

# Exchange Report

Spring 2024

New York University

United States

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## Monthly Activity Log

Write a log of one paragraph for each month highlighting some of your interesting exchange experiences, activities, impressions & places of interest. Please describe your study, learning and life experience. This section should be at least 600 words long.

### January

If you applied for NYU's dormitory, they will only allow students to check-in one day before semester begins. Therefore, you should not arrive too early or you might have get a few days of hotel stay. I arrived on the 20th January (Saturday), stayed at DoubleTree Hilton Hotel for a night, and checked-in to NYU's Second Street Dormitory on the 21st (Sunday). After everything's settled down, it was already the first day of the semester (22nd ' Monday). We start our classes mostly in the business school (Stern): Tisch Hall and Kaufman Management Center (KMC), they are connected to each other, and both of them are beautiful architecture with nice business learning environment. The exchange team from NYU (IBEX) welcomed us on the 23rd with a light lunch at the ground floor of Tisch Hall, they provided useful details about the school and it is a great opportunity to get to know the exchange cohort. Stern is pretty independent from other schools in NYU, so our exchange cohort is only for business students, and the cohort size is relatively small (around 30 students from Bocconi, Yonsei, NUS' ). The team brought us around the campus, guided us about the courses and cultures of Stern.

### February

For the first half of February, I stayed in New York to get used to the life here, explore this modern metropolis and get to know more new friends. We visited lots of local attractions: The Empire State Building, the 5th avenue, Time Square, Broadway Theatres, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA).

It is usually the ' New York Month' from late January to early February. There are lots of discounts and fun things happening in this period:

Attractions: Empire State Building buy one get one free

Broadway Show Tickets: Buy one get one free

Meals: USD30/45/60 2 to 3 course fine dining meal, a good chance to try international cuisines and fine delicate (I tried Ukrainian cuisine)

NYU also organised some club festivals, where we can join a multi-variety of student societies and activities: Ranging from finance, sports, arts, music, to some very special societies like the Cheese society. For the whole semester, I mainly went to events organised by Hong Kong Student Association, Taiwan Student Association (learn to play Taiwanese Mahjong), and the Capital Markets Club.

In the third weekend of February, my exchange friend and I went to New Haven, where the famous Ivy League University ' Yale University is located at. It was a 2 hour bus ride to this tiny town in Connecticut. Free campus tours guided by students are available for reservation in their website, so take this opportunity to walk around the campus with the students that will brief you the history and academic culture of Yale. In my view the architectural style looked like Cambridge, there are western churches, pillars, sculptures around the campus. The Cambridge-style college-based learning reflected their academic culture of being collaborative in learning. There are nice shops and caf near the campus, so we went there for lunch. After lunch, we went to further explore the campus by visiting the Yale bookstore, the classic library. We also have some time to visit downtown New Haven. Before leaving New Haven, we went back to Yale canteen and tried their campus dinner, and that concluded our day trip. However, one unexpected event occurred when we tried to leave New Haven back to New York. We purchased two Peter Pan Bus tickets at 7:30pm that departs from New Haven train station. However, the bus did not arrive at all! We waited with 4 other locals until 8pm and realized that the bus could have been cancelled. Therefore, we went into the train station to take the earliest possible train back to New York. I would say this is an ' interesting' experience, not only we knew the how the US cross-state transport system ' works' , but we also chatted with locals to know more about US culture and exchange our cultures too.

During the last weekend of February, I went to Washington D.C. with a friend exchanging at UMich. Most museums in D.C. are free of charge, so do visit them if you want to learn more different stuff: Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum (Advanced registration required), National Gallery of Art, National Archives Museum, Smithsonian National Museum of American History' Note that the museum usually closes before 5:30pm so be early. Apart from the museums, the two must-visit spots are probably the renowned United States Capitol and the White House. For the U.S. Capitol, there are free audio-guided tours where you can walk-in, and note that they are closed on Sundays. It was pretty gorgeous to look from outside, and it' s more interesting in the inside as there are lots of statues, architectural designs, places where the congress organise their meetings, to know the history of the United States. As for the White House, obviously we were not allowed to enter into the president' s working place. But you can definitely take photos outside, visit the White House museum nearby, or sign in for a visit which I heard the White House Garden will open to the public few times a year. Other iconic attractions along the capital include the Lincoln Memorial (unfortunately half of the memorial is under maintenance), the Washington Monument. If time allows, consider taking a metro to the Arlington Cemetery in Virginia, where the nation' s heroes are buried.

