

A) Your program of study (courses, assignments, course format). Add the exact number of class hours per course.

Program of Study: Finance

Leadership in Organizations

Class Hours

- Weekly: 1 x 2 hour lecture, and 1 x 1 hour tutorial (3 hours total per week)
- Additional 30 minutes of reading each week

Assignments

- 30% individual essay
- 30% group presentation
- 60% exam

Cross-Cultural Management

Class Hours

- Weekly: 1 x 2 hour lecture, and 1 x 1 hour tutorial(3 hours total per week)
- Additional 1.5 hours of reading each week

Assignments

- 10% in-class pop quizzes
- 20% group research project
- 5% participation
- 5% individual essay
- 30% midterm
- 30% exam

Spanish Level 1

Class Hours

- Weekly: 2 x 2 hour tutorials (3 hours total per week)
- Additional 3 hours of homework each week

Assignments

- 30% grammar tests
- 10% reading comprehension test
- 10% written essay
- 10% listening comprehension test
- 10% participation
- 10% oral presentation
- 40% final test

Building and Managing Brands

Class Hours:

- Weekly: 1 x 2 hour lecture, and 1 x 1 hour tutorial (3 hours total per week)
- Additional 1 hour of reading each week

Assignments

- 15% Individual essay
- 30% group project
- 15% group presentation
- 10% participation
- 30% final exam

Notes: Expect to have homework and assignments to do every week. It is not like uOttawa where you have one midterm and one exam. The content itself is not more difficult, but there are significantly more readings, assignments, case studies and the way of teaching is less textbook oriented.

B) The timetable (academic calendar, registration dates, orientation, beginning and end of classes, exams, holidays, number of semesters, etc.) Please submit the precise dates so students will know when to book their flights next year.

2017 Semester 1 Dates

- February 27: Orientation week begins
- February 27: Mandatory exchange orientation
- March 6: Lectures begin
- April 14: Good Friday
- April 14: Reading week
- April 17: Easter Monday
- April 25: ANZAC Day
- June 9: Last day of lectures
- June 12: Study vacation
- June 19: Exam period starts
- July 1: Exam period ends

C) Procedures to follow upon arrival. List and description of services offered by the International Exchange Office of the host institution. Registration and course selection. Social activities.

About a month before school starts you are able to enroll, which means providing more information about your visa, housing, and selecting your 4 preferred courses. The email sent out by the University of Sydney makes this process really easy.

Working out your timetable here can be a little frustrating at first, especially since it is only released about 2 weeks before school starts. You do not get to choose what class you would like to attend, you are automatically assigned to a timeslot. After you have been given your timetable you can request to move classes around to other available times, but it is not guaranteed you will be able to move anything.

Once your timetable becomes available, your professors will almost immediately start emailing you about the course load, required texts, etc. Read these emails carefully. Courses at the University of Sydney have a much heavier workload than at the University of Ottawa, so you may have a significant amount of reading to do before school even begins if you have taken heavier courses.

The International Exchange Office here is wonderful. They are the best people to go to if you have any questions about housing, courses, enrolment, etc. They also run several "Welcome to Sydney" events before school begins for international students such as weekend surf camps or hiking trips. I strongly recommend attending one of these, since it is a great way to meet new people.

D) Budget outlining the cost of studying abroad (i.e. airplane tickets, housing, vacation and daily travel costs, textbooks, meals, etc.).

It will probably cost you at least \$15,000-\$20,000 to do this exchange, but if you want to travel lots/if you like to eat out then it will be much more.

Airline Ticket Round Trip: \$1600

Rent: \$210 a **week** for a shared bedroom

- My bills were included in rent so I am not sure how much they would cost

Daily Travel Costs: \$3.50 per bus trip (at minimum \$7 a day, but usually more)

- You ARE eligible for the student concession card despite what the Sydney enrolment website makes it sound like – travel is half price with this card!

Meals: \$60-\$100 per week for groceries, eating out for meals can run anywhere from \$10 at lunch to \$80 for dinner

- Coffee is about \$3.50 - \$6.00
- Coffee with avocado toast from a café in the morning is about \$15

Textbooks: \$50 each (if you buy the eBook, otherwise \$120+ each)

Vacation: \$5000 for the semester if you want to travel during study week, and before/after the semester

- Hostels will cost you minimum \$350 a week for a shared dorm, \$700+ for a private room
- Airline tickets to major vacation destinations are anywhere from \$200-600 for a round trip
- Major tourist activities usually start at \$50 and can run as high as \$350 for a day trip on a boat
- The best way to keep costs down on vacation is to stay in hostels and look for discount airline tickets on Tuesdays
- Renting a campervan with friends is a cheaper way to travel along the coast

Phone: \$40 per month for 6GB of data, unlimited calls/texts both within Australia and to Canada (Optus is my carrier)

Activities/Leisure: \$500 a month if you are just staying around Sydney

Notes About Working in Sydney:

I cannot stress enough that Sydney is expensive. Minimum wage here is about \$17 an hour so that can offset some of the costs if you choose to work.

It is pretty easy to get a job in a restaurant or bar here if you have some experience in hospitality. I was offered the first job I applied to less than two days after sending out my resume, and many of my friends here have found getting a job just as easy as I did.

