



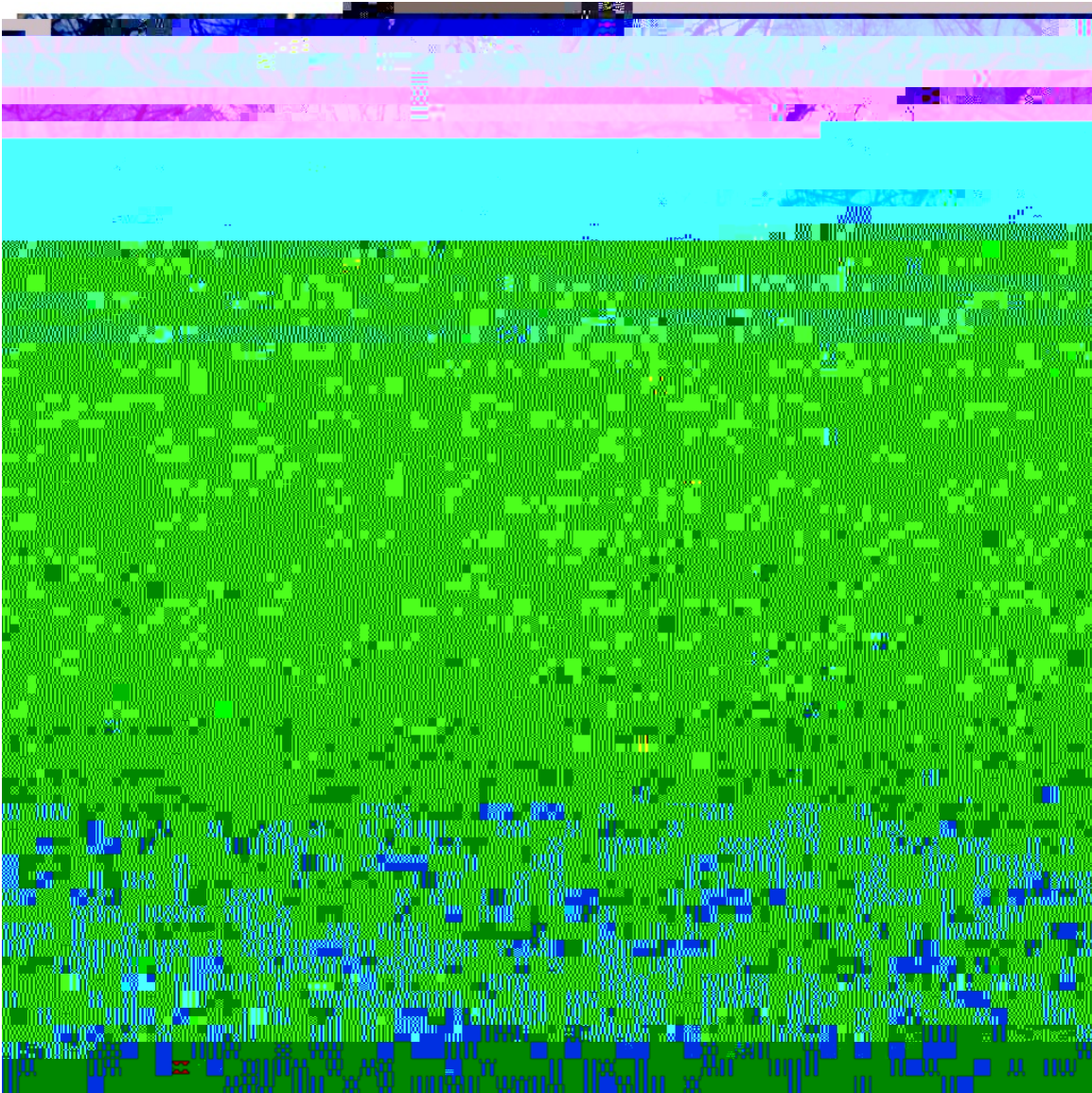
also allowing room for a good winter coat. Snow is not necessarily an issue as it is here in Canada so snow shoes, I learned was not essential. The best advice I can provide is to

rather than a department store or splitting costs with other exchange students from the same accommodation as yourself. I advise that your expenditure be focused more through cash transactions as it not only forces you to strictly budget the cash you allocated to yourself per month but also saves you exchange rates if you use your credit card as your main form of payment. Debit cards from Canada are not accepted in England.

