

The Education Abroad Program office wants to hear about your experience abroad! Tell us about your experience by filling out the *Return Student Report for Exchanges/Summer Programs*. Your feedback will be used to help improve programs and services for future students and be a valuable resource for future students who are interested in studying abroad.

The Return Student Report consists of two parts:

- Part A: Participant Information
- Part B: Internship Information

Part A will not be made public. Part B will be made public and available online to future students interested in learning more about the education abroad process and program. Education Abroad Program will preserve your anonymity by not revealing your name or any personal details.

## Part A

### Participant Information

Please provide the following information.

Name:			
Student Status:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Domestic <input type="checkbox"/> International	Home Institution:	U of A
Faculty:	Physical Education	Degree Status:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate
Major/Minor:	Sport Performance		
Current Year of Study	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4th <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		

## Part B

### Exchange/Summer Program Information

Please provide the following details related to your Education Abroad Program.

Host Institution:	Nanyang Technological University		
City/Town:	Singapore	Country:	Singapore
Exchange/Summer Program Period:	From: 01/07/2013 (mm/dd/yyyy)	To: 05/10/2013 (mm/dd/yyyy)	
Did you participate on an internship during your exchange/summer program?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
What immigration documents (e.g. study visa, residence permits etc.) are required to study at your host institution?	Student Pass		
What issues (if any) did you encounter while obtaining these immigration documents?	None, pretty simple process.		
What tips would you give to future students regarding their student visa and other required immigration documents?	Fill out forms early, mine took about 6 weeks to come back.		

### Languages

What was the language(s) of instruction at your host institution? <i>Check all that apply</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Arabic <input type="checkbox"/> Cantonese <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> German <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/> Mandarin <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Were there any adequate course offerings taught in English for your field of study?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Prior to your departure, did you take any language courses at your home institution? If yes, what courses (e.g. FREN 111) did you take?	No
How did taking a class in another language (that was not your first language) impact your learning experience? Did you instructor make any accommodations?	

## Academia

What arrangements regarding pre-approval of credit transfer were you able to arrange with your faculty before leaving on your program?

Met with faculty advisor and provided course descriptions that were given on the host institutions website, compare these to courses I thought they would be transferreable to.

Please describe the course registration process at your host institution.

- Were you able to pre-register in Canada?
- Did you receive any assistance from your host institution?
- Did your course registration change upon arrival? If so, why?

Yes all courses were pre-registered. No assistance was required, online process is somewhat similar to BearTracks.

Please describe your academic plan (e.g. number of courses per term, course name etc.).

I took four courses while studying at Nanyang. Two were out of faculty options (Cultural Intellegence and Business Fraud) which were very interesting, the other two were core requirements (Sport Injuries and Sport Management). These transferred easily.

Please describe the credit and grading system at your host institution.

No curve which was nice. Credit system is the same as here as far as I could tell.

How was your overall academic experience (e.g. teaching style, class structure and sizes, amount of coursework, assessment) in comparison to your home institution?

The experience for me was amazing. There is a lot of group work and presentations, I think I only had two solo assignments all semester. Classes were very small 20-30 people, teaching style was similar, assessment was based much more on presentation skills but other than that there were usually a couple assignments, a midterm and a final same as U of A.

How did you obtain a transcript for coursework completed at your host institution?

They sent one automatically back to the U of A.

## Student Services

Please describe the type of facilities (e.g. library, internet/Wi-Fi access, computer labs, bookstore, health clinic, counseling services) available at your host institution.

Everything on campus was amazing. Study halls were very technologically advanced, a couple even include tv's and video games. Lots of computer stations, printers etc, WiFi is everywhere.

To the best of your knowledge, what support and services are available at your host institution for:

- Students with disabilities or special needs
- Students identifying as LGBTQ
- Students of visible minorities

No idea.

Please describe where you could find exchange student advising or receive academic counseling at your host institution.

International Student Center, but it was hard to get in and even when I did they did not seem very knowledgeable. Mostly I spoke with the transfer students when I had any concerns.

