

One year experience in a UK tranquil town

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交流经历：2017 年 9 月参加英国哈德斯菲尔德大学 3+1 双学位课程

I am so lucky to get the chance as an exchange student at the university of Huddersfield for my final year. Huddersfield is a very quiet town, there is no buzz, the pace of life there is slow, so it is suitable for people to read and study.



The university of Huddersfield is literally a prestigious internationally university. For me, going on exchange is not only an opportunity to study in a different country, but also to mingle with students of different nationalities so as to assimilate into different cultures and become more independent.

Students from 20 different countries are invited in the same place to learn knowledge. I was so excited to get along with these people. I would like to say this place have changed my mindset and my attitude forever.

Unlike Chinese university, students in British had a plenty of spare time, someone would like to join in colorful clubs, such as fencing, volleyball or culture; someone preferred to do relative experiments in



the lab for their assignments, also, many students and teachers liked to savor

cups of coffee, sitting by the window leisurely, sharing interesting stories which happened around them.



The study atmosphere was really wonderful, some thought-provoking discussions would still continue after class. Even in some independent courses like communication or digital, discussions are like a kind of freed speech, and everybody could express their ideas without caring making mistakes.

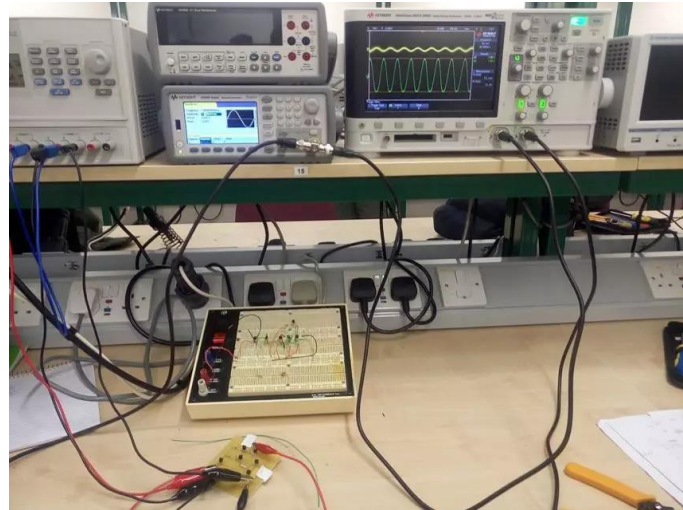
To be honest, I found students in the UK much more willing to participate in discussions, heated at times. I genuinely enjoyed such interactive communication. Most of time, the technical skills like sampling noise signal in DSP or calculating voltage gain in analogue appealed me, which arouse my passion for exploring the world.

As for me, I am a full-time student in communicational system field. There are five modules during my final year, DSP Application, Communication Systems, Digital System Integration, Analogue Systems Integration and Final Year Project.

Generally, there were only one or two lessons a day, but it would take me a lot of time to digest afterwards. At the very beginning of first semester, I could not follow professors due to my poor English level, which made me feel depressed. However, I thought it is a test of God, what I needed to do is to face to the problems and overcome difficulties alone, I studied hard, previewed the new lecture, translated unfamiliar words and memorized every detail of textbook the night before. Asking questions was an important part of the learning abroad. After class, it was necessary to revise the lecture with some tutorials, in this way, many problems could be solved accordingly.

The lifestyle and social life of western people were completely different from Chinese.

In the working days, people slept earlier, worked fewer hours and never rushed. Sometimes they sit in a coffee shop at tea time, leaving all their problems behind and looking at the snow floating outside window, they thought it one of the most enjoyable moments.



In the weekend, they loved to organise parties and had gatherings at friends' house or flat. Loud music, roast food, refreshing beer, beautiful stories and fancy games were the best activities to enjoy. For the most of people, spending time at home was very relaxing because of tranquil environment.

I lived with three very nice local students in a flat, James, Martin and Smith. They were very friendly, polite and gentle. Although, our majors and the schedules were not the same, we still spared time to have dinner together. We had a lot in common, we all had some unique ideas to share. In this way, we learn the different cultures and food from each other. We became the best friends, we had a very good time together.

The study in Huddersfield has been finished. But for now, my dream has not been fulfilled yet and I set up a higher goal - a Master's Degree in the United Kingdom - to continue my unwritten story in an exotic land.

