



The University of Manchester
Alliance Manchester Business School

2014-2015

University Attended – University of North Carolina

Feedback 1

INDUCTION/ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

What did this involve, how long did it last, was it useful?

Met a lot of new students and it set the foundation of my friend group for the entire year

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Style of teaching, courses, ease of access to courses, methods of assessment, teaching support

The teaching in the states is way better than the UK in my opinion as the assignments were very practical and I even went to China for a consulting project for Intel and it was a real life consulting experience which I would never get from Manchester. And the professors tend to be more caring toward the students and do actually care about them.

MBS INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT TEAM

Level of support, additional information that could have been useful

MBS international support team is really helpful and useful which I can not ask for more.

MBS SECOND YEAR MEETINGS

Any additional information that you feel could have been provided

HOST INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Level of support, additional information that could be useful for future students

Make as many connections as possible while you are out there

INSURANCE, HEALTH COVER

Please include any information relating to the purchase of compulsory health insurance ie costs etc. or whether this was waived by having the University of Manchester Insurance Policy

INFORMATION ON ANY ADDITIONAL COSTS

This should be information on any extra fees that the University charged but should not include accommodation, books, transport, visa etc.

ACCOMMODATION

As much information as possible on what accommodation is recommended or not recommended.

DESTINATION INFORMATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE

Transport, travel, social life, integration with local students, student activity groups

I had the best time in my life in the States I can never ask for more both socially and academically

DESCRIBE IN ONE SENTENCE YOUR YEAR ABROAD

I had a blast not only had a lot of fun but also experienced the real business world through the school in the states

Feedback 2

INDUCTION/ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

What did this involve, how long did it last, was it useful?

The orientation lasted about 4-5 hours, it consisted of 2 presentations, free pizza with a chance to meet other international students then finished with a campus tour. It was pretty long but it helped in meeting other people, a lot of the people I met on this day remained close friends throughout the year.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Style of teaching, courses, ease of access to courses, methods of assessment, teaching support

I found the modules are a lot easier than at MBS as all the grades in the business school are curved so it is a lot easier to do well. The biggest difference from Manchester is that most professors grade you on participation in class so you have to attend every class. This being said the classes are a lot more informal and classes are a lot more discussion based. I liked how your final grade in classes is not heavily dependent on the final exams due to all the other smaller assignments throughout the term. Overall there is a lot more work to do each work but its pretty straight forward and a lot of what has already been covered at MBS. Another good point is in my first semester I only had classes Tuesday and Thursdays as schedules are a lot more flexible.

MBS INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT TEAM

Level of support, additional information that could have been useful

Always available via email whenever needed.

MBS SECOND YEAR MEETINGS

Any additional information that you feel could have been provided

More information on the visa process would be ideal, also having more information on the different accommodation options.

HOST INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Level of support, additional information that could be useful for future students

Kim Vaughn is located in the business school so she is always on hand when you need forms completed etc.

INSURANCE, HEALTH COVER

Please include any information relating to the purchase of compulsory health insurance ie. costs etc. or whether this was waived by having the University of Manchester Insurance Policy

The health insurance was waived, you just have to complete a form and email it back before a certain date.

INFORMATION ON ANY ADDITIONAL COSTS

This should be information on any extra fees that the University charged but should not include accommodation, books, transport, visa etc.

Around \$100 fee at the start of the year for the university.

Books in the US are a lot more expensive, be willing to pay around \$200 per book, and you have to buy them for most classes. There is also a lot of hidden fees for things particularly when travelling so just always add a little extra to budgets.

ACCOMMODATION

As much information as possible on what accommodation is recommended or not recommended.

Granville Towers is the better option for exchange students although it is mainly sorority and fraternity freshman it is the closest location to Franklin Street(bars and restaurants) and the food is a lot better than canteens on

campus. Other than this, if you can chose where to stay on campus the best option is Rams as it is so close the business school and more like halls in Manchester.

DESTINATION INFORMATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE

Transport, travel, social life, integration with local students, student activity groups

North Carolina in general is an ideal location, 5 hours drive from Washington DC, 8 hours from New York and the weather is relatively good all year. The college atmosphere and involvement in college spirit mainly due to the huge success of the basketball team. I went with no attachment to the university, now I love everything about it and will be a UNC fan for the rest of my life you can not help but get involved. It is the perfect location for the typical USA college experience!

