



University of Glasgow

Reflective Portfolio

University of Glasgow
Glasgow/ Scotland



University of Glasgow

Name: Alina Hall

Field of study: Secondary education English/ Nutrition and Housekeeping

Stay: 05.09.2021 – 19.12.2021

Semester: 13.09.2021 – 17.12.2021

Semester of study: WS 2021

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Kelvingrove Art Gallery



River Clyde

Information about the partner university

Information about studying and school practice.

List of approved courses according to the Learning Agreement:

LV an PHÖÖ	LV an Partnerinstitution
BW B 3.1 Schule und Gesellschaft	What's the point of Education? Constructing an Educational Mindset
BW B 3.2 Gender, Diversität und Inklusion: Vielfalt (in) der Schule	What's the point of Education? Constructing an Educational Mindset
BW B 3.3 Sozialwissenschaftliche Forschung Methoden und Analyseverfahren	What's the point of Education? Constructing an Educational Mindset
Freies Wahlfach	What's the point of Education? Constructing an Educational Mindset
E B 6.3.2 Communication and Culture	Celtic Civilisation 1A
E B 13.1 Anglophone Cultures for the Classroom (LIT)	Celtic Civilisation 1A
E B 14.3 Seminar in English Studies (CULT)	Celtic Civilisation 1A
E B 6.1 Spoken Academic Production	EAP 2 Advanced Academic English and Skills for International Undergraduates Semester 1
E B 6.2 Written Production II	EAP 2 Advanced Academic English and Skills for International Undergraduates Semester 1
E B 7.3 English for Specific Purposes	EAP 2 Advanced Academic English and Skills for International Undergraduates Semester 1
E B 8.2.1 Systemic Linguistics	EAP 2 Advanced Academic English and Skills for International Undergraduates Semester 1

Administrative support and various offers

Support on campus ⇒ visiting-students@glasgow.ac.uk

Buddy System

Great way to meet local people. My buddy was from London, she was the best. I also heard of several people who didn't get along or even meet with their buddies, but you might get lucky, I did. Highly recommend signing up for their buddy system. They sent out emails shortly before the semester started, and my buddy immediately sent me an email.



Mensa

There are loads of options to get food on campus. There are two cafeterias, one in the University Library and one in the James McCune Smith Learning Hub. Also, next to the campus (3 min walk) there is a street called Byres Road, a road full of shops and restaurants/cafes.



Tinderbox



Tantrum Doughnuts



Koko House



Wetherspoons



The Gardener

Excursions

There is a company called "International Student Tours Scotland", they post all their upcoming tours on Facebook. I went on a Harry Potter themed one day trip and it was awesome.



Bamburgh Beach



Alnwick Caste



Alnwick Caste

Accommodation

TIP Start looking for accommodation as soon as possible. There are many private and uni accommodations, but you will not get into the uni accommodations and only few private ones take students for only one term.

The **private accommodation** I stayed in during my stay was called "Newton House - Student Accommodation" and it was located in the middle of Glasgow's party scene. The upside was that I never had trouble getting home, the downside, it was never quiet. The university was about a 20-minute walk or a 10-minute bus ride. The



Newton House



My Room



Living Room

accommodation costs were 150 pounds per week, which compared to others was about average if not lower.

Social and cultural activities

Culture

Something I wasn't expecting was the Glaswegian accent. At first, I was shocked and intimidated because I had problems understanding the locals and honestly, I didn't really understand the accent until the end of my stay, but you get used to it.

This is by far the best representation of/ example for the Glaswegian accent:

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwilsu2Fi6T1AhXigP0HHT7MB6UQwqsBegQIARAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DAXGP4Sez_Us&usg=AOvVaw0297GugJGgXoJLqVHqfxtQ

Social activities

Come during the winter term/ semester. Freshers week, and all the welcoming events and testing sessions for sports clubs and all of their societies is so worth it, I met so many people and had so much there.



Information for future Erasmus students

My **travel tips** are: If you want to travel, book your flights via Edinburgh, they are way cheaper than via Glasgow airport. From Edinburgh airport there's a very good bus connection. Generally, I would only book buses in advance via the website Megabus (9.95 pounds to Edinburgh Airport and 3.75 to

Edinburgh City Center). If you still want to travel via Glasgow, there is a transfer bus from the city center that is inexpensive.

Things to do in **daily life**: Lidl, Aldi and Tesco were my go-to student friendly grocery stores.

What else is important/ worth mentioning

It's definitely a different exam and grading system than what I was expecting and what I was used to. Nevertheless, I really enjoyed it because it's not very exam heavy, but rather puts a greater emphasis on essays. You hardly have any exams to prepare for but instead you work on academic texts over longer time periods. Even the few exams you have are 24-hour exams where you write essays.

Also, an important tip from me, go on as many road trips as you possibly can. Visit the Highlands, go Isle Hopping and enjoy yourself!

