

Personal Information

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Exchange Experience Report: Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, Fall 2024

About the Country and City

Evanston is an incredibly beautiful town, located just an hour's drive or a smooth metro/train ride from Chicago. Downtown Evanston offers a variety of fantastic restaurants and small shops, making it a delight to explore. Chicago itself is spectacular—a vibrant, bustling city with countless attractions such as world-class museums (Art Institute of Chicago, Field Museum, Shedd Aquarium, and Chicago Botanic Garden), iconic landmarks like the Bean and its surrounding gardens, and a thriving cultural scene including music shows, theater, Bulls games, and Blackhawks games. For transportation, I highly recommend using the train (Green Line) to reach Chicago's city center, as it provides a smoother, quicker ride. Uber is also a convenient option both in Evanston and Chicago.

About the Host University

The Kellogg Global Hub is awe-inspiring—a massive, modern, and architecturally stunning campus that leaves you speechless upon entry. The school atmosphere is dynamic, energetic, and inclusive, fostering both academic excellence and personal growth. Kellogg offers countless extracurricular activities ranging from social events to professional, industry-focused events in areas like technology, healthcare, private equity and venture capital, consulting, marketing, strategy, and real estate, among others.

Courses and Professors

The professors at Kellogg are truly world-class. I had the privilege of learning from some of the best minds in academia and industry. My courses in Data Science, Competitive Strategy, and Product Management were transformative—I gained insights and knowledge I wouldn't have encountered elsewhere. Additionally, I audited several other classes, which further enriched my experience.

Extracurricular Activities

Kellogg offers an overwhelming number of extracurricular opportunities. Whether it's joining a professional club, participating in social events, or attending industry-specific panels, there's always something happening on campus. The variety and quality of these events are unmatched, and they cater to almost every professional interest and social need.

Career Center

The Career Management Center (CMC) at Kellogg is more focused on full-time and international students rather than exchange students. However, they do provide some excellent resources, and scheduling a session with a career counselor is worthwhile to gain access to those resources.

Business and Network Development

The networking opportunities at Kellogg are invaluable. Meeting talented, ambitious, and driven peers from all over the world is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The connections I made during this exchange will undoubtedly benefit me both personally and professionally for years to come.

Accommodation

Accommodation was not provided directly by the university, so we had to arrange our own housing. We used HostU, a platform specifically for Northwestern students, which helped us avoid scams often found on Facebook or Craigslist. This option was reliable and made the process much smoother.

Visa

The visa process was straightforward, thanks to clear instructions provided by the university. One crucial tip for anyone applying from Israel: you can only bring your papers and passport to the U.S. Embassy—no bags, phones, or smart devices are allowed. Ensure you use a transparent folder for your documents.

Transportation

Transportation between Evanston and Chicago is convenient, with the train (Green Line) being the best option for a quick and smooth commute. Uber is also a good alternative within Evanston and Chicago.

Insurance and Health Services

Health insurance was arranged through the university and cost approximately \$2,000. While the process was straightforward, compiling all the necessary vaccine information was challenging. Most of this information can be obtained from local clinics in Israel.

Living Expenses

Living expenses for three months, including accommodation, insurance, food, and transportation, totaled approximately \$10,000 for two people.

Food

The food scene in Evanston and Chicago is fantastic, with a variety of restaurants catering to diverse tastes. From casual dining to high-end experiences, there's something for everyone.

Nightlife

Chicago offers a vibrant nightlife with plenty of options, including bars, live music venues, and nightclubs. Whether you're looking for a casual evening or a high-energy night out, the city has it all.

Tips

- Use HostU for housing to avoid scams.
- Take the Green Line train for a smoother commute to Chicago.
- Plan ahead for the U.S. visa process, especially regarding what to bring to the embassy.
- Take full advantage of Kellogg's extracurricular activities and networking opportunities.

How Did This Exchange Experience Add Value to Your Studies at Coller?

This exchange experience was incredibly enriching and added immense value to my studies at Coller. It broadened my perspectives, enhanced my academic knowledge, and provided unparalleled networking opportunities. The exposure to Kellogg's world-class faculty, diverse student body, and vibrant campus atmosphere significantly enhanced my graduate education experience.



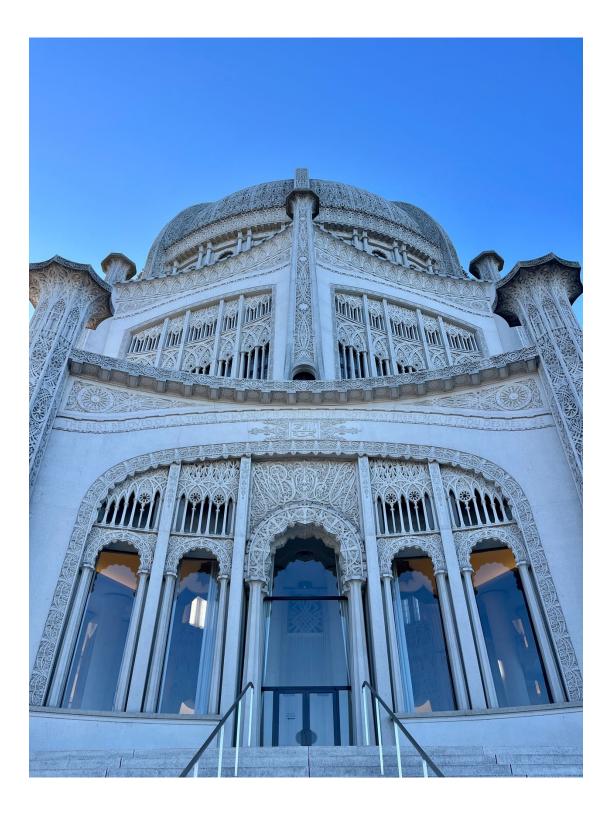


















Please note that the Coller School of Management may publish your report on its website. For any further information, please contact the Global Engagement Lead – Outgoing, <u>coordinator@tauex.tau.ac.il</u>