for the course requirements as we are international students. All the classes also had office hours for you to attend if you were struggling with any of the classes.

### **INSURANCE, HEALTH COVER**

Please include any information relating to the purchase of compulsory health insurance ie costs etc. or whether this was waived by having the University of Manchester Insurance Policy

We had to pay insurance for both semesters of around \$1000, this was not waived by the Manchester Insurance Policy. The payment can be broken down into 3 payments, but there are late fees and you're not officially enrolled if you do not pay the fees

### **INFORMATION ON ANY ADDITIONAL COSTS**

This should be information on any extra fees that the University charged but should not include accommodation, books, transport, visa etc.

The University charges around \$300 a semester on top of the insurance, which includes your access to the university facilities such as the gym.

### **ACCOMMODATION**

As much information as possible on what accommodation is recommended or not recommended.

We lived off campus, about 2 mins from the Union. I would suggest living off campus if you want to meet more people that are 20+ as the older students live off campus. It gave us more freedom with eating as well, because on campus you are required to have a meal plan that looked fairly expensive. The rent on the accommodation off campus seemed to be relatively cheaper as well. However, places on campus are closer to all the classes and facilities and may make it easier settling in. However, they're obviously strict on partying and drinking so you're often forced off campus to socialise anyway.

### **DESTINATION INFORMATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE**

Transport, travel, social life, integration with local students, student activity groups

The University has a good bus service, but it isn't really required as walking to most things on campus is fairly easy. Many of our friends had cars as well as a lot of students do, so that allowed easy travel to places that were

out of the way etc. The social life is really good, the weekend begins on Thursdays and there's plenty of house parties and bars to go to. Would recommend being 21 though as this can restrict you a lot obviously. Getting on with the local students was very easy, most people are easy to talk to and obviously intrigued by international students. Many local students helped me settle in and show the things to do around Columbus. This semester we've travelled to New York and Florida, and there's plenty of time for travelling if you have the money to do so. Me and Steve are planning a couple of weeks travel before we go back, planning to Chicago, Washington, Philadelphia and New York again before our return which I'm looking forward to.

## **DESCRIBE IN ONE SENTENCE YOUR YEAR ABROAD**

**Great experience for the mind and soul, not too sure about the body!**

## **FEEDBACK 2**

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### **INDUCTION/ORIENTATION PROGRAMME**

Induction/orientation was a quick process. It just involved going to the student union and filling out a few forms and giving the Uni some copies of your Visa and such. Once that's done, you can go and pick up your student card in the Union as well. The induction for the actual business school was just a meeting in a big room with all the other exchange students. They asked what we would like to do over the semester and we got to know each other a little bit. And there was free pizza.

### **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

The style of teaching is pretty similar to Manchester. Some are in large lecture theatres and others in smaller classroom style rooms. There's a lot of choice of courses but you have to be wary of clashes. Courses are easily accessed online through their system. Most courses assess you with multiple choice exams and maybe a short coursework assignment. Teachers have office hours and they welcome emails, so there's a lot of support.

### **MBS INTERNATIONAL TEAM**

The international team was helpful because they let us know what we could expect from our year and when we needed to get all our forms done by.

### **MBS SECOND YEAR MEETINGS**

The second year meetings were good because they let us know the deadlines for everything, and meeting the people that had previously been to the institution was helpful because they told us about the place.

### **HOST INTERNATIONAL OFFICE**

The level of support at OSU is very good. The exchange student coordinator is very good. She always replies to questions promptly and usually knows the answers. Also, there is an 'exchange network' here where you are paired with an American student as their 'buddy'. This helps a lot because they can show you all the stuff to do and where's good to go.

### **INSURANCE, HEALTH COVER**

Health insurance costs \$1070 per semester, so you're looking at \$2140 for the year. However, once I had paid for mine, I claimed it back from the student loans company back home.

### **INFORMATION ON ANY ADDITIONAL COSTS**

There are additional fees that the University charges; General Fee Undergrad, Recreational Fee, Student Union Facility Fee, Student Activity Fee Undergrad, COTA Bus Service Fee, and PAES Sport & Health Course Fee. These all add up to \$445 per semester, so there are additional fees of \$890 for the year.

### **ACCOMMODATION**

I can't really give a lot of info about on-campus accommodation because I lived off-campus. I would suggest that students apply as early as possible for on-campus accommodation because I left it too late and it was all full. I would say start looking when they find out if they're going to OSU. From what I heard, south campus housing is very good, as well as Morrill Tower. If you do live in campus housing, you have to pay a dining fee as well which is quite expensive. If you don't want to live on campus, I would suggest you speak to Joyce Steffan via email for advice and help finding a place to stay because she helped me find where to live.

### **DESTINATION INFORMATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE**

There are buses that run all the time around campus and downtown but you don't really need to use the bus. Most students here have cars, so make some American friends and they'll drive you places. The exchange network organises trips to Chicago and other cities which is good. Greek life is big here, there are plenty of fraternities and sororities but I think they're quite expensive to join. There are plenty of bars around campus. If you're under 21, it doesn't matter too much because a lot of them are 18+. Because they have a 'buddy' system, meeting local students is easy. Also, you get to meet a lot of other nationalities. There are loads of student activity groups that are always doing stuff around campus. I know someone on the Quidditch team, if you're into that.

### **DESCRIBE IN ONE SENTENCE YOUR YEAR ABROAD**

**Easily one of the best years of my life, I met so many people that I will stay in touch with, visited a lot of places and generally just had an amazing time!**