However, I must admit that I don' t really like Washington D.C. for the following reasons:

- Attractions seemed neither near nor far from each other, so you are in an awkward situation to decide whether to walk or take public transportation/Uber. It is not a pedestrian friendly place
- It could be boring if you are not a big fan of history/politics, it is definitely not a good place for relax and chill. But if you do like history, you probably will like here
- I don' t like the way the museum/guided tours present ' factual' information: Museum exhibits are pretty messy and they only focus on presenting ' past' information (but not present or future implications) so after you absorbed a fact you will be like: ' Oh ok, so?'

**March**

I went to Chicago with two friends from UST during the first weekend of March. It was around a two-hour flight to this city in the 'Mid-west'. People from the mid-west are generally more friendlier and you can feel the American vibe here. After meeting up in the Chicago O'Hare International Airport, we went to downtown Chicago. Walking along the Chicago Riverwalk, we went through famous landmarks and gorgeous architectures such as the Trump Tower, Wrigley Building, Tribune Tower, DuSable Bridge, and arrived at UChicago. We also visited the Starbucks Roaster Reserve for an afternoon coffee. In the evening, we went to Andy's Jazz Club to enjoy our dinner with a live jazz band. Although it was a bit expensive with a performance fee, it was a very American experience to enjoy jazz music. The next day, we went south to the Art Institute of Chicago, the Millennium Park (although the famous Cloud Gate was partly at maintenance that time). Then, we walked through the Chicago CBD enormous streets and passed by the Chicago Board of Trade, Willis Tower, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. I like how the roads look wide and classical architecture shapes the gorgeous architectural symmetry. For lunch, we took a metro to McDonalds University, where we ate McDonalds in McDonald's headquarter. It was actually bit disappointing as the McDonald turns out to be an ordinary McDonald with a little bit more menus around the world. After lunch, we took Uber to the Navy Pier, it was a nice and chill pier with some soldiers, blue sea and some activities, a fantastic place to look at the Chicago skyline at sea level. Our planned activities have been completed and we went to the shopping mall to buy some souvenirs. We looked at the travel magazine in the bookstore and noticed that the Chicago Zoo is free of charge, so we went to the Chicago Zoo in Lincoln area to look at the animals. Of course, Chicago is not famous for safari and wild life, but it's good to see how American families bring their children to parks and chill during the weekend.

Do pay extra attention on personal safety in Chicago. Chicago is known to be one of the most dangerous cities in the U.S., you will see homeless begging for money or even walking behind you in the Millennium avenue (the most expensive road in Chicago), beggars trying to beg for money by lining up outside the Chicago theatre when the show is over, red lights and police car driving around at night. Chicago has a serious disparity between the rich (Trump tower, millennium avenue) and the poor (outskirts of Chicago CBD), so it is strongly suggested to walk in groups, pay attention to personal belongings, ignore and leave immediately if you see anything strange/abnormal.

The spring break trip to Canada is definitely my highlights for this exchange and I missed Canada so much'

