

Exchange Report – Singapore Management University

My exchange in Singapore was really exciting for three main reasons:

1. Singapore Management University is a great school.
2. The country has a lot to offer – it is easy to adapt to and there are many fun activities to do.
3. I met so many nice people from around the world.

These criteria may seem a bit generic, but let me delve deeper into why I think that you should apply for an exchange at SMU. First off, I thought that the quality of the education was really high. All of my teachers had extensive experience in their respective fields and it felt like the school had close ties to many influential businesses. Also, the classes are small, usually around 30 students, and the professor expects you to take part in discussions during the lectures. Interactivity is a key term at SMU. Not having English as my mother tongue, I was initially intimidated by the concept of having to speak up during lectures, but it didn't take long before it felt natural and I could really feel my language skills improving quickly. I chose courses in marketing, management and communications. The workload was not that bad, but I have heard that some courses – for example the finance modules – are way heavier.

Singapore is a great country to live in. The locals are friendly and everything works really well – public transport is efficient and cheap, service is prioritized and there are many activities to do. The nightlife is really good with plenty of cool rooftop bars and events where students can meet. However, one should know that it is a small country. It doesn't take much more than an hour to go from one end to another, which also means that it doesn't take too long to experience most of Singapore. But since the country is a hub to many other places in Asia, you can easily go abroad during weekends or recess weeks. Most exchange students go to neighboring countries or further at least a couple of times during their semester, and that is a great opportunity to get to know people from other parts of the world.

Finding somewhere to live in Singapore wasn't that hard for us. We contacted an agent, who got us an apartment about 15 minutes by bus from SMU. On the negative side, prices for accommodation are high, even compared to Sweden, so prepare to live

Elias Andersson

together with some other students. We were six people living in a four-room apartment, and that worked fine. I also heard that some students were living in a hostel that the university had a deal with, but as far as I know it didn't seem like many of them liked it.

If that weren't already clear, I would really recommend anyone to go to Singapore for studies. I am sure you will not regret studying at SMU.

Have a great exchange!
All the best,

Elias