E) Application procedures before your arrival (visa deadlines, documents required for visa, course registration, housing deposit, etc.).

Most students who come to Australia use student visas. This visa allows you to arrive in Australia up to one month before your studies begin, and leave up to one month later. You also have limited working rights (up to 40 hours maximum every two weeks).

However, I chose to use a Working Holiday Visa. Since I am in co-op and trying to complete a work-term here in Australia I needed a visa with full working rights that would allow me to stay here for longer than 6 months. This visa allows you to work full-time anywhere in Australia, study for up to 4 months and stay here for up to 1 year. If this is also your plan my advice would be to get a student visa first and see what your prospects are for getting an internship here, as most do not meet the CO-OP requirements. You can apply for a Working Holiday Visa at a later time, better not to waste it in case you can't get an internship and want to come back one day.

I applied for this visa online and the only document I needed was a scan of my passport. It took about 15 minutes for my visa to be granted (this is unusually fast, it normally takes a couple days). Keep in mind, this visa is not typically recommended to international students who only plan to come to Australia to study.

Course registration is done online when you apply to study at the university. At this time you choose 6-8 courses you would like to study while here, and you will later be able to choose which 4 are your preferred courses.

F) Address and description of housing. Cost of housing.

My apartment was located at 6 Norton Street in Leichhardt. It's only about a 10 minute bus ride west of the university. Housing tends to be less expensive the further west you get from the university, however, it is still quite costly compared to Ottawa.

I shared a bedroom with a friend, and the apartment was shared with one other person. Rent was about \$207 a week (or \$830 per month). Keep in mind that my bedroom was shared (otherwise it would have been \$1640 a month), so if you have a friend in Sydney this can be a more affordable option. The apartment was fully furnished (pots, pans, etc.) but the bedroom was not, so we had to buy beds.

Private rentals in Australia are usually cheaper than university run accommodation, which is around \$350+ per week. It's pretty easy to find furnished rooms here in shared apartments, I would recommend using www.flatmates.com.au since it is really popular here.

Competition is high to find an affordable apartment in a good location here in Sydney if you are looking for your own place without roommates. If you want an apartment to yourself you will need to bring rental references, an Australian bank statement as proof of your funds, rental receipts, paychecks, identification, etc. to the showing. Often landlords will do one group showing of the apartment and start accepting applications immediately after, so if you do not have all of these things with you at the showing, then you will likely not get the apartment.

Some final notes about renting apartments here:

- Rent is by the week not the month
- You are required to pay "bond" at the start of your tenancy, it is usually 4 weeks rent and you will get it back once you move out
- Always inspect the place thoroughly – if it seems too cheap for the area then there is a reason for that (bedbugs, cockroaches, etc.)
- Apartments are listed about 1-2 weeks before they are available so it can be hard to book any inspections online before you arrive
- Potts Point and Kings Cross (although affordable) are not nice or safe areas to live in – there is often violent crime in these areas and they should be avoided
- Leichhardt, Stanmore, Lewisham, Petersham, and Annandale are not as far away from everything as Google Maps makes them seem, they're all less than 20 minute bus/train rides away and WAY more affordable than Paddington, Newtown, and Glebe

G) Work term (if applicable).

Not yet. However, it's important to note that most undergraduate internships here are part-time, unpaid and priority is given to Australian citizens. Competition is high for these positions as most internships are for graduates. I have come across

significantly more marketing internships than any other kind, so it might be easier for marketing students to get jobs in their field here.

H) Other comments or recommendations.

- Do the pre-semester trip, you will meet some many new people through it
- Join clubs here, there is something for everyone (dance, business, finance, etc.)
- Book a hostel for **at least a week** if you are looking for private accommodation
- Don't feel the need to sign a 6 month lease, there are lots of share houses that you can rent on a week by week basis
- Shop at Coles or Aldi for groceries, other places like IGA are ridiculously expensive
- Travel on Sunday – your bus/train fare for the entire day is \$2.50 max no matter how far you go
- Coffee here is all espresso or instant, no regular percolated coffee – café coffee/drinks here make Starbucks coffee seem cheap
- Gumtree is the Australian version of Kijiji
- Buy good sunscreen and use it all the time, especially when it is cloudy
- There are some amazing coastal walks in Sydney, one of the most inexpensive activities here! I recommend trying Manly to Split Bridge, Bondi to Coogee or Dover Heights to Watson's Bay
- Public transportation here is terrible, the busses almost never run on time so plan to leave early for everything, the only good thing about public transport is that you can get almost anywhere by bus/train/ferry

I) Add a description of about five to seven sentences summarizing your experience.

Australia has been amazing so far, and the University of Sydney offers to many great services to help integrate exchange students. I have made so many friends that I see every day in my classes through the pre-semester surfing trip run by the university. The city is insanely expensive, so it can sometimes be stressful budgeting rent, groceries and activities, but exploring Sydney is worth the cost. I have spent most of my time outside here doing costal walks, hikes and hanging out on the beach. The workload at school was heavier than I expected, the content itself is not hard, but there is much more work to do. Such an amazing experience, I almost don't want to come home.