Matthew

Chinese University of Hong Kong

Taking the chance to come to CUHK after just a year in York was more difficult than I imagined it would be at first, but it has soon turned into one of the best experiences of my life! Here are a few things to consider when coming to CUHK and Hong Kong more generally:

- There is a greater range of assessment methods here - including presentations, book reviews, essays and even attendance - alongside the traditional exams, which is comforting if you feel you perform better outside of exams, which are the main method of assessment at York.
- Coming from York, CUHK is fairly easy to integrate into, as it also works on a collegiate system and has a big campus with lots of shopping and other convenience facilities (even a train station) located nearby.
- Lectures tend to be longer than at York (the standard is two hours) with there being a greater level of interaction between the lecturer and the students as well in terms of questions and discussion.
- On Hong Kong in general, the city is one of the most diverse and multicultural in the world, so if you're worried about culture shock it won't last long. Alongside this, there are plenty of other exchange students who are in exactly the same position as you, so you won't be lost alone!
- If you plan on travelling during the year, Hong Kong is perfectly situated within the region to give you the opportunity to see an awful lot for not too much money.

Finally, it can seem daunting to leave your life behind in the UK for a year, but in the grander scheme of things it's not all that long and once you're here time flies so enjoy it while you can!