



My Exchange Evaluation

Basic Information

Host University	Duke University
Semester & Year of Exchange	Fall 2, 2022
Otago degree(s)	MBA
Major(s)	MBA

Academics/ course load

Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?

Course title	Language of instruction	Otago equivalent
New Venture Discovery	English	
Women in Leadership	English	
Entrepreneurial Strategy	English	
Ethics In Management	English	
Operations Strategy	English	

Total Otago credits gained: ☐ 54 points ☐ 72 points ☐ 108 points ☐ 13 credits needed to make up Part 2 of the MBA

Any comments about these papers?

The Professors at Duke Fuqua School of Business are incredible, and extremely passionate about their courses. You really get what you put in – prep before each class so you can contribute to class discussions and be prepared to be called on.

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

You are called on more and expected to contribute to class discussion which can only foster a greater learning experience.

Accommodation

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

I stayed at the Bluelight Living Apartments; this was a great place to live as it is close to 9th street, the University and has a shuttle that takes you to and from the University every day. Another pro is that the apartments come fully furnished so you are not spending money purchasing things for 3 months and worrying about selling them afterwards. The staff are extremely accommodating and always help you wherever you need, they also go out of their way to assist you with challenges that may arise. *They also have short term leases available.

Money matters

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

Accommodation: \$1500 per month on rent

Flights: \$2500 return

Food: \$150-180 per week

Insurance: \$2,000

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

I used my VISA card. However, as soon as I got to the USA I opened a USA bank account. You will find that all US student use apps like Zelle, Cashapp and Venmo to make payments, buy social event tickets and send each other money so it's imperative you open a US bank account and download/use these apps so you don't miss out!

Visas & Insurance

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

Yes, a J-1 Student Visa but Annie from Duke helps you through the entire process.

Did your host university have a mandatory insurance?

Yes, it was seamless though as Annie from Duke and Celia from Otago helped us every step of the way.

Extra-curricular/Social Activities

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

Attend Fuqua Fridays and get involved in all of the Clubs and Societies on offer, everything is generally free and you meet some great people.

What was the university/ city like?

The university was incredible and exceeded my expectations in all aspects. There is nothing bad that I could say about it, from the staff, classes to university grounds it is absolutely beautiful. Durham has a really diverse food scene that you should take advantage of!

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

Viceroy

MATEO

Mothers & Sons

M Sushi

*All restaurants ;)

Any tips for future students?

Don't hesitate, just do the exchange. It was one of the best decisions of my life.

Overall Experience

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

From the moment I knew that the MBA Program offered an exchange to Duke University, it was my goal to complete Phase 2 at this institution. I knew my selection in exchange universities would hugely impact my experience and I wasn't disappointed. In all aspects, Duke University and my overall exchange exceeded my expectations – the quality of Professors, extracurricular activities, campus life and student life have been paramount to one of the best decisions I've ever made. The friends I have made on this exchange are ones that I will have for life and who have made this exchange even more better. I'm grateful for the opportunity I had to be part of this exchange and couldn't recommend it more!