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**Degree Program at TAU:** MBA

**Host University:** NYU (Stern)

**Exchange term:** Spring 2018 (4.5 months)

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### Exchange Experience

#### **About the country and the city**

I have visited NYC many times before coming here as a student. There's a major difference between visiting here as a tourist to actual living here. NYC never rests. Everything is almost always open, but you can feel the change in the vibes when entering the weekend on Friday afternoon as it become more relaxed.

#### **About the Host University**

Most of the students that come to NYU, arrive here because of the university's premier location in the city. The Stern MBA students (Sternies), perceived as high potential professionals. The university is ranked at the top 15 in the world and considered to be very prestige. The faculty supply wider services than any other school in NYU.

#### **Important Information**

Before traveling: you will receive an email of 30 pages with exchange guide from NYU, related to all the dates, fees, costs and payments you will have to pay before your arrival. Visa, SEVIS, Payment for papers regarding the visa (DS-2019) and health-insurance by NYU in total of approximately \$3000.

If you are traveling on the spring semester, the health insurance charge will be ~\$2300 but you will get a refund from NYU of \$725 (make sure your permanent address on "Albert" is updated or the check they send, will never get to your house). The first payment includes summer term and therefore irrelevant to your period of time at Stern which is spring only.

During: you will have to print and carry your insurance card everywhere you go. If you will need to go to the hospital and won't have that printed out, they will not provide you with services.

Join the website-group called "campus-groups" by stern to receive all upcoming events (parties, trips, networking, boat rides, baseball games etc.)

NYU Card- will have many benefits to museums, shows, or tickets in general so make sure you check that before booking anything.

**NETWORK-** (in NY this is the name of the game), socialize with everyone if you want to get a job or an internship after the semester. If you got an offer, you can submit it to international students' program before your Visa expires to extend it by 4 more months. Most MBA internships in NYC are paid so don't worry about financial obligations.

### **Courses and professors**

The courses duties vary by the different subjects you've chosen. I have taken 2 classes in Finance and 3 in Management. As a person who worked in the financial industry before coming here, I believed I would enjoy the financial classes more than the managerial one. I have to say I was mistaken. The Managerial course I've taken seemed to be very practical, open minded and interesting. The grades are usually based on 20-50% participation. To obtain all scores, you have to speak up, be engaged and contribute to the class discussion.

Notice: all the classes have course pack usually that will cost between 30-50\$, the course pack is a link to the courses' cases from HBS, you can join a group or ask someone to share their link to reduce costs.

### **Recommendation on Courses**

#### Managerial Skills- THE MOST RECOMMENDED COURSE!- Prof. Dolly Chung

There's some reading to do before each class, and the assignments are different from any other course you've ever taken, but if you'll be engaged in this class which you will (you have no other choice, but you'll also love to) - you'll gain a lot of friends but you will also gain a practical toolkit to use on your management skills and life itself. This course is one I'll never forget

#### Managing the Growing Company- Prof. Okun

The Prof. is very good and gets a teaching award from NYU every year. There are many days/time options for taking this class. The course helps you to analyze companies for business strategies.

### **Accommodation**

The dorms are very expensive approximately 3000\$ a month but you can try and get a place at NYU Palladium building for 1500\$. It's hard to find an apartment in Manhattan especially near the university or downtown area in general. I was lucky enough to find one through the Israelis' Facebook group 2 days after my arrival for the whole period. I was fortunate to have lived in Chelsea, which is an Amazing neighborhood, with only 1 roommate, paying 1800\$ include all utilities.

### **Transportation**

You have all forms of transportation, I've mainly used the subway, Uber/Lyft or just walking around.

### **Insurance and Health Services**

I used NYU health insurance but there's ISO insurance, it seems to be about 30%-50% cheaper than the one NYU offered, depends on how old you are, but you would also need to sign a waiver. Although as I mentioned before, Spring Semester health insurance includes the summer term, Due to NYU consideration of your status, they will reimburse you some of the money so you will only have to pay for \$1500 for 5 months. But if you will insure yourself with IOS you'll have to pay for 8 months instead of 5 as mentioned in the exchange student's guide and NYU will not be able to reimburse you any money. If you're under 30 it's worth it, you will only have to pay ~\$800, but if not, then you'll have to pay \$1600.

### **Living expenses NYC**

NYC is not cheap, but only when you live here you feel it. Every meal will cost you at least 15-40\$. You would have to tip at least 12-20% on everything- cabs, restaurants, manicure, delivery and so forth. I even taught myself how to cook and how to do my laundry to save money, and still expenses including rent were approximately 4000\$ a month.

### **Night life**

Before the semester starts you can sign-up for Welcome Grad student party, or a joint trip. You'll have Beer Blast at Stern every Thursday which include between 4 to unlimited drinks and a great opportunity to meet your classmates. Stern offer many trips and social events such as Whiskey tours, Cruise parties, paint-ball etc. There are tons of clubs and bars, museums, shows, restaurants and activities. Try to arrange your class schedule in a way that will allow you to have free time on the weekends. You can plan short travel trips to Washington, Miami, Boston which are all close by.

## Tips

I would advise you to try a gasper the culture and the people as they can take you to different adventures and experiences which are more typical for local, from the best coffee places to amazing unique restaurants. Try to leave your Israeli judgment aside and let them show you a new way of living.

NYU has too many sites, but these are the most important ones:

- Albert- grades, registration for courses, class schedule and payments.
- NYU Classes- every course has a website at the beginning of the course they will send you a link for it, make sure you save it of my sites, so you'll have quick access. The course websites will include your assignments, readings (resources) for class, syllabus and information needed. Most of your papers and assignment will also be submitted through this website.
- Stern email- make sure you check your email several times a day. They love sending emails and this is how they will communicate with you (not by phone), if you missed an email with instructions- that's on you.

## Career

Stern has its own Career center which will help you customize your resume and will open a server for you to look for jobs/internships. But it will all start with YOU! In New York you can only get an interview if someone pushed your resume to the top of the pile, or else no one will read it. Every company receives thousands of applications scanned by AI and your resume will eliminate immediately if you're missing a word or a skill. The best way to network is consistently talk and express your desire to work in the states with your Sternies mates. They can connect you with many people in the industry or take an experiential learning course and make connections with the company you're working with. GOOD LUCK!

### General Experience

My Semester at Stern was everything I hoped for and even more. I was exposed to new working and analysis practices, learned many things about myself and how I can manage and deal with obstacles and challenges, developed new perspectives on life, managed to get an internship in my field for one of top 10 Venture Capital funds, made tons of new great friends, had an amazing culinary experience and on top of all I have found my loved one.

- Academics ✓
- Internship ✓
- Love ✓
- Living the dream ✓

WISH YOU ALL TO HAVE THE BEST EXPERIENCE OF YOUR LIFE!