I took my luggage to the econometrics mid-term and go directly to Newark International Airport right after all my mid-terms are over. Luckily it was a Thursday night so I purchased cheap Air Canada direct flight tickets to Vancouver. The timing was good as it is a 6pm 6-hour flight, with 3 hours difference lagging behind, I arrived in Vancouver at 9pm and meet up my Hong Kong friend in YVR airport. We went to a restaurant in Richmond, also known as the new Hong Kong as there are so many Hongkongers there and speaking Cantonese, for siu-yeh. For the next day, my friend brought me around downtown Vancouver: Yaletown where cherry blossoms arise; Vancouver CBD where skyscrapers are there, and we went to yum-cha in a Cantonese dim sum restaurant there, it turns out that the best Hong Kong food might not be in Hong Kong but in Vancouver; took a ferry to North Vancouver for a market, coffee (London fog is Canada's special drink: kinda like milk tea coffee) and lookout for the Vancouver skyline. In the third day, we went to west Vancouver for good food (Vancouver's food is definitely a hidden gem of the world); UBC (University of British Columbia), a serene beautiful campus overlooking the pacific ocean; the breathtaking blue Vancouver harbour and Canada Place. It was extremely chill and peaceful, which made me felt relieved and relaxed.

My friend is not free in the next day, so I decided to go on a solo trip to Seattle. Although Seattle and Vancouver are in two different cities, it is just a three-hour bus ride from Vancouver, crossing through the border to Seattle. Seattle is definitely a touristy place in which you will never be bored. It has the west coast vibes: Beaches, sunset, fresh seafood. Walking along the coast during sunset, it is definitely a must to try their clam chowder in Pike Place Chowder and the fish and chips in Pike Place Market. As the birthplace of Starbucks, Seattle is known for coffee and there are lots of boutique coffee shops in Seattle. Do visit the first Starbucks in the world and try specialty coffee in this coffee hub. The Pike Place Market is my favourite: 7-storey market with lots of food, drinks, souvenirs, and special stuff. And of course, took the monorail to the famous Space Needle tower, Olympic Park, etc. It was definitely not enough spending only one day in Seattle, but unfortunately I had to take a bus back to Vancouver.

Soon it's my last day in Vancouver, my friend brought me to the Granville Island. The boat taxi ride to the island is fantastic with the amazing view of the Vancouver Harbour, Harbour Bridge and downtown Vancouver. The Granville Island Market is a typical western kind of market with seafood, groceries, bakeries, etc. Then, we went back to downtown: Gastown, where the Steamed Clock Landmark is located; Chinatown, so-called the dodgiest place in Vancouver. We walked a little bit on the Stanley Park which is a very large park where people hike, run, cycle, chill in the English Beach, etc. Through the route of Stanley Park, we walked back to the Vancouver Harbour for the sunset. Oh yes, the Hui Lau Shan Mango Pancakes is the last dessert I had in Vancouver. I missed this new Hong Kong a lot.

It's an early 8am flight next day to Quebec City, and it's already 5pm upon arrival as it reverts to east coast time. The Quebec City airport shocked me as people there don't really know how to speak English. And that's Quebec, being the French colony and the largest French population in America, French is their dominant language. There could be communication barriers when communicating with the locals so learn this 'Es-ku-vu par-le Ong-lai' which means 'Do you understand English?'. It was the last snow storm before spring during the day I arrived, so it was cold at around negative 8 degree Celsius, snow everywhere in the streets made carrying the luggage around extremely difficult. It's my first time trying to live in a youth-hostel, where I met two new friends and explored the city together in the next day. We visited the UNESCO heritage site 'Old Town Quebec'. French streets with cafes, classic castles (Chateau Frontenac) and the old funicular makes Quebec City unique. We went to traditional Quebec restaurants to try their traditional food 'Poutine', but honestly it was not really that delicious. Afterwards, I hop on a 3-hour train ride to Montreal at night.

For the next morning in Montreal, I visited my friend exchanging at McGill University. He brought me around Montreal: McGill University; Mont Royal, the 'tallest' hill in Montreal with a nice outlook; Old Town Montreal, where the Notre Dame, city hall, old Parisian streets with artistic shops are there. At night, I met with a friend from NYU in the Esplanade Tranquille, it's an outdoor ice-skating rink and the vibe to ice-skate there is amazing. We also ate some French crepes in a crepe restaurant to taste the French tradition. For the next day, we continued exploring Montreal, including the Chinatown, RBC Headquarters and the cafes there is nice, the Botanic Garden, and back to old town Montreal. Montreal to be honest is a bit small. At night, I took a 2-hour train ride to Ottawa.

