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Degree Program at TAU: MBA

Host University: NYU

Exchange term: Fall 2019

[Exchange Experience](#)

The City

Although I have visited NYC a couple of times before the semester, there is a huge difference between visiting as a tourist and living there as a student. There are tons of things to do and even a few years wouldn't be enough to see and experience everything. I highly recommend taking advantage of this great opportunity and experiencing the city in your own way.

About the University

Other than the fact that NYU has the best location in the city, the school also has a variety of activities to offer its students. From day 1, download the app "CampusGroups" (for [IOS](#), [Android](#)) and join the Stern campus (if you have trouble doing it, ask one of the full-time students). On "CampusGroups" you can be updated about all the activities in Stern (and there are many!), you can be part of professional teams, sports teams, culture teams, and more.

Courses and Professors

I decided to take courses from a range of fields: finance, real estate, and programming. Try to fully research the courses before the registration date; there are many attractive courses and some of them have a high demand among the students.

I took the following courses:

New Venture Financing: This course was one of the best courses I have ever taken. The course is focused on the VC field and the professor is one of the best! He has a lot of experience from his career and he delivers it to the class with a lot of practical examples.

Topics in Cryptocurrency Investing: This course was very interesting. We learned a lot about Bitcoin, Ether, and other cryptocurrencies. I really liked this course.

Financial Industry: This course was taught by a professor with many years of experience in JP Morgan and Credit Suisse. The professor brought many interesting guest lecturers from the investment bank industry. I don't recommend taking this course if you don't have some background in finance.

Programming in Python: I really liked this course; it gives you a basic understanding of programming in Python. The course was relatively easy, however don't expect to get advanced skills in Python from this course.

Real Estate Capital Markets: I think that the content of the course is interesting but overall, I don't recommend taking this course if you are not really focused on real estate.

Accommodation

This is by far the hardest part of the preparations for the exchange program. Finding an apartment in Manhattan or Brooklyn can be exhausting and it is important to understand that it can take some time. There are Facebook groups and other apps that can be very helpful. In addition, NYU has some groups and excel sheets that can help you (search on their website). Be aware that there are many scams in the market; please do all your checks before you transfer money to someone.

These are the main sources that I used:

[Off campus housing](#)

[ישראלים מסבלטים בניו יורק](#)

[New York City Housing, Rooms, Apartments, Sublets](#)

[NYC Manhattan - Housing, Rooms, Apartments, Sublets, Roommates, New York](#)

[Homeis app](#)

Visa

NYU makes the whole process very simple; you just need to follow their instructions. As an exchange student, you will be eligible for the J1 visa. I came with my spouse and the university was very helpful in helping her get the J2 visa.

Insurance and Health Services

The insurance that the university will offer you will be pretty expensive. The cheaper option you have is to buy health insurance from [ISO](#). Before you begin the semester, NYU requires a form with your medical history, signed by your doctor. I recommend filling out this form the moment you receive it from NYU, because if you are missing part of the required vaccinations, it can take some time to schedule them.

Living expenses

New York is one of the most expensive cities worldwide. However, the city offers a range of options and it depends on how much you would like to spend. Our total expenses (for a couple) were around 100K NIS for 4.5 months including everything.

Food

There are tons of tons of options for everyone, and we often used the [Crave](#) and [Seated](#) apps. Usually you can find restaurants with happy hours or big discounts.

Tips:

Although you are coming to study, don't forget to explore the city, get in touch with other students, explore the nightlife and enjoy your free time. There is always something to do.

General Experience

Don't miss this great opportunity! This was the best experience that I have gained from my MBA. This is a unique opportunity to study at one of the best business schools in the world and live in one of the most interesting places. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.