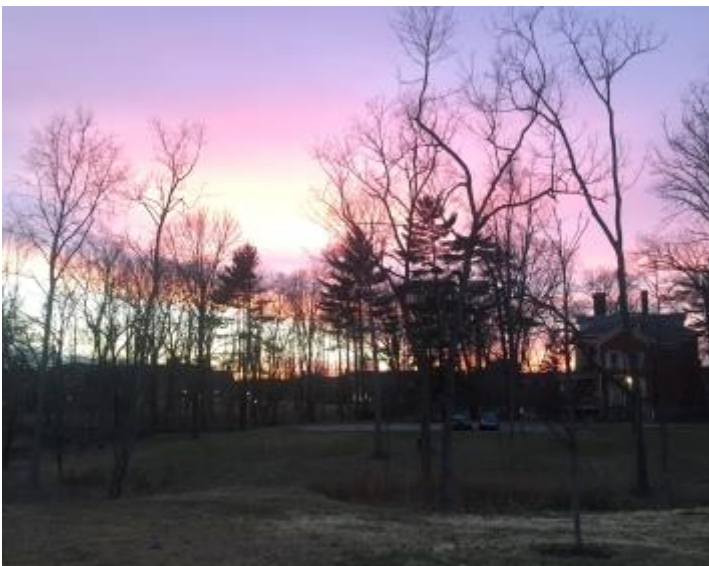


# Exchange Report



Miami University

Spring 2017

YU Miu Sze

BBA in Professional Accounting and  
Finance, Year 3

# Table of Content

I.	Monthly Activity Log	2-4
II.	General Exchange Information	4-7
III.	Items to Bring	7
IV.	Useful Links and Contacts	7

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## Part 1. Monthly Activity Log

### January

After I arrived in Cincinnati, I could feel it was more freezing than the temperature stated in the weather report. In the first week after our arrival, there were lots of orientation activities allowing me to know more friends. In addition to the orientation, school also held some bus trips for us to go to Walmart and other shopping malls to do some shopping and buy some necessities so as to prepare for our new move in. After the orientation week, then the Spring semester started. The campus was very large, I always got lost in the very beginning. But it was also a good chance to explore this large but beautiful campus.

One of the highlights of this month was watching the ice hockey match held in our school. It was my first time watching ice hockey match and the atmosphere was excellent. Although I knew nothing about the rules of this kind of sports, I found fun here. It was free for all Miami students to watch the match and if you have time, you must go and have one.

## February

The weather was getting much more freezing with snow. So somehow I was quite lazy to get around the campus or travel around the city with many clothings in this month. I just attended the class and went to different social events to make more friends here. We usually had meals in uptown. Though there were different kinds of food such as Chinese food, Mexican food, Thai food, the price was really quite expensive. It is still a great place to go especially when you are homesick, missing Chinese food!

Before the busy weeks with midterms and presentations, I was also asked to go to in-house parties with friends to experience the American culture. They usually just had some games and chit chats together, and of course with drinks. It was also fun!

Then at the end of February, midterms and presentations started, and we all had to spend some time to prepare it.

## March

All of my midterms were all tightly packed in two weeks so I could complete my midterms early. After the busy work, I got round some cities near Oxford, such as Cincinnati, Hamiton. I also watched an amazing concert of Maroon 5 in Cincinnati and their performance was great. After some classes for the review of the midterms, then we had a nine-day Spring break. My friend and I traveled around the East Coast by visiting Boston, New York, and Philly. Each city was also very different and they all are good places to go. But the weather at that time was still quite cold.

## April

The weather was getting warmer in April. Though the second midterms were arranged in this month, I became more willing to move around the campus due to the good weather here. So in April I tried to join more events held by the school or explore the facilities and environment of this all-rounded campus. In addition to doing gym in the recreation centre, I also went to the Groggin Ice Centre to

have free ice-skating. There is also a hiking trail in the campus with some regular tours. If you guys love sports, you would definitely love this campus.

Besides, I joined a color run held in the campus for an international charity. Running in such a beautiful campus was amazing.

## **May**

Time flies and it came to the last month in this university. In this month, we all had to prepare for the finals. At the same time, we were also busy farewell gatherings with others as it was probably our last time to meet each others. After leaving the campus, I travelled to other places in the U.S. with friends.

## **Part 2 General exchange information**

### **1) Visa Procedure**

The University will send the relevant documents such as DS2009, admission letter for the visa procedure to HKUST. I suggest you reserve some more time for the application for the Visa as there are some forms you need to fill in and you have to make an interview booking. From my experience, the booking in December in 2016 was quite full because quite many people would like to apply for the visa to travel in the U.S. during the Christmas holidays. But as long as you pass the interview, then you get the visa very soon.