People might think either Toronto or Vancouver is the capital of Canada, but it is in fact Ottawa. Located in the border of the Ontario and Quebec province, the capital city has Harry-Porter-like parliament buildings. Remember to sign up free guided tours in their parliament website in advance in order to visit inside the parliament building. I like the educational element here where they really educate visitors about the concept of political participation, separation of powers and the rule of law. Ottawa also has a lot of museums such as the war museum, history museum and the Royal Canadian Mint (there is a guided tour to look at how the coins are created), the museums are much organized, themed, and guided for tourists. At night, we joined the Ghost tour around downtown Ottawa. Honestly it was not scary at all, it's more like a guided tour to explore historic Ottawa. However, I liked how Ottawa themed itself to be a spooky or dark place at night. We stayed at the jail hostel where our room really looks like a jail, although bit scary, it's a very interesting experience.

My friend and I had different flight arrangements back to New York as I took a 6-hour bus ride from Ottawa to Toronto in the next morning and catch a flight from Toronto City Airport at dawn. After arriving Toronto in the afternoon, I managed to walk along the Toronto Harbour: Ice Hockey Museum Shop, St Lawrence Market, CN Tower all the way to the Toronto City Airport. That marked the end of the relaxing spring break in Canada.

In the last weekend of March, I went to Brooklyn with a friend. Brooklyn definitely forms a part of cultural New York. We went to iconic locations such as the Barclays Center, Prospect Park, Dumbo, Downtown Brooklyn, etc. You can feel more of American vibe and American style architecture in Brooklyn

### April

For the first Sunday in April, I took a 1.5 hour bus to Philadelphia to visit my friend exchanging at UPenn and walked around downtown Philly. The Philadelphia Museum of Art (PMA) is free on every Fridays and first Sunday of every month, so I reserved a visit to this iconic museum that looks Ancient Greek style. It's another version of the MET with different global historic exhibits. Then, my friend kindly guided me through UPenn, including the classrooms in Wharton, classic libraries, computer lab, etc. It was a really nice place to study. We studied a bit in the Wharton computer lab, and then headed back to downtown Philly by taking their underground subway which the smell of the station is a lot more terrible than New York subway. We visited local attractions like the City Hall, Chinatown, Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, etc. One of the must-try food is the Philly Cheesesteak, I tried the Sonny's Famous Steak which is the steak is very good but there is a long queue. When sun sets, Philadelphia becomes an extremely sketchy place: Only few people left on the streets (mainly the homeless people), and some people walking like drunk. So be sure about safety in Philadelphia and avoid walking alone in the streets.

