



**PSG Polytechnic College Students at Glasgow
Caledonian University, Scotland, United Kingdom
International Summer School Experience
CONSOLIDATED STUDENT FEEDBACK**

July 18-31, 2018

GCU Summer school Experience – 2018 – An Introduction

Over the past three years, the relationship between Glasgow Caledonian University [GCU] and PSG Institutions has matured and grown – not just in number of students, but also in new areas of collaboration and beyond Summer Schools. An MoU was signed in November 2017 with GCU, and we have been taking several efforts in ensuring participation of various PSG Institutions in the activities under this MoU – for instance, several GCU senior Faculty’s visits to PSG over the past few years, and the visits of senior PSG Faculty to GCU – Dr.Vijayalakshmi, HOD-Apparel and Fashion Design, PSG Tech; Dr.J.Kanchana, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, PSG Tech in 2017 and Dr.Abdul Aleem, HOD-Civil, PSG iTech this year.

As the primary PSG Relationship Manager with GCU, I have had the pleasure and privilege of travelling to Glasgow for three years running – 2016, 17 and 18. The warmth and hospitality of the Faculty and Coordinators at GCU has ensured that each visit is like a homecoming to me, and several of the student feedback reports in this compilation reflect the warmth and hospitality of the GCU and Scottish people, not to mention the pristine purity and natural beauty of the country itself.

The PSG students at this year’s Summer School were drawn from three Institutions, and carried themselves as perfect ambassadors of their Institutions and of the PSG values. Full credit to them, and the individual feedback reports reflect the extent to which the students benefited from this experience both technically and culturally.

Thanks are due to the Managing Trustee, Director, the Principals of the three Institutions, the Overseas Coordinators, HOD’s of the Departments who have encouraged participation of their students and to all the Faculty members and tutors who have contributed to the success of the GCU Summer School this year. Special thanks to the parents of the students who participated in various meetings and contributed to the overall planning effort.

Muralidhar Devarajan
Associate Dean – Higher Education and Training
PSG College of Technology



PSGPTC STUDENTS AT GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY			
INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL 2018			
Sl.No	NAME	INSTITUTION / DEPT	YEAR
ACCOMPANYING FACULTY			
	Muralidhar Devarajan	Associate Dean - Higher Education and Training, PSGCT	
	Abdul Aleem	HOD-Civil, PSG iTech	
STUDENT LIST			
1	Pragadeesh Kirubaharan	PSG Polytechnic - Mechatronics	Third
2	Suriyaa Eswaramurthi Meena	PSG Polytechnic - Mechatronics	Third
3	Niranjana Vasudevan	PSG Polytechnic - IT	Second
4	Srinath Senthil Kumar	PSG Polytechnic - IT	Second
5	Nikhil Thilak Kumar	PSG Polytechnic - IT	Second



GCU Summer school Experience - 2018

Pragadeesh K

It all started at Chennai International Airport where most of us were still strangers to each other. We all took a picture and said goodbye to our parents. It was tough to leave this country and our family. Though the summer school was just for two weeks, we had high expectations for the program, Glasgow and everything that was waiting to surprise us in the next two weeks

It was quite a long flight which went directly to Glasgow via Dubai. We were all waiting for the taxis to take us to our accommodation at Caledonian Court. We finally reached our accommodation which was very comfortable.

The next day we assembled at the reception of GCU for our Official Welcome where we were given kits for the module and GCU T-shirts and also had a brief introduction about the Summer School. We were sent for a campus tour and then later on for a city tour both of which were quite interesting.

Our Classes started from the following days with excursions to Oban and Loch Ness. The module I had chosen was Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Social Impact. The classes were conducted by Prof. Andrew Sharp, who was very efficient and dynamic in his style of teaching. The classes conducted were very interesting and offered different perspectives to different problems and solutions. We also had three guest lectures. I really enjoyed my classes. Our final assessment was to give a 1-minute pitch about our business idea.