Upon arrival, the University of Leicester employs students to the welcoming committee that will welcome you at the meeting point of Heathrow's airport and there is a free coach that will take you from central London to Leicester, which will take approximately 2.5 hours. They will organize you based on the accommodations you have been assigned. This provides the perfect opportunity to acquaint yourself with those who live in or around your allocated accommodation. Given that I chose self-accommodation, I was able to meet a few friends residing the same accommodation who were more than willing to split costs for kitchen equipment and necessary cleaning utilities (depending on the accommodation of shared bathroom or kitchen). The welcoming committee also organizes trips to the grocery store as well as a welcoming dinner that also provides you the best opportunity to meet other exchange students from all parts of the world. In relation to academics, this does vary according to the program you have selected. However, with media studies there were no tutorials but class size was smaller, as it was third to fourth year courses, and lectures were very similar to that of SFU with power point lecture slides and occasional professor and student interactions and group discussions. Grading in England in general is very different than in North America as 70% is perceived as a first or an equivalent of an A-, so don't be shocked if you receive a mark of 74, which actually translates as a very well written or well-presented academic

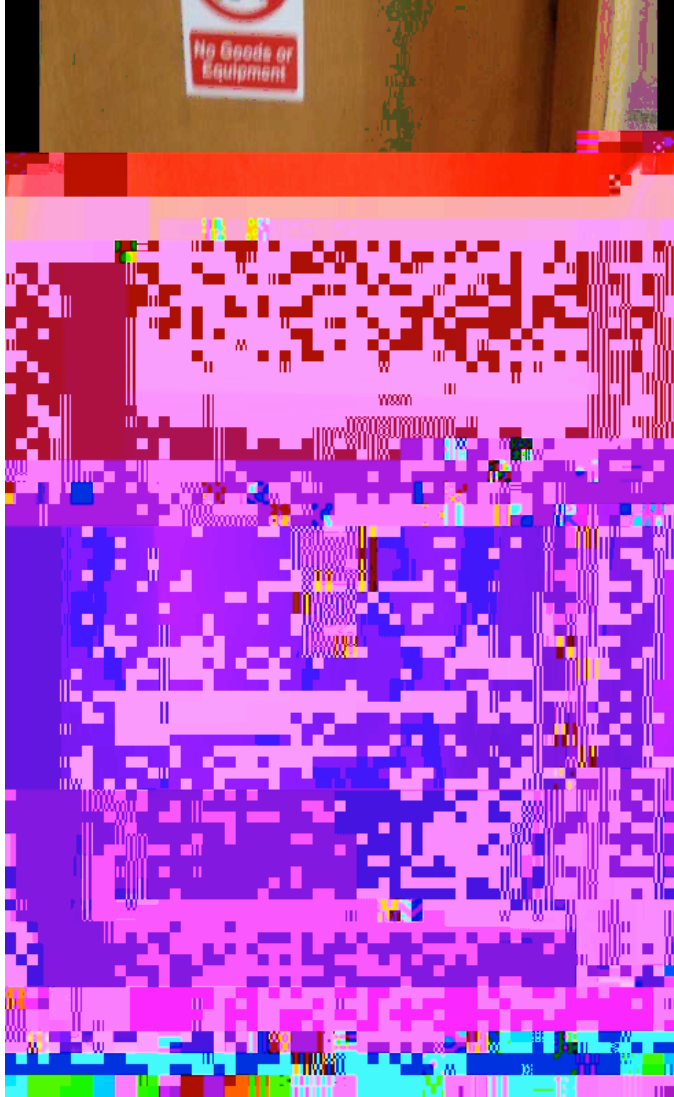
essay or presentation. During your first week, your professors will convey this to you as well.

**Photos:**



Picture 1: New Walk: Scenic walk from the University to Leicester's main City Center. This walk also leads to the market place and the mall area, which is approximately 10 to 15 minutes away by foot from the University.

Picture 2:



Picture 4:

Law department's Paternoster elevator: An elevator that cycles at the top and bottom rather than the usual vertical motion. Many students, especially new students, tend to over ride it thereby justifying the sign requesting to keep the noise to a minimum as students and staff are working.