

Exchange Report

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For my semester abroad I wanted to go to Asia as I had never been there before and Singapore was the perfect choice as it combined excellent universities, education in English and a central position for further travel in Asia. I attended the National University of Singapore where I studied at the Business School.

My one deterrent for going to Singapore was that it is in some ways, for example housing and travel, an expensive place to live in and there are only a few scholarships for studies in Asia. I was lucky enough to receive the DUO Singapore Exchange Fellowship Award and I really recommend applying for it.

The university has a very high quality of education and the professors are used to exchange students and will give you a lot of help. People in Singapore are in general really welcoming and kind. It is important to note however that the workload is quite heavy compared to Sweden and you take the courses at the same time. A significant portion of your grade is the group work and your participation in class. I took three finance courses which compared to other business courses had a heavier workload, and exams and deadlines were often all put on the same day.



UTown at NUS

During my exchange in Singapore I lived in two different on-campus-housing, PGP and UTown, which is much cheaper than living off campus. Although PGP is conveniently located close to the business school I would not recommend it as the housing is older and in need of an upgrade. It can get very warm inside. I really enjoyed living in Utown. It is a newly built part of campus and close to the gym, swimming pool and 24h study areas. Although it is more expensive, I would recommend applying for a room with AC as it is a tropical climate and it is always hot and humid.



Singapore at night

Singapore is a very nice city to study and live in. It is generally very safe and there are no bad areas. Some of my favorite places were the marina and the old quay district. The buildings are lit up at night and the gardens by the bay are really pretty (although high up!). It is easy getting around as the public transport system is very good and cheap. One of the greatest things about Singapore was the food with cuisines from all over the world. Hawker centres (local food courts) have delicious Asian food at low prices. However, good western food is generally more expensive. It can be good to note though that credit cards are generally not accepted so bringing some cash when you first arrive is a good idea.

Singapore is also great for further travel in Asia and the term ends in early December so there is plenty of time to travel before the spring term. There are many low-cost carriers like

AirAsia and Scoot that has cheap flights and there are cheap bus trips that go to Malaysia.
Before returning I visited Tokyo, Hong Kong and New Zealand.

Overall, I greatly enjoyed my semester abroad in Singapore and would recommend going there for your exchange.