During the weekends we went to Edinburgh and Sterling as a group. We also went to an amusement Park on a Sunday. As a group these travels made us really bond well with each other. We started getting closer and the strangers whom we met at the Chennai Airport suddenly became close friends.

On the final Sunday we had Ceilidh where we enjoyed the Scottish dance, food and music. It was real fun. We also had our farewell day in the next few days that followed where we had our certificates distributed.

Summer School Experience at GCU has really been a life-changing experience to me in many ways, I learnt the most there, I met some wonderful people whom I wish I don't lose forever. As my friend said, we went as strangers and

came back as a family! I really miss Glasgow not just for the awesome city it is, not just for the Summer School program but mainly for the people who made it awesome. I wish we all stayed there longer. But like every other journey, even the sweetest one has to come to an end. But I hope the memories and the people will bring back summer school to Coimbatore.

I thank Murali Sir, all the three Principals (Tech, Itech and Polytech), my HOD, my Tutor, Prof. Abdul Aleem Sir and PSG institutions for giving me this opportunity of a lifetime. I'd also like to thank all those who came to this tour without whom I can't imagine a summer school at GCU.

To sum up the summer school experience in a sentence: *It's an experience that I wish had never ended.*



GCU Summer school Experience - 2018

Suriyaa E.M

I came to know about this Summer School program a year ago through a student who had already been a part of it. I enrolled my name with the rest 18 students who accompanied me for the whole course. I had opted for the Entrepreneurship course for the whole 2 weeks. After a few days we had a visa interview in the campus and we had 100% result.

We reached Glasgow by 17th July and settled in our accommodation which was located near the University. The next day we were welcomed by Veronica, and who walked us through the University, and that's how the day passed by. Each day we had our breakfast by 8:30 – 9:00, and we had our classes by 10 am. We had a walk around the city with a person named Gary, and the city was so clean and interesting with all supermarkets, malls, etc. Students from different countries like America, Canada, China attended the summer school. We had classes 4 days a week. By Friday we had local trips to Oban, Lochness with Gary. During weekends we travelled to Stirling, Edinburgh, M and D amusement park.

The University provided us with 2 gift cards worth 50 pounds each, and a sim card, etc. The gift card was very useful at the supermarkets and the sim to connect with our home, both thoughtful gifts from GCU.

Later, the University had arranged for us various fun activities such as quiz, scavenger hunt, sports, ceilidh night and a farewell dinner which made us get to know and appreciate the Scottish style.

Our module classes were handled by Prof. Andy Sharp. The classroom arrangement was awesome and neat. We had classes by 10:00 – 12:00 and 1:00 – 3:00. We learnt about emotional intelligence, discovering our strength, action learning, etc. we discovered lots of new things about us. We got to know more about business tactics. At the end we completed our course with a one minute pitch about our future business ideas.

The people of Scotland were very friendly and helpful. We made lots of memories together in the 2 weeks. Mainly we learnt how to be independent. Those 2 weeks were one among the most lovable days of my life.

GCU Summer school Experience - 2018

Niranjan V

There is nothing better than the emotions and feelings one can receive from setting out on an adventure. A Summer School adventure of course! What I had was not a regular School experience which is in reality boring and mundane. Two weeks in Glasgow, Scotland was really amazing and it is a wonderful experience in terms of the knowledge gained as well as the Scottish cultural experience we had like the Ceilidh.

I chose the module- Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Social Impact where we were given drills about bringing the innovation in us and also about the concept of “thinking out of the box”. The classrooms were so very different from the Indian ones where tables and chairs are arranged row by row. Classrooms at GCU comprise of 4 big tables with chairs around it. Yes, everything is based on group discussions. There in the UK, students are encouraged to classmates as much as they learn from professors. We had a lot of guest lectures where we learnt more about business in the Scottish perspective and about the ups and downs of the markets today.

