

Full name: Adiel Shauloff

Email: adiel.s@gmail.com

Degree Program at TAU: MBA

Host University: NYU

Exchange term: Spring 2019, February-May

[Exchange Experience](#)

The City

Trying to describe New York City is not an easy task, but if you ask me - it is one of the best cities in the world!

You can find anything from Jazz clubs to comedy shows, Broadway shows, museums and if running is your thing (like me) you will spend hours in central park.

Finding your way in the city is very easy and there are many public transportation options: the MTA train or buses and many cheap APPs like VIA and LYFT.

As Israelis you will notice the difference very quickly, New York is a metropolis which is very easy to get along in, no matter the hour and where you are.

The facilities at stern are convenient, and the location is perfect – right off Washington Square, in the heart of the Village, one of the most fun places in town, which has a completely different vibe compared to its other parts.

I visited all of the "must see" museums in the city (at least once) during the semester and I enjoyed them very much. Don't forget to ask for student's price anywhere you go, because a lot of activities are for free or offer better rates for students.

Courses and professors

When the option to choose courses will be available you will notice the vast selection you can have, I took 6 courses and I feel that I got a good taste from different practices.

My recommendation is to choose your courses wisely so that you will be on campus not more than 3 to 4 days, the ideal would be to study between Mondays to Wednesdays, so you will have a very long weekend (Thursday-Sunday).

Be aware that some of the courses can be more time consuming than others, and can include more preparation time or team work.

Participation can account for up to 50% of the final grade! So this can be a great opportunity for you to both participate and practice your English and to receive a good grade for it.

I took the following courses:

Brand Strategy- an interesting course with a decent amount of home work. You will have a final presentation at a fancy branding firm in Manhattan, make sure you have formal clothing for events like this one (not necessarily suite but Business casual).

Business communication- In my opinion this kind of courses are highly recommended specifically in the US. This course is about the art of presentation. In each session the students need to participate or to make a presentation while they are being recorded by a video camera and the professor gives her comments. It doesn't matter if you think you are a great presenter, this course can give you very useful tools. Great experience.

New Media Marketing- an easy and not a time consuming course. Make sure to be active at this one because it counts for 40% of the final grade.

Managing The Growing Company- Highly recommended course with the one and only Glenn Okun. First of all, this guy is hilarious, the course is interesting and eye opening, especially if you are into strategy and small scale business.

The Strategist- I would not recommend on this one unless you need an extra credit unit, the only plus is that there is not a lot of homework and the grading is on a pass/fail basis.

Collaboration, Conflict and Negotiation- a very good course! I took this one with an Israeli professor Zur Shapira. Overall I think this course is very thorough and explains the fundamental of negotiation through a very experiential learning. There is an exam at the end of the course, not a tough one.

Accommodation

There is an option to apply for an on-campus housing, but you can get more bang for your buck in the city.

Overall, finding a proper housing in New York would probably be your most challenging aspect.

If you didn't find any proper housing remotely from Israel I would recommend to book a place for week or two before the semester begins and to use this time to both tour the city and to find an apartment\studio for the rest of the semester.

Obviously landlords or subletters will rather see and meet in person, with whoever going to stay at their property so it can be in your favor.

AIRBNB option is an expensive one and I mainly focused on the following Facebook groups and the Israeli HOMIES APP:

[Off campus housing](#)

[ישראלים מסבלטים בניו יורק](#)

[New York City Housing, Rooms, Apartments, Sublets](#)

[NYC Manhattan - Housing, Rooms, Apartments, Sublets, Roommates, New York](#)

Visa

The university makes the whole visa process very easy and they will send you the forms and will guide you through the process. The J1 gives you the option to enter the US under this visa a month before the semester and to stay a month afterwards.

Be aware that it also gives you the great opportunity of working under internship bases and many students use this option and stay for a few months more to work. The global student's office will guide you through the process while you will be at the university. During my Exchange 2 Israeli students stayed in NYC to work under the J1 Visa.

Insurance and Health Services

I joined the ISO Student Health Insurance which was cheaper than the University's offer, and they will help you receive the waiver which you need to issue to NYU in order to get their approval for the insurance.

If you are coming to the student exchange with your spouse they can do the regular travelers' insurance (Passport Card\Harel etc.) and this will cost them around 300\$.

Living expenses

Well, I don't want to be a party pooper but it is going to be expensive, very expensive. Make sure you make your consideration because NYC is one of the most expensive cities in the world and much more expensive than Israel! Everything cost more, besides clothing.

Food

If you eat Kosher you will find plenty of restaurants and supermarkets, and if you want more specifics drop me a line and I will guide you through.

Around the university there are great places to enjoy lunch and I highly recommend the "Sunshine Hummus" which is located about 3 min walk from the Stern building and I also recommend a very good and affordable Lebanese place also around 7 min walk.

Beside that, New York is full with plenty of very nice restaurants and clubs to enjoy a night out with a friend or your spouse.

Night life

Well NYC is the city that never sleeps! Go out and have fun! Don't forget to go to Broadway shows! We did it and we had a blast!

Tips

HOTWIRE and PRICELINE are very good websites and apps to book flights\hotels\cars, they have very good deals.

When the weather is good one of the things I enjoyed was renting a car and go Upstate New York for a weekend, I highly recommend you to explore the east coast and to travel during the semester.

I picked up my courses so I would finish my duties as soon as possible and then I did a very nice vacation in the west coast, it was the best way to finish this amazing experience!

Go to meetups and for interesting events which happens anywhere and anytime around the city. Time fly's so use this precious advantage that you are in New York to meet with new people and to wide your networking. The homies APP I have mentioned is very helpful with gathering the information about what happens and where.

General experience

I have to admit I had doubts about this exchange and I am very happy I did it! Life goes by and those memories and experiences are precious.

Photos



