

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

Since NYU Housing only allowed students to check in the day before the semester started, I arrived in New York in late January. I was frozen when I first stepped out of the airport, so do mind the weather in New York if you are having your exchange in the Spring Semester. I also ordered a free student SIM card, but that was never delivered to me, so I had to order a new one from Amazon instead. I visited Chinatown in Manhattan, Times Square and The Metropolitan Museum of Art (the Met) with my friends in January.

February

I had a great time in February. I first visited the Statue of Liberty, when I finished the trip and was about to come back, I found some aircraft sitting near the pier and decided to take a look. That turned out to be another famous museum called Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum with aircraft, space shuttle and submarine collection. I also had my very first Chinese New Year not with my family but with my friends, we enjoyed great food and board games, and that was a unique experience for me. The Superbowl was also something you do not want to miss, we went to a random bar to feel the vibe of the American football final, that really worth it as everyone was so excited and into the game that even you had never played it before can join them to party. I also had my first trip in the US to Washington, DC, where I visited lots of landmarks, including The White House, Capitol Hill and the Supreme Court.

March

I had most of my midterms, but I also had my spring break in March, so I managed to finish midterms while still having lots of fun. I enrolled in a tour organized by the IBEX team and went to the UN' s headquarters. I also spent my spring break in Boston and Atlanta. Boston is a university town, so I basically visited Harvard and MIT. For Atlanta, I visited the World of Coca-Cola, Georgia Aquarium and Football Hall of Fame. I also spotted the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta when finding a restaurant, so I just walked in with my friend. There was a workstation for you to observe how workers handle thousands (maybe even more) of money, so that was pretty cool.

April

I was busy preparing for my summer internship interview, so I did not spend too much time having fun in April. It is worth mentioning that I experienced a 4.7 magnitude earthquake in New York, which was uncommon in New York and Hong Kong as well. I also went to Yankee Stadium to watch a baseball game with my friends.

May

Unfortunately, I was busy again, but for my final exam this time. After finishing all the finals, I went to a jazz bar with my friends, the lighting and live band were amazing and definitely turned me into a jazz bar fan. I also spent my spare time visiting some chapels. The chapels were really hidden gems as they were grand and had the essence of the Western buildings.

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 HKSAR Passport. I applied for the J-1 Visa. I was required to get my DS-2019 and from NYU and complete DS-160 online before applying for Visa. I cannot remember the Visa fees as I did not pay them myself.

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

Money and Banking
The Making of Economic Policy in the White House
Risk Management in Financial Institutions
Forecasting Time Series Data

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)**

I received course registration details in October. The IBEX team guided me through the course registration process through email. I submitted my course schedule with alternative courses (in case they cannot register me to my first choice) to the IBEX team by email. The information related to course registration were all included in the email sent by the IBEX team.

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**

I lived in a studio for 2 people. The email from the IBEX team reminded me to apply for on-campus housing if I want in October, the housing offer was released in late November. The dorm includes bathroom, kitchen, and some recreational facilities such as table tennis.

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**

There are 2 student health centers at NYU, but need to make an appointment and wait for more than a week to see the doctor.

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 9,899

Accommodation (for the entire study abroad period)

HKD 47,580

Program fee (if applicable)

N/A

Personal expenses

HKD 50,000

Others, please specify

Reference Book: HKD 770

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

Money and Banking

Forecasting Time Series Data

Risk Management in Financial Institutions

Favourite Food

Mexican Grill

Chinese Siu Mei

Salad

Hang-outs places on campus

KMC

Bobst Library

Dorm

Must-dos in the city

visit the Statue of Liberty

visit Times Square

visit Wall Street

Not-to-dos in the city

wear earphones all the time

look at your phone all the time

go to 100+ street

Useful local apps or websites

Google Maps

Chase online banking

NYU Rate my Professors

Words to describe my study abroad experience

amazing

challenging

unforgettable