



Uri Eden
urieden@umich.edu
MBA Student
Fall 2015

Ross School of Business, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

September 2015 – December 2015

Ann Arbor and University of Michigan

Ann Arbor is the ideal college town and experience. It may not be a big city such as NYC or Chicago but it has everything you need right in it, from bars, restaurants and the cosmopolitan feel of different cultures and people. The University of Michigan is the life source and energy of the town and you can feel in everywhere you go from the clothes apparel and the town which is mostly filled with students.

The Campus

University of Michigan has two major campuses, one is the north campus and the other is the central one. Ross Business school is located in the central campus close to almost everything including transportation and other services.



Visa

If you are not an American citizen, studying in Ross requires you to get a F-1 Visa, which the school and its international services will assist you to receive very easily. You cannot study as an international student in the school with any other visa types.

Housing

Ann Arbor is a college town and as such it offers a wide range of different housing for students. You will find it hard in the beginning to find housing for students who request only 4 months of stay as most places want to rent for an entire year. Even though there are still plenty of housing options. It is crucial to stay near the central campus and not go to other places such as Woodbury Gardens where I stayed. I would recommend you to apply to Munger Residence or

wait until the very end to find a place that will agree to take you for a few months. Renting in Ann Arbor with a roommate will cost you approximately 1000\$ a month.

Public transportation

There is the university of Michigan bus systems as well as the Ann Arbor city buses run in the city almost all the time and can get you anywhere you need. Riding the busses is free in Ann Arbor for students. You will also find that if you live near the central campus you will not need to take the bus system as everything is walking distance. There is also a shuttle service to get to the airport which is called Michigan Flyer which will cost you 12\$ each way.

Classes and Credits

Ross Business School divides its semester the same way as TAU, you have full semester courses and 2 terms each of 7 weeks (fall A and fall B). I would recommend you to take around three to four classes each term. You will be required to have at least 9 credits which is fairly easy to achieve. You will find that Ross offers you a huge variety of courses in many fields such as finance, strategy, marketing, information technology and etc. Most classes require you to be actively engaged and will be graded based on that. Another aspect is team work and group paper/presentation which is key in the school. Interesting courses I participated in and would recommend you take is "Introduction to Business Law" with Prof. Bishara, "Business in Asia" with Prof. Lim and "VBA", all of which I have found very challenging and gave me added value.

Living expenses

Eating and going out in Ann Arbor is very cheap and you will basically realize very fast that eating out is sometimes cheaper than cooking at home. There are plenty of places to go out including bars, parties and good restaurants which are all located near the central campus. The school itself will require you to enroll in the health insurance plan which is 130\$ each month.

Other than that it will all depend on you and how much you like to go out and travel. I personally flew out of Ann Arbor almost every two weeks to NY and other destinations in the U.S which raised the cost of the experience.

I would recommend you to allocate at least 45,000 NIS for the trip in total, for me with all the travelling, shopping and extra two months in the US reached around 70,000 NIS.

Recruitments in the school

Ross opens its career center to all students including exchange and allows them to participate in recruiting events and help them with the job search. The process will start right in September so if you are interested in a career in the U.S, I would highly recommend you to attend the services the school has to offer. The only thing which is important is to remember you are not an American citizen and not a full time student which is able to stay and work after graduation so for working you would need a "sponsorship" by a company which is not easy to get.

Extra Information and Tips

The school has a variety of clubs and extra activities that you can participate in and be part of, try to maximize your experience with them.

Buy season tickets to the football matches which is a huge part of the Michigan experience.

Bank Accounts – The main bank in Ann Arbor is PNC which is the sponsored bank in the university and campus and don't require any monthly payments. You will find it is very popular in the mid-west. If you are planning to keep the account after you leave I would suggest to open with another bank since it is not very common in other cities such as New-York and Boston so finding ATM's or a branch will not be easy.

Books – the books most classes require you to buy are not cheap at all (over 100 dollars per book), so I would recommend you to buy used ones through amazon or other sites.

Amazon – Your new best friend, you can order anything you want with free delivery as a Prime member which is free for students with an EDU email.

Gyms – the school has a gym inside the campus which will cost you around 150\$ for the semester. There is also free gym offered by the university.



Please feel free to contact me.