



Tel Aviv University
School of Management

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Exchange student summary - Welcome to Ross

Host University

The University of Michigan is located At Ann Arbor Michigan, around 45 minutes from Detroit. The population is around 125,000 inhabitants which more than 50,000 are students from the university. Ross Business School is located in the center of the city (Central Campus) and has more than 4,000 students (undergraduate (a lot of them are Jewish guys that will be happy to chat and help you) Full time MBA, Evening and Weekend MBA, and Master of supply Chain Manag). The Ross building is completely brand new and very modern with great student's rooms that are with the newest technology, in addition there is the Tozzi Financial Trading Room that is with 10 Bloomberg terminals and Factset in each computer. In the building you can find also a gym that costs \$150 for the semester, and is available just for Ross and the law students. 15 minutes' walk from the Ross building you have the University gym that all the facilities (gym, squash, basketball court, yoga and zumba for the girls). The University of Michigan is surrounded by libraries, my two favorites are the law library and the Shapiro library.



University of Michigan Ross School of Business

The support from the Ross Business School to the exchange students is great, they will provide you all the information and help you need during your stay and also after you become an alumni of the university. Mrs. Laura Hass and Mrs. Jessica Olford, Jessica is super nice person and always open to help with every possible question you will have and she will reply very fast and provide all the information you need. You will have few days of mandatory orientation before the beginning of the semester, there you will get to know all the exchange students and helpful information (insurance, visa, medical).

Visa

If you are not a U.S citizen you are required to get an F-1 Visa (student visa). Once Tel Aviv University will send Ross all the information about you, the Global Initiatives office will contact you and will provide you with all the information you need for the student visa, and they will send you also the I-20. With the I-20 you go to the American embassy (online application and schedule and appointment) to get your student visa. You allow to enter 30 before the beginning of the semester and you allowed to stay 60 days after the finish of the semester.

Housing

Ann Arbor is a student's city that is welcoming students from all around the world, so you will have lots of options to choose from. The university officially don't provide accommodation, but they have student graduate residence (**Munger**-<http://mungerresidences.org/>) that is new and five minutes' walk from Ross building. You need to apply for Munger as soon as possible because it is a very popular place with limit to open places available. I stayed in Woodbury Gardens (<http://www.woodburygardens.com>), it is an apartment homes 10 minutes driver from Ross building, that is friendly and with lots of graduates students. The accommodation should cost you between \$800-\$1300.

Transportation services

The public transportation is very friendly and efficient. You have few options to select from:

1. Campus Buses: rides are for free, and take you from Central Campus to North Campus (both directions)
2. Ann Arbor transportation Buses: rides are for free if you have the Mcard (student card) otherwise it is \$1.50.
3. Uber: usually the best way to travel around Ann Arbor at night and during the weekend.
4. Detroit - Ann Arbor (and the rest of the U.S): the best and cheapest way from the airport of Detroit to Ann Arbor is AirRide (<http://www.michiganflyer.com/>). But traveling in the U.S you have few options: Train (Amtrak), Greyhound and Megabus.
5. Zip Car: same as Car2Go, very friendly to use and the registration is online (<http://goo.gl/6vLXnB>).

Banking

I will recommend to open a U.S bank account. It is easy to open the bank account with, and in most Banks the account is for free. I opened in Chase Bank and everything was for free, you have few ATMs machines around the campus that make it easy to use. Because they charge you money if you use other bank ATMs.

Academics

The courses at Ross School of Business are focused on team work and case studies. The final exam will most of the time only make up to 50% of your final grade, while the rest will contain group-work or individual assignment and class participation. The courses demand a lot of time during the week and the weekend, therefore I will recommend to take only around 12 local credits. The academic level is high compare to the University of Tel Aviv, but most of the time very practical and not theoretical what I founded very interesting. The Professors at Ross school are very approachable, you could send them an email or talk with them after class time, and they encourage the student to come to the office hours. The academic semester have to parts, A and B, usually the courses are just for one term, but there are also courses that are for all the semester, I took courses that are just for one term.