## Housing Information

To the best of your knowledge, what housing options are available to students?	On-Campus dorms or off campus rooms.
What type of housing did you stay in?	<input type="checkbox"/> On-campus residences <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Off-campus housing <input type="checkbox"/> With a host family <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
How satisfied were you with your housing choice?	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1 = Not at all satisfied</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 2</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 3</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 4</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 = Very satisfied</div> </div>
What should future students be aware of when choosing on-campus residences? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Application process for housing</i></li> <li>• <i>Utilities and furniture</i></li> <li>• <i>Meal plans, cooking facilities</i></li> <li>• <i>Housing rules (e.g. curfew, how early can you move in, closure during major holidays etc.)</i></li> <li>• <i>Assistance from host institution staff (e.g. airport pick-up, orientation)</i></li> </ul>	Housing is extremely expensive. I ended up paying \$900 per month to rent a room in a two bedroom apartment. There are no stoves but other than that appliances are the same. Food is super cheap and good at Hawker centres though so I mostly ate out.
What should future students be aware of when choosing off-campus housing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Lease agreements, deposits, tenant rights</i></li> <li>• <i>Utilities and furniture</i></li> <li>• <i>Location and neighbourhoods</i></li> <li>• <i>Safety and security</i></li> <li>• <i>Type of resources available to look for housing (eg: Craigslist)</i></li> </ul>	Most places should be furnished as you will most likely just be renting a room. Try and find somewhere close to the MRT stations, if you have to bus to the MRT it is a pain. EZroom mate is the site we found our listing on. Singapore is very safe, my girlfriend was there with me and neither one of us ever had any safety concerns. Be sure utilities are included, A/C there can cause bills to be hundreds per month.

## Student Life

What would you recommend to future students who are looking to meet other students at your host institution? (e.g. extra-curricular activities such as student groups, intramurals, residence events and activities, volunteering opportunities, etc.)

There are FB groups that have info regarding clubs, parties for uni students and trips, that is a good resource. But mostly find other international students or locals and see what they are up to. I didn't do any school sponsored activities. Travelling around SE Asia is cheap and easy so that took up a lot of my time.

What work or internship opportunities are available for students on and/or off campus?

No work available for students. DO NOT plan on working while in Singapore.

## Health and Safety

Are there any specific health/safety issues that future students should be made aware of? What precautions can you recommend to mitigate or eliminate these issues?

Everything was fine, health care is good in SG and no specific health concerns, other than severe sunburns!

Did your host institution require a mandatory travel/health insurance plan for exchange students? How did you arrange this?

Yes, U of A health plan is significant, just have to email Nanyang a copy.

## Cultural Adaptation

What cultural differences (if any) did you find particularly challenging?

There is a strong Chinese culture in SG and it is fascinating. My roommates were Chinese and I had an amazing time with them!

What parts of your host country's culture did you most appreciate?

The food, Chinese New Year, the Temples, the generosity.

## Costs and Budgeting

Please describe your basic costs in Canadian dollars. This will help future exchange/summer program students plan their own budgets.

Airfare to host country	\$ 1300	Brief Description	
Visa fees	\$ 100	Brief Description	
Books/term	\$ 50	Brief Description	
Accommodation/month	\$ 900	Brief Description	
Meals/month	\$ 400	Brief Description	
Health insurance/month	\$ 0	Brief Description	U of A plan
Local transportation/month	\$ 100	Brief Description	MRT card adds up quick
Personal spending/month	\$ 800	Brief Description	This included travelling
Communications/month (e.g. phone)	\$ 40	Brief Description	Use Skype, Pay as You Go phones are cheap if you bring an unlocked cell phone
Other travel	\$	Brief Description	
What unexpected costs did you encounter?	Alcohol is ridiculously expensive in SG. 2/6's were generally around \$60-80. Drinks at clubs are 12-15.		

## Funding your International Experience

Please indicate how you financed your program. This will help future students plan their own budgets. <i>Check all that apply.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships from UAlberta <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships from Host Institution <input type="checkbox"/> Student loans <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family contributions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personal savings <input type="checkbox"/> Employment while in host country <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
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## Final Thoughts

What were some highlights of your experience abroad?

Singapore is one of the most beautiful countries ive ever been to. The people are friendly, welcoming and it is very easy to integreate into the culture. Travelling to Malaysia, Japan, Indonesia and Thailand were definitely some of the highlights. The food is incredible. Sentosa island is one of the funnest places and its right in the city.

Would you recommend your internship program to other students? Why or why not?

Yes definitely. The experience was absolutely incredible, probably one of the best decisions ive made in my life.

Please provide any final information/tips for students interested in studying abroad that you would like to share.

Travel, have fun, do some schoolwork and come back a different person!