By skipping classes on Wednesday, Thursday, and the following Monday, I created a 6-day trip to Florida with my friends exchanging at UT Austin. Before meeting up in Miami on Thursday, I saw air tickets to Miami are very cheap (\$12) through a 24-hour connection in Charleston, so I decided to take a one-day solo trip to this tiny coastal city in South Carolina. Very warm weather of 25 degree Celsius, I finally feel the spring of 2024. Charleston was a British-colonial town, so we can see a lot of Victorian style architecture built in the 18th century, very chill and serene city in the coast with good seafood, definitely worth a visit. Then, I took the flight to Miami. As I arrived earlier than my friends, I visited the Little Havana to feel the Cuban and Latin American vibes which is quite cool. On Friday, we woke up extremely early to catch the sunrise in Miami South Beach (unfortunately there were too many clouds), but I do recommend going to the beach early as there are not much people so you can easily find a spot and take iconic photos of this beautiful beach with soft sand. Then, we went to Canjun Boil, a seafood restaurant for lunch. After lunch, we walked along Miami downtown: Riverfront, Brickell City Centre, Drawbridge, Bayside Marketplace. By dawn, we hopped on a Flixbus on our way to Orlando. For the weekend, we purchased 2 day pass to Disney World! The first day is the Magic Kingdom, the most classic one with Mickey Mouse Series, Buzz, Little World, etc. The rides like the newest TRON lightcycle power run racing cart are fun, although the queue is a bit long but is still fine compared with Hong Kong and Tokyo Disneyland. The fireworks at night is a must-watch item, it's extremely gorgeous and better reserve space earlier near the iconic Disney castle at night. For the second day is the Hollywood Studio. I think the Hollywood Studio is less fun than Magic Kingdom, but you still get to hop on the rides like the Tower of Terror, Toy Story Roller Coaster, Star Wars Rise of the Resistance. But overall, the American vibe, origin of Disney, is the must-experience thing in the United States. On Monday, I have to say goodbye to my friends and go back to New York. But before going back, I decided to take a 9-hour day-time layover at Atlanta, not only because the connecting flights are cheaper, but also I got some time to visit this big transportation city. Home to Coca Cola Factory and Martin Luther King's hometown, there are definitely lots of things to visit in this city. I went to the Martin Luther King historic district, it's a good place to learn about Black American history, how it gone through different discrimination issues and build the foundation of modern United States, a very meaningful topic of discussion. Then, I visited the Coca Cola Museum, the best museum I have visited in the world. Not only you got to understand Coca Cola's history, production (of course the secret sauce of production will not be revealed), marketing strategies; but also you can taste different Coca Cola brand beverages, smell their production materials, and even comment their unrevealed recipes too. Afterwards, I walked around the city centre, and go straight to the airport. You will get the message that the original Coca Cola is the best drink in the world! There are lots more to visit in Atlanta, such as the Delta Airlines Museum, but unfortunately I only had 9 hours here.

For the third weekend in April, I went to Jersey City with a friend. Jersey City is just a 8-minute CJ Transit ride from World Trade Centre. To my surprise, Jersey City is a really beautiful place because you are looking at New York from an outside perspective. Places like the Liberty State Park, Colgate Clock, Exchange Place are must-visit. Do spend some time during the sunset and night to look at the tremendous skyline of Manhattan.

As for the last weekend of April, my exchange friends and I went to Toronto and the Niagara Falls. We arrived Toronto in a Friday morning and we walked around this clean metropolitan: Toronto Harbourfront, CN Tower, UoT, Royal Ontario Museum, City Hall, Chinatown. On the second day, we visited the St Lawrence Market and grabbed a Canadian sandwich lunch and hopped on a 2 hour bus ride to the Niagara Falls. Niagara Falls is extremely gorgeous once arrived at the bus station, which is directly next to the Horseshoe Fall. There are 3 main groups of waterfall in the Niagara Falls: Horseshoe Falls, American Falls and Bridal Veil Falls. After storing our luggage in the hotel, we walked alongside the Horseshoe Falls all the way to the American Falls and Bridal Veil Falls. It was extremely gorgeous, you can feel yourself being so tiny under the falls and that's the wonder of the nature. Being a place which is renowned for its rich tourism history, Niagara Falls developed itself not only being a natural destination, but also a place full of night life and entertainment. After dinner, we watched the colorful lights that brighten the falls in the dark. The colors (different colors that hit the falls) are so gorgeous and it's definitely another way to feel the wonder of the falls, and the colors are changing every 15 minutes. The entertainment in Clifton Hill closes at 2am so you have plenty of time to enjoy the night. We went to the Ferris Wheel and it's extremely beautiful to look at the night falls with colors from a high view, we also played the Niagara Speedway which is a racing cart game. The night vibe is so fabulous here and there are a lot more amusement facilities like casino, haunted house, golf, etc. In the next day, we went to the Journey Behind the Falls. We went down the lift to a site extremely near the Horseshoe Falls. Then, we went to take the cruise towards the falls. It is a must-do USD\$30 activity! You gotta look at the Niagara Falls really closely and you will feel typhoon signal number 10 + black rain when you go near the falls. You can barely open your eyes as rain is hitting you and the poncho is literally useless. But overall, it's a fantastic experience. After a short lunch in Tim Hortons, we bought some souvenirs in the duty-free shop near the border, and we walked through the border in the Rainbow Bridge. You have to pay a one-dollar border-crossing fee but it's a unique experience, not only you are in the middle between Canada and U.S., but standing in the Rainbow bridges gives you a breath-taking scenery of the falls. After a short 10-minute walk through the bridge, we arrived at the U.S. and we stopped by the U.S. side of Niagara Falls. It was definitely less attractive than Canada as we can only see part of the falls and the rapids, and there are much less entertainment facilities in the U.S. side. But the benefit is that we can go to a nearby city called Buffalo to enjoy some Buffalo chicken wings and cheaper flights back to New York.

