



**Keio Business School**  
慶應義塾大学大学院経営管理研究科



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**Program at TAU: MBA**

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### **The city of Tokyo**

Welcome to the most amazing 4 months of your life! I can truly say that Tokyo is the most wonderful place I've been to. The city itself is a mixture of modern architecture combined with a lot of traditional and cultural places you can visit. Do yourself a favor and explore how much that you can! I can guarantee that you'll always find new things to do!

I recommend joining the Facebook group "יפן למטיילים" and visit wherever that you find interesting 😊.

One of the most special things I experienced is a "Doll burning ceremony" that takes place in Meiji shrine (Harajuku area) in October. Basically, there's a whole hall full of dolls that they burn because by the Japanese belief every doll has a soul and you cannot just throw them away.



- Don't miss the great Izakaya's Tokyo has to offer. My favorite is Torikizoku – a chain of Yakitori that has branches all over Japan. Every dish in 300 Yen(ish).
- Clubs – AgeHa (the largest club in Asia – pretty far away from the city), Camelot, Atom and many others. All of them have multiple floors.
- Halloween in Shibuya is definitely an experience you don't want to miss. Just be aware of the fact that in that time Shibuya becomes the busiest place in the world(!).

### **Applying to KBS (all the requirements)**

- Apply for the CoE (Certificate of Eligibility) - they will send you a form.
- Scanned photo of your passport (full page).
- ID photo in high resolution – needs to be clear and frontal view of you.
- 2 printed ID photos (3cmX4cm) that you need to send to them by airmail (these are required because they need an actual printed photo to attach to your CoE). These measurements of the photos are a bit weird, just ask the person in the photo-shop to cut it this way.
- They will ask you for a financial report of your bank account in order to be sure that you can afford living on your own in Japan. If you have a sponsor (like parents or so) you need to provide their financial report as well.

### **The CoE and Visa process**

The Japanese embassy is located in **4 Berkowitz St., Tel-Aviv (the Museum Building)**.

Once you received the CoE you can set a date for a meeting via E-mail or telephone. it usually takes about a week or two to get an appointment, so don't wait with it for too long!

In the meeting, a representative will talk to you in Hebrew (in a very cute Japanese accent) and will ask you some questions. They will take your passport in order to attach your Visa and will tell you when you should come back to take it (usually in a few days).

You Have a 6 months window to enter Japan and once you entered you can stay there for 6 months. When you arrive to Japan, they will take your CoE and you'll receive your residence card.

## The School

You need to take at least 4 classes which is perfect because each class usually equals to 1.5 TAU credits. 4 classes = 6 credits (the max amount of credits TAU is allowing). The campus is located in Hiyoshi, Yokohama and all your lecture halls will be in the KBS floor (4<sup>th</sup> floor of the collaboration complex Building).

## The Classes I Took

- **Management Control in Japan:** Basically, a class about financing and accounting. The main subject you'll study about is M&A. most of the sessions are composed of theoretical part, case study and group discussion. The lady professor is French and has a pretty heavy accent, but you'll get used to it.

### Requirements

- (1) presentation (work in pairs).
- (2) review another pair's presentation.
- (3) paper (that basically elaborate a bit about the subject of your presentation. About 5-6 pages).

- **International Human Resources Management:** A very nice class that focuses on everyday situations of an HR worker, when dealing with employees in international organization. You need to be prepared to each class (reading a case study that will be given). The classes have a long (about 50 mins) group discussion about the case, a general discussion about the case that is led by the professor and theoretical part. The professor is a very nice Japanese lady who used to teach in Australia for 8 years, so her English is perfect!

### Requirements:

- (1) You need to do a cultural agility test that costs about 30\$. It's a 15 mins test and based on your results you need to write a short essay (about 2-3 pages).
- (2) Group presentation (she will divide you into group of 4-5 students).
- (3) A final paper based on the subject of your presentation. It's also a group assignment (about 2000-2500 words).

