



# Cornell fall 2012

## General experience

Cornell is an amazing university. My experience from a semester there is wonderful. I made many new friends and met such a great variety of people. The experience from this kind of semester is completely different than what you will achieve in one semester in Israel. From my perspective academic activities take 50% of your time social event take 30% of your time and finding a job\ deciding on a new path in your career is about 20%. Of course it's very individual but I can promise you that your schedule will be packed with activities.

## Housing

Ithaca is a gorgeous town but there is a big accommodation problem. This is why I recommend that the first action you take after being accepted is to look for an apartment/ university apartment. The average rent per month is around 800\$. I recommend that you post a message on the most useful website, Craigslist ([www.craigslist.com](http://www.craigslist.com)). The sublet opportunities for only one semester are limited especially for the fall semester.

The university is located on the top of the hill, so I recommend that you rent an apartment no more than 15 min walk from the university according to Google map.

## Living expenses

Living expense are fairly expensive. Living expenses, traveling to NYC on the occasional weekend, food, books etc. can reach \$12,000 for one semester. You can't really work because of a time limitation and there are not many opportunities. Ithaca is much more expensive than other suburbs in the state.

## Transportation

It's very easy to get from NYC to Ithaca; it's only one bus (average ride is about 5 hours) and the bus leave frequently. There are two major public bus companies that you can choose. I prefer the "Short Line" (<http://www.coachusa.com/shortline>). The cost is \$45 per ride (with a student card).

In addition there is Cornell's bus service, which is high class and much faster but it costs \$82.5 per ride. The Cornell bus service called Campus to Campus.

## Recreation

The night life are over pretty early in Ithaca everything is being closed around 24:00. There are two clubs one in Collage town and a few small ones down town, but there are many “home parties” You should ask your friends especially the first year MBA about the “hot spot” in town.

There are many activities in the Johnson School – at list once a week. Many receptions lunches, breakfasts and dinners. You should bring a suit and a tie. You will use them very quickly and there are very few options to buy them around Ithaca.

## Courses

The hardest courses to get in are the small group courses, those courses are much more similar to work shops (between 10 to 15 students in a group) you have a great chance to improve different skills for example writing management and oral communication – very recommended. I recommend that if you are trying to enter to one of those courses put them first in your list while register because the registration system operate according to speed only.

## Tips & important things to be aware of

My best tip is to come prepare and decide in advance what you want to achieve from this semester. There is such an amazing verity of option and the time is limited – so being focus on the goal is the most recommended. You can come with inspiration to be entrepreneurial or to get in to the consulting market everything is possible in this kind of university – don’t be afraid to let everyone know why you are here to use all the resources that this amazing school can offer you because sometimes you feel that they are unlimited. And of course don’t forget to have fun!