### **2) Orientation Activities**

There was about one week of orientation activities including the welcoming ceremony, campus tour, ice-breaking games, allowing you to get familiar with the new environment and make more friends here. Each one will have an IPOLS (something like exchange buddies in HKUST) who would offer you help or advise.

### **3) International services and activities**

The University would arrange regular workshops regarding to culture differences for the international students. They would also hold some bus trips for us for example the trip to

shopping malls, national parks, zoo. And the exchange teams were all very helpful, as long as you have any enquiries, just send them an email and you could get the prompt answer. So don't hesitate if you need the help from them.

#### 4) Accommodations

I lived on-campus instead of renting the apartment outside the campus. I lived in Ogden Hall during the whole semester. Although the dorm was quite old, you would have what you need. It was quite lucky for me as the location of Ogden Hall was great. It was somehow located in the central part of the campus, allowing you to have an easy access to dining halls, Farmer School of Business or other main academic buildings.

#### 5) Course Registration

The University would first ask for your preference of 5 business courses as well as 5 non-business courses. Then the university will help you register the courses manually according to your preference subject to the vacancies. Usually they will try their best to fulfill your wants with some extra quota for exchange students, so somehow you do not have to worry much about this.

#### 6) Teaching & Assessment

The University adopts small-class teaching and cares about the relationship between the professors and the students. They use absolute grading - 60% or above will be regarded as a pass.

ACC333 =UST:ACCT3210	Advanced managerial accounting course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weekly quizzes</li> <li>- regular assignments</li> <li>- Two midterms and one final</li> <li>- Some readings required</li> </ul>
ACC422 =UST:ACCT3020	Financial Accounting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Two group projects</li> <li>- Two midterms and one final</li> <li>- Preparation of new class material as a piece of homework</li> </ul>
FIN417 =UST: FINA4403	International Business Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Two news presentations (group)</li> <li>- Two midterms and one final</li> <li>- NO homework or quiz</li> </ul>
PSY111 =UST: SOSC1960	Introduction of Psychology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weekly online quizzes</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Three exams</li> <li>- Attendance required</li> </ul>
PSY112 *co-requisite for PSY111	1-credit course offering you some workshops and research opportunity

## 7) Sports & recreations

There are many sports facilities in the campus such as recreation centre, football court, Groggin Ice Centre. The recreation centre (sports centre) could satisfy most of your wants with gymnasium, indoor running trail, climbing walls, swimming pools. As I have just mentioned, you could even find a hiking trail here.

## 8) Finance & banking

I suggest you open a debit card here instead of holding much cash in hands. It is not just convenient, but also more safe. Chase Bank is the recommended one as you could easily find the ATM and branches of Chase Bank around the U.S. even in other states. Everything in the U.S. is relatively expensive than you find in HK. What's more, you have to pay for the tax or even tips.

## 9) Social Clubs and Networking Opportunity

There are lots of sports teams and societies in University but actually I did not join any of them. I just simply participated in the events or function held by some societies. In our free time, we would also go to the uptown of Oxford for dinner and social gatherings.

## 10) Health and safety

There is a health centre in the university and you have to pass a medical check before the start of the semester. The campus is quite safe as I could always see police around the campus.

## 11) Food

There are not so many dining halls in the campus, and the food they offered every day is very similar. Most of the choices are western food like burger, pizza. You could look for more different choices in the uptown.

## 12) Transportation

As I have just mentioned, the campus is very large. So you could go around the campus by school bus and the fare is free for the students. You could also take the school bus to some short-distance areas like Walmart. For long distance, Uber is also a good choice.

### 13) Climate

The climate here is quite cold and dry. The temperature difference is also expectedly huge. So always have one jacket with you and don't get cold.

### 14) Communication

I used AT&T for the telecommunication services in the U.S. It is about \$45 per month. It is quite expensive despite good quality and coverage around the U.S. Most of my friends in the University also use AT&T.

### 15) Cautionary Measures

A snow boot is needed as it will snow in February. The ground may be quite slippery and your foot may get wet if your shoes are not water-proof or appropriate for snow. Besides, don't wander at night to avoid any incidents like robbery which is quite common in the U.S. Always be alert, stay safe.

## Part 3 Items to bring

Adapters	Snow boots	Medicine	Lotion	Enough Clothes	Visa and relevant documents	Immunization record (for medical check)
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## Part4 Useful links and contact

1. MyMiami (My portal in MU): <https://mymiami.miamioh.edu/>
2. Canvas: <https://miamioh.instructure.com>
3. BannerWeb (SIS in MU): <https://bannerweb.miamioh.edu/>