During 2013 – 2014 academic year, I went to Oxford University in United Kingdom for an academic exchange. Oxford University is the oldest university in the English-speaking world, which has shown significant impacts in academic and scientific development in the world. Oxford University is one of the few universities that run collegiate system. It consists of 38 colleges, which subordinate the central university but have independent governance and finance. All admitted students with one college. Undergraduate students benefited a lot from this system because they have small-scale tutorial learning conducted by college fellows. I am allocated into Wadham College, which founded in 1610 and is one of the 38 colleges in Oxford that admit undergraduate students and visiting students. It is also a relatively big college that admits greater number of undergraduates and postgraduate students compared to other colleges. Residential halls in HKU resemble a lot to Oxford colleges. For each college has their own student union, interest groups, and college cultural and sports clubs; each college has different fundamental value on politics and awareness world issues. Wadham College is the most liberal college among all other colleges. It one of the first college in Oxford and Cambridge that admit female students, one of first college that support Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual transsexual, and Queer (LGBTQ) rights, and one of the college which aware a lot about feminism movement.
I have taken a total of 5 courses from Experimental Psychology department. Courses of experimental psychology put a lot emphasis on neuroscience, which is a new trend of psychology field in the world. It becomes a shared view that not only understanding human behavior is the core goal of psychology but also to understand the brain and to relate human brain function with human behavior. During Hilary term, I have taken a course called Cognitive Neuroscience. The course consists of 16 lectures, taught by different professors in the department. It is intriguing to get to know different professors' work and how it leads world cognitive neuroscience trend. An interesting example is that we still don't know how can human recognize faces. Despite research found that there is a small brain area is activated when people see faces, no one fully understand HOW does human configure human faces. Dr. Christopher Summerfield found that human perceive the world based a lot on our expectation, which might able to explain not only how we configure human faces but also explain how our brain help us understand the world. This course brought me new insights about psychology and neuroscience. I therefore joined one of the cognitive neuroscience labs of the department, which is under supervision of Dr. Summerfield, who is the course coordinator of Cognitive Neuroscience and is one of the world leading scientist on decision making field. I started an individual project with Dr. Summerfield's supervision. As the importance of understanding human brain grows,
more and more research in psychology, psychiatry and Neuroscience use brain imaging technique to map brain activation with human behavior. Such brain imaging technique is relatively new compared to history of psychology; there are still a few disputes of whether brain imaging is telling us about brain functions. Therefore, my individual project is related to this controversial topic. I gained different sets of skills, including programming skills, critical evaluation of scientific papers, and also sophisticated data analysis techniques. Apart from intellectual attainment, I made friends with my lab mates including the post docs and DPhil students. They share their research experience to me which make me understand more about the academia and the current trend of Neuroscience. We often went to bars and pubs after department seminar with guest speakers and have casual chats, I feel honored to talk to world class researchers and to know about their work.

I enjoyed a lot my college life. I was being allocated a room in the college and also lucky enough to get one of the best room in the college. I live in staircase 22, one of the newer rooms of the college. My room is on the top floor, which has a shared balcony and a loft which other rooms in the college do not have. However, the most precious experience is not just about living in the building but getting to know people who live in the same staircase with me. My first impression towards Oxford is that I
felt welcomed by Oxford students especially Wadham students firstly because they would not mind where I came from, my background and they would not distinguished between "local" and "non-local" students. Apart from studying and lab work, I spent most of my time meeting people. Students in Oxford work very hard during the day but in the evening, we usually sit together and enjoy a cup of tea and started to discuss different topics ranging from British politics, international relations, history, art, music etc. I understood more about English culture and Oxford subjects and traditions from talking to my friends. For instance, the admission of undergraduates greatly relies on interview performance. During the interview process, college fellows and tutors can get to know students' interest on the subject as well as their problem solving abilities. Therefore, all of my Oxford friends are very passionate and knowledgeable about their subject. It is an extremely enjoyable experience to discuss and share knowledge on areas people specialized in. It is also very insightful to discuss about international relations, politics, music and art with Oxford students.

This academic year has been the most fruitful year of my life not only in terms of academic attainment. I tried new things and enjoyed my time here. For instance, I was not a drinker and know nothing about wine tasting. During this academic year, I participated in multiple wine tasting events and got to know different wine from
different country. Also, I often dine in the college hall, which allows me to know more about dinning etiquette. Moreover, I went to Oxfordshire knitting club, played Tennis and Squash with my friends, tried alternative ice hockey, organized potluck gathering, go punting and picnic, joined Oxbridge Varsity ski trip etc. I believe I have fewer opportunities to try all these new and exciting activities, and less willing to go out of my comfort zone without this exchange.