Personal Information

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Degree Program at TAU: MBA
Host University: Northwestern
Exchange term: Spring 2017 Quarter (10 weeks)

Exchange Experience

Evanston + Chicago

Evanston is a great university city. It has nice bars (mainly dive bars) and restaurants and there is always a lot going on on campus. I would highly recommend to get involved in the different groups that Kellogg offers.

Chicago is an amazing city. It’s about an hour train drive from Evanston. People in Chicago are very welcoming, it’s very easy to find your way in the city and the city has a lot to offer culturally, including nightlife, great restaurants, museums, live shows, parks, a nice lake, and more. However, I couldn’t find a lot of cool hikes around the city or within a few hours drive.

The city is wonderful especially during spring and summer (end of April – beginning of September). Even fall (September – November), although cold, is beautiful. I would highly recommend to choose any of the above mentioned and avoid the winter quarter if you don’t particularly like cold weather (January – February could get to -20°C).

Getting around

Getting around in Chicago is easy. You can walk about 10 minutes from campus to the purple line and use it to get into the city, then use the different lines in the city to get almost everywhere. You can also take the free shuttle between campuses to get into the city. Uber and Lyft are also very popular.
Attractions

A few attractions you want to make sure you visit in Chicago while at Kellogg:

- Architectural boat tour and river walk
- Millennium park
- Art institute and museum of natural history are great if you like museums
- Go to a blues bar

Food

If you are into the full experience, there is great Midwestern food in Chicago, hot dogs, deep dish pizza (Gino’s east is my favorite), etc.

Chicago also offers the opportunity to have some interesting int’l food, especially around the West Loop neighborhood. Try Ramen (High Five Ramen), French (Avec), Peruvian (Tanta), Italian (Eataly), Indian (Indian Garden), and more.

Nightlife

A few of the coolest bars & clubs include Arcade, London House, Sparrow, Cindy’s, Big Star, Celeste, Esco Bar, and Beauty Bar.

Kellogg

Kellogg is a top tier school. It’s up to you how seriously you would like to take it. If you are leaning more towards having fun, I wouldn’t recommend taking more than 3 courses as a lot of them are very demanding. A major part of the experience is about meeting people from all around the world and networking. I would highly recommend taking advantage of career services at Kellogg. However, do not expect to find a job in the US without a proper visa within 10 weeks.

There is a huge variety of courses and as an exchange student you get priority in picking the ones you’d like. The 2 most important parameters to take into account when choosing a course are how good the professor is and how demanding the course is. You’ll get all that info from Kellogg in advance.

My favorite course was New Venture Discovery by Jeff Eschbach. It’s highly demanding but super interesting.