The educational part of the program was not hectic, we even had a lot of fun outside the classroom. We were taken on for a trip to Loch Ness and every other nearby Lochs. We took a trip to Stirling and Edinburgh in the weekends and we also visited to the castles there.

We had a little bit of difficulty in getting used to their food which was saltless and bland. Vegetables are eaten raw and I wasn't able to have a single bite of it so we had to get into the route of Indian cuisine which made us land at Rishi's Aroma. And that was the only reason how I survived there for two weeks. Though the food was a bit costlier than an average English restaurant, we had to go for it.

The time we spent there was priceless and I feel that nothing else can compensate the services and hospitality provided by the Glasgow Caledonian University.

I'm very thankful to all the Principals for giving me this opportunity and supporting staff and Prof. Muralidhar for accompanying and guiding us all the way and I'm looking forward to do my higher studies over there.



GCU Summer school Experience - 2018

Srinath S

Travel is my biggest passion. There is not a thing in the world that educates, thrills and satisfies quite like learning more about the world through our own experiences. The whole trip to Scotland was superbly amazing and exciting and it was my first long trip to another country without my parents. The trip had made me understand and learn more about the Scottish culture. I made friends with students from Canada, Korea and China. The accommodation was so pleasant, and the environment was very different compared to that in India. The people were very kind and in the same way strict, punctual, patriotic and disciplined with their works and are helpful in all aspects.

This was a 2-week summer course at Glasgow Caledonian University, UK. It was about Entrepreneurship and innovation for social impact. Our teaching staff was Professor Andy Sharp who had taught us some tactics which are related to our subject. We learnt about emotional intelligence, social enterprise and identifying strengths and weakness. He also arranged Guest Lectures by two Scottish Entrepreneurs, which were about Scottish aspects of Business. Prof. Andy gave us many interesting assignments day by day which was more about a person's strength-finder. we had a one-minute pitch by the end of our course and I presented mine on Cyber security. We all had classes four days a week and on Fridays the university arranged for us trips to Oban and Loch Ness which I really enjoyed. Apart from the trips by the institution we ourselves planned our weekends to go to Edinburgh, Sterling castle and amusement park and shopping streets.

We learnt the traditional Scottish dance - Ceilidh which was fantastic and I had a great time dancing with foreigners which was a brand-new experience for me.

There were varieties of food and I really loved 'Fish n Chips' (a traditional Scottish seafood). But I missed the taste of India and surprisingly we found an Indian restaurant named Rishi's and tried Biryani which gave me complete satisfaction for my taste buds. We also got a gift card which was very useful to buy food items to prepare at our Caledonian court.

On the last day, we had a farewell party and we played some games. We received our course completion certificates. I became very unwilling to leave Glasgow, as my exposure to UK was so pleasing.

I am very thankful to respected Professor Muralidhar Devarajan for his guidance and advices, as well as the respected Principal for the encouragement given to us. I am indebted to my team mates for their friendship.

The lesson I learnt was to give selfless services to humanity through technical skills.

I will thrive there, well in case I get a chance for further studies there.

I am in ever-loving memory of our trip to Glasgow.



GCU Summer school Experience - 2018

Nikhil Thilak Kumar

I am Nikhil one of the students who went to the Entrepreneurship Summer school . At Glasgow my experience was excellent. I chose entrepreneurship Innovation and for social impact course. I studied business and some ideas about how to approach and other things. The first day of my class I understood their different teaching style, there was no problem and we did teamwork, it was fantastic. I met some new friends from Canada and other countries, the experience was great. Glasgow food was great as well the hostel room was very cosy with a fully stocked kitchen. My friends and I went to restaurants at night, it was a new experience for me to roam around in a far off land. We went to a theme park, Malls and we also went to Edinburgh Castle. It was heart breaking to leave such a lovely place. It was so nice that I want to go to

Glasgow again. This trip has been the best thing that has ever happened to me in my life.