- **Management Science and Decision Making:** Pretty easy class and definitely the one that had the most Japanese students. At first you learn how to make a decision tree and a bit about game theory. Then you'll have a case study to read to each class and discuss on it in groups of about 6 students in class. The professor was Japanese and very nice.

Requirements:

- (1) Class participation is 50%(!) of the grade so be active!
- (2) Presentation about a decision-making dilemma (people were very creative. I did mine about "Harry potter: Wizards unit" and "Pokémon Go" apps!)
- (3) Short follow-up paper about the subject of your paper (2-3 pages).

- **Business Logistics:** By far the most demanding but the most interesting class I had. You're being divided into 4 groups and in each class 2 groups present a paper. There are 2 meetings in each week, so it ended in the middle of October (fun!). The professor is Belgian and speaks English fluently.

Requirements:

- (1) 4 presentations (one each week) about articles that you'll be given. The groups are of about 4 students. Each presentation is 45 mins! **A very important tip!** – read the first two groups articles before the first session. In the first session you're being divided into the groups. For me, the first class was on Thursday and on Friday (the day after) group 1 and 2 had to present. I was in group 2 and we had to be up almost all night to read the papers and make a presentation!
- (2) Final paper about one of two topics the professor chooses. You need to write about 3500 words and you have about a month so submit it. Do yourself a favor and finish it as soon as possible, before you have to do all the other classes' assignments!

## **Hiyoshi Station**

the station of Hiyoshi campus. Located right next to the campus. You'll find there a decent size of a DAISO store (everything in 100 Yen), a large electronics store, large TOKYU supermarket, Uniqlo, MUJI and other little sections. On -1B floor there's a large pharm store.

The main line to the center of the city is the Toyoko line (colored in red). If you catch the limited express train you can be in Shibuya in less than 15 mins. Otherwise it will take a bit more than 20 mins (not a big deal, but quite a bummer, you'll see XD).

There's also a MEGA Don Quijote store about 15 mins walk from the station so you can buy a lot of things for cheap (from snacks and drinks to everyday necessities and even Halloween costumes!).

## **The Dorms**

About 12 minutes walking from the campus. The building itself is old and I literally scrubbed my room when I entered. Bring your own router for Wi-Fi, because there's only a LAN port. Out of 14 rooms available we were only 7 people in the building. The rent (60,000 yen/month) covers everything (electricity and water) and you can use the shared laundry machine and the drier free of charge (there 3 of each). You will receive fresh linens every 2 weeks. Other than that, you have to bring everything yourself (dishes, body care products, towel and TP).

## **Traveling**

You can travel inside of Japan using the Shinkansen (the bullet train) only if the ride is 100KM or more. In that case, you can print in school a student discount card that gives you 20% discount on your ride (print 2 – so you can have a discount for your ride back!). If you live in the dorms and want to travel to West-Japan (Kyoto, Osaka, etc.), the nearest station of the JR shinkansen is Shin-Yokohama. Please don't skip traveling, especially to Osaka (this city is perfect) for Japan truly has so much to offer!

If you travel to a destination outside of Japan you need to fill up a short form in the airport, saying that you're coming back to Japan, just so your visa won't be canceled.

**Some photos**



**Mount Fuji**

**The Golden Temple – Kyoto**



**Fushimi Inari - Kyoto**





**Nara Park (the Deer walk feely!)**



**Hogwarts Castle(!) – Universal Studios in Osaka**



**Halloween in Shibuya**



**Remember** – You're there for 4 months only! Go out and explore whenever you can! You will meet people from the best business schools in the world and I'm sure that you'll have a lot of things in common. Don't be shy and connect with them! People in my class were fascinated by Israel and they wanted to know how life is in here (especially Japanese and Chinese students). Talk to them about it – it's a very good conversation starter ;)

For any other recommendations, you can always contact me.

Dean