



**NANYANG
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY**



**Tel Aviv University
TAU Recanati**

The Leon Recanati Graduate School of Business Administration

Nanyang Technological University (NTU)

NTU is a top MBA school in Singapore. The usual class size is about 140 people a year comprising of both full time and part time students. Full time students complete their degrees within 4 semesters while it takes part time students on average 3 years to complete the program. Most of the classes take place in the evening (6.15-9.15pm) and they take place at the One North campus.

The University's main campus is located next to Boon Lay MRT station. You will then need to take a bus (appr. 15 min) to get to the campus. The campus itself is very impressive although it is built like a maze and it is not easy to find your way around it. The graduate housing, sports facilities and food courts are also located there. The Business School also uses a different site (One North) for the evening classes located at Buena Vista MRT. There is a free bus service that takes students between the campuses.

Upon arrival you will need to get a Student Pass. The University will sponsor your application and will help you with the procedure. Prepare to pay around \$100 for the pass. You will need to give the pass back before you leave the country.

NTU does not help exchange students with accommodation. Finding a room for a short period of time can be problematic and also the cost is very high. Some exchange students tried to get together and rent an apartment but ended up renting individual rooms as finding a flat for a short term proved to be impossible. Paying rent will probably be your most significant expense while on exchange.

The University charges the exchange students some fees upon their enrolment in the program which includes insurance cost. The fee in 2011 was about Singapore \$400.

It is very easy to get around Singapore. The system of public transportation is very efficient and is also air conditioned. You will need to get an EZ card that you top up and the cost of using the system is affordable.

The food in Singapore can be as cheap or as expensive as you want it to be. It is usually cheaper to eat in food courts than to shop in supermarkets. The prices in restaurants range from reasonable to very expensive and the quality of food is not necessarily higher than in food courts or street stalls.

NTU offers a wide range of courses. Taking classes in the evening will allow you to meet part time students who are employed full time and can therefore significantly contribute to the class discussion. Here is a selection of classes offered with some feedback I got from different students on them:

- International marketing – complete waste of time, the professor had nothing to talk to the class about
- CSR – great course taught by one of the key experts in Asia. It is mostly lecture based and can therefore get a bit boring but it focuses on the business strategy behind CSR programs
- Communications management – a relatively easy course about forming communications strategies
- Managing business operations – very tough course with lots of assignments
- Technology and e-business – a great course that leaves you inspired
- Business law – a great course that gives you an introduction to business law in an easy to understand way
- Strategic Innovation and technology management – a great course which covers all aspects of information management
- Sun ZiBingfa – a fun course that provides a great introduction to the Chinese culture. You will need to submit a 25 page report at the end of the course which takes a lot of time to complete.

The students at NTU are very open minded and curious and openly welcome exchange students. Every Wednesday they usually go to Insomnia bar in the Chimes for an all you can drink evening and then go clubbing till early morning. The exchange students are invited to join all of their activities and to celebrate festivals together.

Singapore is conveniently located for traveling around South East Asia. There are several low-cost airlines that can fly you to amazing destinations including beautiful islands and exotic cities. GrouponSingapore also often offers different deals for traveling. NTU students travel a lot together so finding fellow travelers is not a problem.

Olga Rubanovskaya