## May

In the first day of May, the IBEX team kindly organised a farewell lunch for us. In this farewell lunch, we played games and chatted with exchange mates about our exchange journey throughout the whole semester. The IBEX team also reminded us some important administrative issues such as getting the transcript after the exams.

Normally in NYU, students study hard for the exams. However, I decided to go on a trip to Boston with my friend who finished her exchange journey in Michigan. Originally, I didn't have too much expectations on Boston but just wanted to go to Boston or else my US East coast trip will be incomplete. To my surprise, I like Boston! It's actually a pretty relaxing (except Harvard and MIT maybe) and peaceful city as Boston is the only city I feel safe in the U.S.. In the first day, we went to the two renowned universities: Harvard and MIT. Harvard is school with more British vibes as it is located in a town called Cambridge. MIT is more futuristic with more special architectures. At dawn, we walked back to downtown Boston through the Longfellow bridge, and tried the famous Lobster roll in Pauli's Lobster Roll for dinner. For the next day, we mainly explored the historic downtown Boston. It was a really hipster place with British-style red-bricks architecture, historic buildings. We went to Quincy Market for lunch and that's one of my favourite markets in the world. There are so many food and vintage stuff to explore in Quincy Market with some people perform juggling. It feels like a market in Germany rather than Quincy. Well, Boston is the most European place in the U.S. The Boston harbour, overlooking the Atlantic ocean is definitely a relaxing place to walk, relax and chill.



In the next week, I mainly prepare and take the exams. But I still got a chance to visit the American Dream in New Jersey with exchange mates from Singapore, the 2nd largest shopping mall in North America. There are skiing facilities, amusement parks, rides, water parks, ice rink inside the mall that makes it so big. But we mainly go for shopping as it is my last few days in New York. To my disappointment, a lot of stores are closed on Sundays so there are not much shop options. Instead, we took a Uber to the Mills at Jersey Gardens shopping mall, there are lot more options there and it' s really for shopping.

**Please briefly describe the visa application procedures, including**

**1) Type of passport/travel document you are holding**

**2) Type of visa you are required**

**3) Required documents**

**4) Visa fees**

I am holding a Hong Kong Passport

You must have your passport, and you need to US visa.

Step 1: Get the DS-2019 information from NYU (They will send you some guidelines on what to submit and they will send you the DS-2019)

Step 2: Based on the DS-2019, apply the J-1/F-1 visa in Hong Kong via the embassy website to reserve the time for the visa interview. You also need to pay a USD\$180 visa application fee. (I would suggest applying F-1 instead of J-1 because you can stay up to 5 years for a F-1 visa)

Step 3: Go to the US embassy in Central on time for the interview. They will have security checks where you should not bring a big bag or else you will need to pay to store your bag somewhere else. The interview process will be simple questions such as where do you stay in US, what do you study there. May consider bringing your financial proof as well but not necessary.

Step 4: The visa will be issued and sent to the post office within a week.

**What are the course(s) that you have enrolled at the host institution?**

Private Equity Finance, Equity Valuation, Econometrics I, Forecasting Time Series Data, Renewable Energy and Electric Vehicles Industry

**Please briefly describe the course registration procedures, such as**

**1) When did you receive the course registration details**

**2) What is the course registration procedures**

**3) Where can you access information related to course registration (e.g. websites)**

The IBEX team will send you a course registration excel list by mid-October and you got to submit it by filling in your preferred courses through browsing the course catalog in Albert. This also gives us a kind of privilege to get into some courses without waitlisting. For example, the Private Equity Finance class is known to be famous among Stern finance elites, the queue is extremely long as I review the list, but fortunately I can get in directly.

