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Studying abroad was an obvious choice for me, as I love to travel and discover new cultures. However, I was not convinced about where, and the choice to go to NUS and Singapore wasn't made until the day before the application closed. I ultimately went for the region I knew the least about which was Asia. Then it was just a matter of choosing countries. I had been to Thailand, but never to China, Singapore or South Korea so these were the countries I eventually applied for. After that I simply listed them in the order they were ranked.

There were some stress with all the different sorts of documents and information filing that the student office in Singapore required and a common topic on the emails they sent was ;"the deadline is today". That can be quite hard to fulfill since there is a 6-7 hours of time difference between Singapore and Sweden! Nevertheless, you shouldn't rush up too much about it since they are generally very helpful and if you miss something they will notify you.

The same were repeated for course selection, I hardly got any of the courses I had chosen in the first selection process. But after a couple of emails where I notified them that I had to read the courses needed for FACO, they solved them for me. The rest of the courses I solved during the "add and drop period", which takes place during the first week of school.

The study concept at NUS differs from SU. At NUS you will read all the courses at the same time, there are smaller classes, more seminars with generally a lot of group projects and in most courses there is a midterm and a final examination. An advice is to prepare and plan thoroughly for the midterm since it's large and is placed early in the semester. There is usually a break right before the midterms called "recess week", where the home students generally study but since you are on exchange I recommend you to structure your studies so you can travel instead. There are many beautiful countries in the region, while I was studying at NUS I travelled to Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia and I strongly recommend them all.

I lived in Utown (University Town) which I highly recommend, it's fresh and close to the campus pool and gym. In Utown you will live together with 3 other people and share bathroom and living room but you will all have separate bedrooms. Some of the apartments in Utown also have an Air condition. I suggest you to apply for a room with an Air condition since it is a tropical climate (hot and humid).

Singapore has everything; great nightlife, nice people, architecture, history, food, the list goes on..... One of Singapore's prides is its street food which you can find all around Singapore in different food courts. Singapore's Chinatown, little India and Arab district are all nice to visit.

I couldn't be luckier to choose Singapore as my first choice and I will most definitely return in the future.

Tip

Rooftop bars - Marina bay sands(also a club called “Ce La Vie”), 1-Altitude.

Nightlife – Clarke quay and Boat quay (lot’s of restaurants and bars at the marina)

Food - Holland village, Little India, Arabic district

Sentosa Island – A nearby Island to Singapore. Soft beach.

NOTE! Since August 2016 snus is not allowed in Singapore. It’s no longer just illegal to sell, it’s illegal to BRING!

Safe travels!

