



安泰经管学院  
ANTAI COLLEGE  
Economics · Management



Collier School  
of Management  
Tel Aviv University

**Full name:** Nadav Schmalbach & Shany Hallak

**Email:** [nadavschmalbach@gmail.com](mailto:nadavschmalbach@gmail.com) & [shany.hallak@gmail.com](mailto:shany.hallak@gmail.com)

**Degree Program at TAU:** Sofaer Global MBA & MSc in Organizational Behavior

**Host University:** Shanghai Jiao Tong University Antai College of Economics & Management

**Exchange Term:** Antai Global Summer Program 2018 (July 1st - 20th)

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### Exchange Experience

#### **About the country and city**

- Welcome to China, one of the fastest developing countries in the world with one of the longest histories. Full of smiling people and opportunity, I'm sure you'll be impressed with what you see in China from a business perspective. Although China is very modern, there is no Google, so be prepared to face the great chinese firewall if you're obsessed with social media and Googling. Don't be surprised by the amount of people you see either... remember the population is about 1.3 Billion.
- Shanghai is one of China's largest and most populated cities. It has been open longer to westerners which is why it feels more like a western city than a Chinese one. The city has everything to offer from both worlds. Great local and westerner restaurants as well as a good nightlife. The city's Bund area, a waterside walk on the HuangPu River, is a spectacular sight as well as some local temples and the Yu Yuan Garden.

#### **About the Host University**

- Shanghai Jiao Tong University is the second oldest university in China where many groundbreaking inventions were created and is therefore a very well respected and reputable University in China. It is considered to be the Yale University of China.

- The school has a calm atmosphere and is very green, pleasant to walk around.
- There are several campuses around Shanghai, we stayed at the campus on Hua Shan road. This campus is located pretty center in the city with a convenient metro station nearby making it easy to get around anywhere in the city.
- Our program kept us busy with social activities, so I'm not sure of the general social activities available by the university. Our program was only three weeks so we did not need to interact with the student union or career center. This is the University entrance.

### **Courses and professors**

- The courses were all very relevant to the program. We learned about the current conditions for doing business in or with China. We learned about the history, and future of China.
- Here is a summary of the courses included during our program: Strategy in China, Supply Chain as an integral part of China-Global Business, Chinese Consumer Behavior, an Overview of the Chinese Economy and Cross-Cultural Communication, an Introduction to the Banking Industry in China, and a macro class covering the people, technology and infrastructure of China.
- We also had some cultural activities such as papercutting, a museum visit and making steamed buns. We had 3 company visit and a day trip to a water town as well.
- The program also included six Chinese language courses which taught us the Pinyin Chinese system. There were three levels of experience. We were in the beginners level.
- The professors were either expats with over a decade experience living and working in China or Chinese nationals that teach abroad throughout the year at well-known universities in the West. The the professors were impressive and all but one or two spoke very good English and were good lecturers. They all knew their subjects very well.

## **Accommodation – dorms and other solutions**

- There was a problem with the dorms during our exchange term so the program put us in the Shanghai Crowne Plaza Hotel. The facility included a nice small gym and pool, daily room service, free breakfast in the mornings and generally a nice ambiance.
- There are places to do your laundry on campus which is cheaper than other options such as a hotel or street laundromat.

## **Visa**

- First of all make sure to check out the Chinese Embassy in Israel's website for the latest updates (<http://il.china-embassy.org/eng/lsw/visa/>) All of the information and application instructions are there.
- Requirements are as follows:
- Original passport with at least six months of remaining validity and blank visa pages, and a photocopy of the passport's data page and the photo page if it is separate.
- An invitation letter issued by a relevant entity or individual in China. The invitation should contain:
  - (1) Information on the applicant (full name, gender, date of birth, etc.)
  - (2) Information on the planned visit (purpose of visit, arrival and departure dates, place(s) to be visited, relations between the applicant and the inviting entity or individual, financial source for expenditures)
  - (3) Information on the inviting entity or individual (name, contact telephone number, address, official stamp, signature of the legal representative or the inviting individual)
- Photocopy of previous Chinese passports or previous Chinese visas (applicable to foreign citizens those who were Chinese citizens and have obtained foreign citizenship)
- If you are applying for a Chinese visa for the first time, you should provide your previous Chinese passport held and a photocopy of its data page.
- One completed Visa Application Form with a recently-taken color passport photo (bare-head, full face) against a light background attached

- I used my Israeli passport to get the Visa because it was cheaper than if I used my American Passport. Visa fee is about 100 NIS with an Israeli Passport and 550 with a USA passport
- Address of the visa office is 219 Ben-Yehuda Street, Tel-Aviv
- Open Sunday to Thursday 9:00 to 12:00
- Visa processing time is about a week, but there is an express option.

### **Transportation**

- The metro station is really simple to use and it costs around 2.16 ILS (4 RMB) per direction.
- There is an application called Didi that is the equivalent of Uber and provides cheaper services than regular taxis. You do not need a Chinese credit card in order to sign in.
- Taxis are hard to find on the street sometimes and sometimes they will make you try to negotiate.

### **Insurance and Health Services**

- The University require students to bring appropriate accidental injury insurance copy when register (first day). The insurance must cover relevant medical cost caused by accidents in China.

### **Living expenses**

- Living in Shanghai is more expensive than other cities in China, but still very affordable compared to Tel Aviv. The most expensive expense would be going out to buy drinks. Everything else is very cheap.
- The average price for a nice dinner in Shanghai is between 40 - 60 RMB.
- Metro costs about 4 RMB per trip
- Water can cost between 4 - 7 RMB per bottle
- Tourist sites cost about 30 - 60 RMB to enter ( if you bring your student ID, you will receive a discount).

## Food

- University provides every lunch and some dinner. We had breakfast included as well as we stayed at the hotel. We do not know if breakfast is included if you will be staying at the dorms.
- If you keep kosher: I had harder time to find food as Chinese food include seafood and meat at every meal.
- Definitely try Yang's dumplings and Haidilao. These are two chains which are easy to find and delicious. The street food is amazing if you don't keep kosher and are adventurous.

## Night life

- There are nice rooftop bars and clubs. Some of the clubs will let westerners in for free with drinks included.
- Meet promoters, their job is to fill clubs with Westerners to attract more Chinese. They will set you up with free entrance and drinks.

## Tips

- Download Wechat
- Remember to bring cash
- When going out, taxis will try to rip you off. Best to walk a couple of blocks away from a club to get a taxi back, or download Didi, a "Uber" app.
- Bring small gifts for the staff, from your home country. It means a lot to them and can help you build a stronger faster relationship with them.
- Download google translate on your phone as it is challenging to communicate with Chinese (most do not speak English).
- Always have the address of where you are staying printed and written in Chinese.
- If you want to use social media, Google and Whatsapp, you will have to download a VPN. I highly recommend: Express VPN.
- Do not drink water from the sink.
- On your day off, we recommend to visit the West lake. It is 30 min away from Shanghai.

## General experience

- This program was amazing and worth every dollar spent. I highly suggest it! China is a different world, and its worth getting to know it.
- The program is built really well so that you experience what you study. We met wonderful people from all over the world as well.

## Photos