Course Registration

The course registration is easy and take place online, the exchange student start the process after the full time MBAs, which mean that a lot of the courses will be already full once you will login and start your registration. Therefore I will recommend to start the registration as soon as you have access.

During my exchange I did a total of 8 courses, amount to a total of 16.5 local credits, I recommend to take less courses and focus more about topics you really want to know for your future. I will recommend few courses that I really liked and gave me a lot of knowledge in the field.

Fin 623 Venture Capital Finance and Fin 624 Find Private Equity, Professor David Brophy

Both are an introductory course into Venture Capital and Private Equity. Professor Brophy is one of the most respected and well connected people in Michigan and a VC and PE guru. Every week you will have a guest lecture from the most experience professionals in the field, few examples: Jeffery Bistrong (Managing Director at Harris Williams), Tom Nolan (Partner at Berkshire Partners), George N. Gillett (most amazing person-check wiki). Both course don't have prerequisites to enroll to the class, but the courses is not going to teach you financial modeling

and valuation, rather more the big picture of VC and PE. I definitely recommend to take at least one course with Prof. Brophy. I liked more the PE course because I like more the field of investment banking. The grade in PE is based on group work that requires significant effort of modeling LBO and pitch it to 10 PE firms, and the winning team win \$7,500.

Fin 608 Capital Markets and Investment Strategy, Processor Qin Lei

The course focused on different investment strategies and asset management (CAPM, mutual funds, hedge funds, ETF..). The course is theoretical but include 4 practical group work on excel and Bloomberg. The course is recommended for people who are interested in working for asset management firms.

MO 512 Bargaining Behavior and Influence skills (Negotiation course), Professor Laurie A. Morgan

I did not have the possibility to take a negotiation course during my MBA at Tel Aviv University, and I really am happy that I had it during my exchange program at Ross. The course is divided to two parts, first part you get the case and background about the case and prepare at home, and second part you negotiate with a classmate and go over the results with the Prof. I recommend to take the course, because it is really interesting and easy going, with lots of fun and very practical. You are obligated to buy the course pack that cost \$112.

Career Center

I recommend using the career center of Ross school that allow exchange student access to the recurring process, and helping you prepare for the recurring process (resume, cover letter ,mock interviews and LinkedIn..).

Living expenses

The cost of living in terms of housing are around \$800-\$1300 per month and In general food is cheaper than Israel. I would say around \$1600 per month will be enough for your budget, that doesn't include traveling.

Social Life

Ann Arbor have a great student social life with plenty of opportunities. There are great restaurant in the city: Savas (my favorite) Mongolian, Café Zola, Buffalo Wild Wings, BTB Britto, Afernoon Delight, Zingerman's, Pieology Pizza, Pizza House), and not bad bars and clubs: Hopcat, Rick's, Scorekeepers. During first two weeks of the semester when the weather is still nice outside, you have the fraternity house parties that are a lot of fun. The football games of the University of Michigan are a must, there are during the weekends and located 15 minutes' walk from Ross building, in the biggest football stadium in the U.S (The Big House), that have capacity of 115,000 people. I recommend buying a season ticket that cost \$175 (includes a shirt) the price is very cheap and you could sell easily your ticket online and make a profit if you like. During home games the whole city is full with people who are tailgate, I recommend going to the Ross MBA Bus Tailgate, which is always good party and with great people, just remember the Bus starts again after the game finish. I will recommend you also to visit for one day Detroit and to go see a game of Detroit Red Wings, first time I saw a hockey game, the atmosphere was amazing in the stadium and I had a lot of fun.



The Big House - Michigan home game

Overall evaluation of my exchange

I definitely recommend going to Ross School of Business. The school is more oriented to finance and consulting, with the best professors in the field. You will have really American college experience and you will meet people from all around the world that are interesting and intelligent that will be happy to share with you their knowledge and guide you in your career. I enjoyed my time there very much!

Feel free to send me an email, and always remember **GO BLUE**