

Full name: Daniel Kleinmann

Email: Kleinmann.daniel@gmail.com

Degree Program at TAU: Sofaer International MBA

Host University: New York University

Exchange term: Fall 2017

Exchange Experience

The exchange experience at New York University was an unforgettable one. I would highly recommend this opportunity to any student if it is available to them, it is truly once in a life time. I believe that the opportunity to live in New York City at one of the world's premier Finance institutions with an incredibly smart group of students around is a dream come true.

About the country and city

I may be bias, but I believe that New York City is one of the greatest cities in the world. The city has endless events, restaurants, parties and shopping to offer. There is constantly a buzz and a vibrant energy that cannot be replicated. It is also a central hub for transportation to other cities in the US. It is closely situated other historic cities in the Northeast and a few hours flight to warmer destinations down south and out west.

About the Host University

New York University is a world class academic institute. It is situated in NoHo, Manhattan which is surrounded by tons of bars, restaurants and shopping. It is also a short drive to Wall Street which where most of the professors had successful careers. The campus is easily accessible and has many amenities such as a free gym, conference rooms, library and social events such as free beer and food every Thursday evening. It carries with it a certain brand name that allows you to stand out among other schools.

Courses and professors

I decided to take strictly finance related courses as NYU is a top 3 finance program in the world. I was truly blown away by the quality of professors, material and educational experience. Some of the courses that I took were:

Valuation – I absolutely loved this course. It was taught by professor Sagram who is Domodoron's right hand guy. This course was intensive but practical and was easily one of the best courses I have ever taken.

Bankruptcy & Restructuring – This course was a half course but was unforgettable. It is taught by Dr. Altman who is world renowned in distressed markets. The final project is analyzing a bankruptcy and making recommendations.

Mergers & Acquisitions – Taught by an Israeli professor – it is challenging but well worth it. It gives you a deep dive on how M&A works and is very useful if you want to go into consulting or investment banking.

Private Banking – Cool course taught by three different lecturers. This course was the easiest by far and was the coolest. Had many speakers come in and was the most industry-related course.

Corporate Finance – Good course, provided fundamental lessons about finance that helped understand more complex courses.

Out of these, I would highly recommend Valuation and Bankruptcy as they provide foundational finance knowledge and skills that allows you to really understand day-to-day finance related news.

Accommodation

Finding accommodation was a bit difficult and I recommend starting a couple months in advance. The best bet is to take a sublet for a few months somewhere in lower Manhattan (SoHo, NoHo, Murray Hill, Lower East Side, Chinatown, etc..). I managed to find my apartment on a Facebook group. Here is a link to a few good groups:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/838592299562056/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/gypsyhousing/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nycsublets/>

Visa

Since I am an American citizen this was not applicable.

Transportation

It is quite easy to get around NYC. I lived within a 25 minute walk from campus and did the walk almost every day. I did buy a Metro pass which I used for the subway whenever I was travelling further. I would also highly recommend downloading the application: VIA. It is like Uber but much cheaper and allows you take get around town between \$5-10 Dollars.

Insurance and Health Services

Since I am an American citizen this was not applicable.

Living expenses

NYC is very expensive and you should save up before arriving. Everything costs more and you want to be able to experience the city accordingly. Barbershops, Laundry, groceries are all expensive in comparison to most places in the world.

Food

The food in NYC is world-class. There is about every type of restaurant that you can possibly think of. It is expensive but very worth it. I would recommend using Yelp to find good restaurants. I would also recommend downloading Seamless which is a great food delivery service.

Night life

The NYC nightlife offers so many different options. There are thousands of different bars, lounges and night clubs. I would recommend asking a local before going to a club as it could be very expensive and there could be long lines.

Tips

Try and arrive a week or two before to make sure you can get set up properly. Try and stay a week or two after your final exam to take advantage of travelling in the United States.

General experience

This was an unbelievable experience and I wish it could have been a full year instead of just one semester.

