

### Personal Information

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**Degree Program at TAU:** Sofaer International MBA

**Host University:** University of Michigan – Ross School of Business

**Exchange term:** Fall 2016 – 4 Months

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### Exchange Experience

Please use the outline below to write your report:

- **About the country and city**

Ross School of Business – University of Michigan’s business school – is located in Ann Arbor, a small city composed mostly of students or university related jobs 40 miles from Detroit. The city itself is very cute and friendly, although it might get very cold during the winter.

Living in US was great. There are people from everywhere around the world, and everybody seems interested in meeting people from other countries. Streets are safe and it’s ok to walk in the street at any time of the day. By the time of my exchange, I never heard about any crime in Ann Arbor.

- **About the Host University**

Ross School of Business is the newest and the most technological building at Ann Arbor. The school is composed of two buildings – Ross and Blau (which is still under construction). All rooms have great structure and there is a great hall where all the students meet and study in the intervals between the classes.

Exchange students are not allowed to work because of their VISA ( in order to get an OPT, you must be registered for at least 9 months in an American University). That being said, the career center wasn’t really useful, besides for Resume writing (great advice from MBA 2 students) and consulting cases (great help, really made a difference on my interviews).

- **Courses and professors**

Corporate Finance Accounting (ACC 564) is a must take class. The teacher (Ryan Ball) is awesome and the classes are extremely fun, with practical and fully detailed explanations.

Financial Statement Analysis , taught by Gautam Kaul, is great as well. This teacher is known for having more than 1 million registered viewers on his coursera website, with detailed videos and funny explanations. Definitely a must take.

For those looking for VC/PE courses, I definitely recommend taking FIN 623/ 624 with Professor David Brophy, who is running Ross's endowment fund for the last 2 decades.

- **Accommodation – dorms and other solutions**

There are a lot of housing options in Ann Arbor. Housing costs around USD 1k/month, but there are cheaper options. I stayed at Foundry lofts, a brand new building (I was the first one to lease my room, my mattress was still in the bag). Foundry is located 1 mile walk from Ross.

For finding a spot to stay, I recommend whoever is going to start looking for a place soon. I started to look for one only in July, and I was lucky to find a place in Foundry. Usually, people don't want to do leases for a short term (4 months) , which can be a problem.

- **Visa**

After receiving the signed I-20, I scheduled my VISA at Tel Aviv. It was easy and quick, I think it took me less than 2 weeks from the scheduling to the deliver of my passport with the Visa.

- **Transportation**

Buses are free for all students from U-Mich. They can take you almost everywhere, but sometimes the interval between one bus and the next is huge.

Uber and Lyft work great as well, and are usually cheap. A ride from Detroit Airport to Ann Arbor costs around USD30, and is a much better alternative than taking the bus.

- **Insurance and Health Services**

Umich obligates the exchange students to become a member of Athena's health insurance, which costs around USD 125/month. Fortunately, I did not have any health problems or accidents during my stay, so I really can't say if the service is good 😊.

- **Living expenses**

Besides housing, things are pretty cheap at Ann Arbor. It is possible to spend less than USD500/month (besides housing), including food, bills, transportation, fun and drinks.

- **Food**

Sadako is a great tip for those who love Japanese Food (meal for around USD 12). Tomokun (Korean BBQ) is great as well, and HopCat has great burgers (I recommend the Paddy Melt Burger).

There is also the Sparrow Market, where you can buy really good meat for Barbecues (ask for the Brazilian Picanha, really good meat)

- **Night life**

MBA Happy hours at Skeeps (one of the student bars) happen every Thursday, starting usually at 7 PM. The happy hour turns into a night club after 9PM, when it is open for all the students.

LIVE is a nice club for those who like electronic music. Alley and Mash have great beers (try the Stout at Mash) and great live music as well (usually jazz or rock).

The hotdog just outside of Skeeps is great.

- **Tips**

Buy a season ticket for the Football Games. This is something you cannot miss.

It is worth to do a MBSA membership. It gives access to many events and also to the MBA Happy hour at Skeeps every Thursday.

Always try to speak to MBA 2 students before talking to the Career Center. Usually, MBA 2 students can help a lot more.

- **General experience**

Doing an exchange semester at Ross School of Business was definitely great. Not only have I made great friends, but I also got another International Experience and everything together led me to find an excellent job offer. Ross is great, Ann Arbor is fantastic. Go Blue, always!

- Photos



