

Exchange semester at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada

Bendeguz Kalmar

In the autumn semester of the academic year of 2022/2023, I had the opportunity to spend a few months studying at UBC, a renowned institution in Canada, which was an unforgettable experience. The education and the ambiance at the university, the city, the people I got to know all helped make this exchange an amazing adventure. I can only recommend UBC if someone might be contemplating their options and is looking for an adventure a bit farther from home.

The university has huge a separate campus, so it offers the best of both worlds: a welcoming space where everything and everyone is within arm's reach and has the feeling of a typical university we know from American movies, but also offers the closeness to the bustling metropolis of Vancouver. The standard of education is high, I have progressed a lot during my time there thanks to the teachers and other students of the 5 business and economics courses I was taking. A technical perk was that the semester there runs from early September to mid-December, so it fits well with the schedule of Corvinus. It is ideal if someone wants to start the experience in late summer and be back home for Christmas or spend January travelling there.

Fortunately, besides studying I still had enough free time to immerse myself in the social aspects of the exchange. I made some amazing friends along the way. As UBC seems to be a quite popular exchange destination, there were hundreds of exchange students from all over the world. I was lucky to get a place in the university residences, and my building had many exchange students too, which also made it much easier. We had an amazing time at the UBC campus, in Vancouver, and travelling in Canada and the US too. Vancouver is a very special place in my opinion. One minute you could be strolling at the foot of skyscrapers downtown, then you can choose, if you want, you can walk down in a few minutes to one of the beaches and go for a swim in the Pacific Ocean, or if you want, not so much as an hour later you can be hiking in one of the most scenic mountains I have ever seen. It is truly magical how close this city is to nature. The only downside I could list is that it is quite pricey to spend time there. And maybe that it's quite far from home, but in my case, that was one of the points when choosing this destination.

This semester was everything that I had anticipated and even more, so if you aren't sure about exchange, I can only say that you should go for it and take a look at UBC too!