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Degree Program at TAU: M.Sc in managements science

Host University: Tuck Business School At Dartmouth

Exchange term: Fall 2025 (9 weeks)

Exchange Experience

My exchange term brought me to the Upper Valley region of **New Hampshire**, a part of the United States defined by its natural beauty and a rhythm quite distinct from the major metropolitan centers. Dartmouth College and the **Tuck School of Business** are nestled in **Hanover**, a classic, small New England college town. It is not a bustling city, but a highly focused, intellectual community where the campus itself serves as the hub of activity. The geography immediately stood out: the Connecticut River flows nearby, and the famous Appalachian Trail runs straight through the campus area. This setting meant that while I did not have the immediate access to massive corporate headquarters or endless nightlife, I gained an immense appreciation for the **focused, collaborative learning environment** that this semi-remote location intentionally fosters. The crisp, invigorating air of the New England fall, culminating in the spectacular colors of the changing leaves, provided a beautiful and calming backdrop to the intense academic rigor of the term.

The Tuck School of Business is defined by its **tight-knit community** and a deep commitment to the personal development of its students. The campus atmosphere is distinctly welcoming and highly cooperative. From the moment I arrived, I was integrated not just as an exchange student, but as a temporary "Tuckie." This environment is a direct result of the school's small class size and isolated location, which encourages students to rely on and build trust with one another.

The facilities are modern and comprehensive, yet they retain a classic Ivy League aesthetic that connects them to the broader Dartmouth College campus. I found the **staff attention and care** to be exceptional. The exchange coordinator and the dedicated administrators for international students were proactive in assisting with everything from course selection to navigating local resources. This level of personalized support made the transition seamless and solidified the sense that the school genuinely invests in the success and well-being of every student, including exchange participants.

The academic experience at Tuck was intensive and challenging, built primarily around the **case study method**, a significant departure from some of the more theoretical approaches at Collier. I deliberately chose courses that aligned with my

Management Science background while exposing me to the unique strengths of the MBA curriculum.

I took business, marketing, ML and leadership courses to have a diverse learning experience.

The faculty were not only accomplished researchers but also engaging and accessible, often holding open-door hours where they encouraged informal discussions about career paths and academic interests. The learning was less about memorization and more about developing the confidence to **make decisions with imperfect information**, a crucial skill for a future manager.

Tuck's strong community extends far beyond the classroom into a rich array of extra-curricular and social activities. The exchange began with a dedicated **orientation** that immediately paired us with student mentors and provided a crash course in Tuck culture, setting the tone for the highly involved semester.

The social life centers around student engagement. I regularly attended "Tuck Tails," the school's signature weekly gathering, which served as the primary informal **networking and social venue**. The **student union** and various clubs were highly active. I joined the Tripod Hockey club which was very fun.

Given Hanover's location, the emphasis on the **outdoors** became a significant part of the experience. Hiking trips in the nearby White Mountains and taking a weekend to explore the stunning foliage were not just recreational activities, but key bonding opportunities that helped me form strong friendships outside the academic setting. This blend of focused study and ready access to nature provided a healthy balance for the term.

Although exchange students have limited access to the full, on-campus recruiting process designed for two-year MBA students, the **Career Development Office (CDO)** was still a powerful resource. However they focused on full time students and not exchange..

I chose to live in Sachem Village in a sublet from another student that did an exchange with one German exchange student and it was amazing. This decision was crucial for maximizing my immersion, as Sachem Village fostered a community among international graduate students.

Accommodation in the Hanover area is highly sought after and can be expensive, so securing housing early was essential. While the town itself is compact and **walkable**, its isolated location presents challenges for **transportation**. Regional travel primarily relies on the **Dartmouth Coach**, a bus service that runs directly to Boston and New York City. For international travel, connecting to **Boston Logan (BOS)** was the most common route, requiring a pre-booked bus journey. I found that while I did not need a car for daily life, it would have been helpful for exploring the region more freely.

The visa process required careful planning. I studied on a **F1 Exchange Visa**, which involved securing the necessary **DS-2019 form** from Dartmouth's international student services well in advance. The process was straightforward, thanks to the thorough guidance from the OVIS (Office of Visa and Immigration Services).

For **insurance and health services**, I was required to enroll in the **Dartmouth Student Health Insurance Plan (DSHIP)**, which provided access to both the

on-campus health service, Dick's House, and the high-quality **Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC)** nearby. This offered peace of mind during the term.

My **living expenses** were notably higher than in Tel Aviv. The main costs were housing and general consumables. My estimated total living expenses for the two-month term, excluding tuition and travel to the US, amounted to approximately \$4,000 USD, with the largest portion dedicated to rent. Budgeting for groceries and minimizing dining out were necessary to manage costs effectively.

The food scene in Hanover is largely tailored to the university community. On campus, there were various dining halls and cafes that served as convenient meeting spots. Off campus, the local restaurants, while not diverse in the way a major city would be, provided quality dining. **The food experience** was a mix of cooking at home to save money and enjoying group dinners with classmates to socialize.

The **nightlife** is characterized by the community focus. It is not a club scene; rather, it revolves around the student community—house parties, informal gatherings, and local pubs. **Murphy's on the Green** was a popular local establishment for students to unwind. The emphasis here is on deep interaction and conversation, which fostered a more meaningful and enduring social experience than a typical big-city nightlife environment.

For future exchange students at Tuck, my main **tip** is to fully **embrace the community** and the location. Do not treat the exchange as purely academic; the most valuable lessons are learned in team rooms, at social events, and on the hiking trails. Be prepared for the **intensity of the case method** and the highly collaborative environment—it rewards preparation and participation. Finally, dress warmly, as the New England fall quickly transitions to a cold winter.

The experience at Tuck added tremendous **value to my M.Sc. in Management Science** at Collier. Academically, the focus on applying theoretical models through the MBA case study method provided a critical **strategic lens** for my quantitative studies. The ability to work with and present solutions alongside a high-caliber, diverse group of international MBA students significantly enhanced my **cross-cultural communication and leadership skills**. Furthermore, the exposure to the US business perspective in finance and consulting broadened my understanding of global career pathways. This exchange was a transformative experience that rounded out my analytical foundation at Collier with crucial real-world managerial and networking acumen.



