



## Student Exchange Evaluation

### Basic Information

<b>Otago degree(s)</b> Bachelor Of Commerce	<b>Major(s)</b> Management
<b>Host University</b> Richard Ivey Business School	<b>Semester &amp; Year of Exchange</b> Semester 2 2017

### Academics/ course load

Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?

Course title	Language of instruction	Otago equivalent	Otago credit value
<b>Design and Technology Management in Creative Industries</b>	English	MANT301	14.4
<b>Creative Approaches to Leadership and Communication</b>	English	MANT346	14.4
<b>Leading Change</b>	English	MANT350	14.4
<b>Learning From Leaders</b>	English	MANT330	14.4
<b>New Venture Creation</b>	English	MANT303	14.4

Any comments about these papers?

I absolutely loved all of my papers. My highlight of my University Exchange was probably going to my lectures each day. I honestly learnt more in my Semester at Ivey than I learnt in my whole degree at Otago! I would 100% recommend taking Leading Change and Creative Approaches to Leadership and Communication If you can. These papers were amazing and challenged not only my academic understandings of the world but my personal values too. A favourite paper of everyone's was also The Performing Leader, I would HIGHLY recommend taking this paper- everyone raved about it! Any paper that is taught by Denis Shackel or Michael Sider is a must. Denis is a Kiwi and will make class the most enjoyable thing you have experienced.

How did the academic experience/ workload/ style of teaching differ from Otago?

It was completely different! You are not allowed phones or your computers in most classes and 40% of your grade is through in class participation. Therefore you have to go to practically all of your classes and you most definitely have to do the readings beforehand as you often may get cold called. It was awesome learning this way though, the lecturer only talked for about 50% of the class and the rest of the time was spent hearing others opinions/ views on the subject. I thoroughly enjoyed this teaching style however if you are particularly shy or do not plan on going to many classes then this method may not be the style for you!

### **Accommodation**

What accommodation did you stay in? What were the pros and cons of your accommodation?

I stayed in the MARQ residences on Ann St and would 100% recommend this. There were about 50% exchange students and 50% Canadians that made up the residents at the MARQ so it was a good mix of people to become friendly with. Lots of the parties were held in the MARQ apartments and they allow a four month lease which is fantastic. You don't have to start applying until around April, they give out all of the 12 month leases first so keep that in mind! I got placed with 3 awesome European girls who became my best friends on my exchange and the MARQ made it super easy with Shuttle buses straight to Ivey etc.

### **Money matters**

Please detail your basic costs, e.g. accommodation, flights, visa, food, insurance

All up I would say that you need to save at least \$10,000. I had prepaid all of my accommodation which made things a lot less stressful and I was still able to get the \$170 a week studylink so that was great. Flights were around \$2500 return, food you would spend less than you would in NZ but insurance was quite a heavy cost! We also had to pay around \$700 near the end of the term in course fees, there are a few hidden costs along the way so I would say that having a bit of money behind you is a good idea. And then for the most important part- you need to be able to have enough money to TRAVEL! This was one of the highlights of my exchange, exploring the US and further Canada and to make the most of all the opportunities it would be wise to save a fair bit.

What means did you use to access your finances? What would you recommend? (Credit card, Cash passport, foreign bank account, etc.)

I used my ASB debit card the whole time I was there however would probably recommend opening a bank account while you are there. It's free and they do great deals for students, it would be wise to open one ASAP so that you don't mount up hefty overseas transaction fees like I did... 😊

### **Visas & Insurance**

Did you have to apply for a visa? What was the process?

Didn't have to apply for a Visa. Just had to show the border security my proof of acceptance into Ivey and flight details home.

Did your host university have a mandatory insurance?

Yes- was quite costly- around \$800 from memory.

### **Extra-curricular/Social Activities**

What organised activities were available to students? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future exchange students?

Ivey does a fantastic job of setting up activities for all the exchange students. You will have an exchange guru and plenty of opportunities to meet all the other exchange students, as well as a heap of Canadian people. I would recommend talking to as many people as possible in your first few days of class, everyone loves Kiwis so you will have no problem making friends! Canadians are super friendly much alike their stereotype and Ivey makes it super easy to get to know a lot of people. You won't have to worry about where to pre drink in the weekend as there will generally always be something organised for you!

What was the university/ city like?

Ivey is situated in the most beautiful building. It's super modern and all your classes are in the one place which makes it great for the cold winter months! London Ontario is very similar to Dunedin. I wouldn't be paying a visit to the place nor living there unless I was at University but due to this, the city is super fun as it's full of uni students. There are three universities in the city so there are young people around everywhere and much like Dunedin the party scene is pretty massive. I didn't think that there could be a place crazier than Dunners but in London you can pretty much party any night of the week... it's very fun and I would definitely recommend making the most of your exchange here by trying out all the nightclubs and different days of the week, they each have their own perks and make for some great memories with your fellow Ivey students the next morning in class!

Any recommendations for things to do, places to visit, places to eat etc.?

Students generally go to nightclubs a lot more so than they would in Dunedin. On Monday night is Jacks (\$1 beers), Tuesday night is Ceeps Bingo (Sooo fun), Thursday night is Frogs, Friday and Saturday night anywhere... Food wise, I was obsessed with Chil which is a frozen yoghurt place off the main street. I also loved Sakata and Ozen which are two fantastic Japanese places on Richmond if Ramen is your thing!

Any tips for future students?

Make the most of every experience! Say yes! Get to the West Coast- Vancouver etc- was really gutted that I didn't get to make it here. Canadians are the most lovely people on the planet and you will undoubtedly have the best time, say yes to everything!!

### **Overall Experience**

Please write one paragraph (or more) about your exchange experience. Please include some photos!

If you are questioning whether to go on exchange, DO IT! Regardless of whether you choose Ivey or not, going on exchange was one of the best things that I have done as it expanded my awareness to just how much more of the world there is to explore and also how lucky we have it in NZ. Ivey is an incredible University – it's the most difficult Business school to get into in Canada and is based off the Harvard Business School Teaching method. The quality of the lecturers are absolutely incredible and I genuinely looked forward to going to class everyday! I definitely experienced a lot of highs and lows in my exchange but in my experience it is getting out of your normal, everyday Dunedin routine that teaches you the most about life and yourself. Honestly the friendships that you will make on exchange are second to none! The city is much like Dunedin so don't be expecting a crazy beautiful picturesque Canadian city when you arrive but the fact London is a University town made the exchange that more crazy, fun and exciting. There is always a party on and if you're not into that kind of thing then you have the US and rest of Canada at your fingertips. I would purely choose Ivey due to the amazing teaching method and quality of the courses as this made every day- not just the times when I was travelling- really enjoyable. Please feel free to Facebook me if you want any advice or have any questions about Ivey! It's honestly the most beautiful, amazing school and I would go back and do it all again in a heartbeat.



Ivey Homecoming!



Going to watch Tom Brady play in New York



Outside the beautiful Ivey Building