However, if you wanted to change courses (add/drop), it would be extremely difficult because exchange students don't get access to the course registration website, we will need to add/drop the courses through the help of the IBEX team, and the processing time varies. Adding a course during add-drop is difficult as we cannot add any non-Stern courses during the add-drop period and the. Therefore, do your research beforehand by looking through the reviews and the past semester syllabus, make wise decisions in your course registration excel and prevent any changes in the course registration during the add-drop period.

### **Where did you live during the program?**

On-campus student dormitory offered by the host institution

### **Please briefly describe the accommodation at the host destination, including**

**1) What type of accommodation**

**2) What is the application procedures (If you are staying at accommodation offered by the host institution)**

**3) How did you search for the accommodation and where did you book your accommodation (If you need to arrange your own accommodation)**

**4) Facilities in the accommodation**

Living in New York is expensive as the rent is high. For safety, convenience, and proximity to school, I do recommend on-campus housing (although it is not guaranteed but I heard that spring is less competitive so you usually can be allotted to one of the dormitories). You have to apply for the on-campus housing through NYU home websites before certain deadline and remember to submit some reservation fee before the deadline!

I personally live in 2nd Street, which is a relatively cheap option (USD6100 for the whole semester) as compared to other halls (mainly USD8200) like Palladium, Third North, Lipton Hall, etc. I think 2nd street is a nice place to live:

-Friendly dorm student council. They are so friendly and they organise lots of events for students (e.g. pancake fest, visiting the MET, dessert night, bumping cars at Bryant Park). The community here is nice and friends I met in the dorm always go visit different places in New York during the weekends.

-The dorm master is so nice by welcoming all of us and helping us to get adapted to New York

-Very near to the business school, its just a 6 to 8 minute walk

-15-20 minute walk to SoHo, Chinatown, Little Italy

### **Please briefly describe the health and safety support provided at the host institution, including**

**1) Whether there is health centers or clinics available on campus**

**2) Any safety matters that you are concerned about**

Health centers or clinics are available on campus. NYU's medical school - Grossman school of medicine has its own university hospital. Exchange students are mandated to purchase an expensive insurance plan which has an extremely high coverage, including free vaccination available.

Safety in U.S. is a bit concerning:

- Very dangerous: Detroit, San Francisco

- Dangerous: Chicago, Philadelphia, Los Angeles
- Need some caution: New York, Washington D.C., Miami, Atlanta
- OK: Orlando, Charleston, Canada
- Pretty safe: Boston

Do walk with a buddy at night, pay attention to your surrounding, leave immediately if you see any suspicious thing happening (don't go into it), ignore any homeless/beggars begging for money

### Finances

**How much did you spend (in HKD) on the following items? (Please input "0" if not applicable to you)**

#### **Air ticket between the place of departure and destination (round trip)**

HKD 10,000

#### **Accommodation (for the entire study abroad period)**

HKD 50,000

#### **Program fee (if applicable)**

HKD 23,000

#### **Personal expenses**

HKD 20,000

#### **Others, please specify**

Travelling: HKD 20,000

### My Top 3s

**Please share with students some of your top 3s. If it is best to provide the information in the language of the host destination, please do so, but provide an explanation in English.**

#### **Courses at the host institution**

Private Equity Finance

Equity Valuation

Econometrics

#### **Favourite Food**

Lobster Roll

Fish and Chips

Tacos

#### **Hang-outs places on campus**

Washington Square Park

Gould Plaza

Gym

#### **Must-dos in the city**

Go to the Empire State Building

Cycling in the Central Park

Visit the Time Square

#### **Not-to-dos in the city**

Talking with homeless

Taking Uber/Taxi

Stay at your room

### **Useful local apps or websites**

Citizens App - For local news

### **Words to describe my study abroad experience**

Once-in-a-life-time

Life-changing

Explorative