DESCRIBE IN ONE SENTENCE YOUR YEAR ABROAD

A year living the American dream with the best people in the best place.

2013-2014

University Attended: UNC Chapel Hill / Kenan-Flagler Business School

FEEDBACK 1

INDUCTION/ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

What did this involve, how long did it last, was it useful?

There was a short introduction meeting for all exchange students as well as an introduction meeting exclusively for KFBS exchange students. We received information about things like choosing courses, and waiving your health insurance and there was a campus tour at the end.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Style of teaching, courses, ease of access to courses, methods of assessment, teaching support

The style of teaching at KFBS is very different to MBS – it's much more like high school. All but one of my courses had mandatory attendance and for most courses class attendance/participation counted towards the final grade. The teaching style is very hands on with many guest speakers and case studies. None of my finals have counted for more than 40 % of my final grade because you have to do lots of homework assignments, midterms and group work throughout the semester.

I highly recommend taking the following courses (if you are specialising in these subject areas): Advanced Spreadsheet Modelling (Travis Day), Negotiations (Jessica Christian) and Financial Reporting (Jana Raedy). Advanced Spreadsheet Modelling (Excel) was definitely the most useful course I've taken at KFBS because it teaches you something you can directly apply in your future job.

MBS INTERNATIONAL TEAM

Level of support, additional information that could have been useful

I think the MBS International Team was great. They were very easy to contact and always replied immediately whenever I needed something.

MBS SECOND YEAR MEETINGS

Any additional information that you feel could have been provided

I liked the meetings because they provided good background information about going on exchange. The meeting with the MBS students who went to KFBS the year before was really helpful as they provided good guidance about

housing and course choices.

HOST INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Level of support, additional information that could be useful for future students

The host international office was a bit slower to reply than MBS but nonetheless they were very friendly. Due to the UNC course choice system, exchange students aren't able to choose courses for the spring semester until all other students have chosen courses so many of them are filled up by the time you get to choose. However, Kim the exchange coordinator reserved me seats in all the classes I wanted to take so I would advise you to approach her at the end of the first semester and ask her to do the same for you.

INSURANCE, HEALTH COVER

Please include any information relating to the purchase of compulsory health insurance i.e. costs etc. or whether this was waived by having the University of Manchester Insurance Policy

UNC waived the health insurance because they accepted the UoM insurance policy. The whole process took more than 6 weeks so it's best to contact them early about this.

INFORMATION ON ANY ADDITIONAL COSTS AND FINANCIAL CERTIFICATION

This should be information on any extra fees that the University charged but should not include accommodation, books, transport, visa etc. Any information that you had to provide on financial certificate would be helpful.

Upon arrival at KFBS you have to pay a \$ 100 administration fee but you also get over a \$ 100 printing credit from the university.

ACCOMMODATION

As much information as possible on what accommodation is recommended or not recommended.

I lived in university accommodation since I didn't have time to search for private options. You can choose your dorm room through an online system that allows you to pick a specific room from a floor plan. For the first 3 months I lived in a shared room in Craige North but it wasn't for me. I contacted the housing office and moved to Ram Village fairly quickly after my moving request. Ram Village is on South campus, only 2 minutes from the Business School and one of two apartment style housing options at UNC. Most KFBS exchange students seem to live on South Campus because it's closer to the Business School than North Campus but it's also further away from Franklin Street and most older students live on North Campus.

DESTINATION INFORMATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE

Transport, travel, social life, integration with local students, student activity groups

I found it very easy to integrate with local students as there are very few international students at UNC compared to UoM and I was often the only non-American in my classes. I joined the UNC Handball Club at the beginning of the year and it was a great opportunity to meet American students and do a bit of travelling so I would very much recommend joining a UNC sports team.

I went to all home Football games and as many Basketball games as possible because the atmosphere / school spirit is just amazing – The whole city seems to get excited for any kind of major sports event (especially ones involving Duke or NC State).

Chapel Hill is a great travel location if you want to go down South to Charleston or Florida, but it's also only 4 hours away from Washington DC. It's worth checking out prices for buses and trains if you want to travel and have some time since they are a lot cheaper than flying. Spring break was definitely my most fun and relaxing holiday as we went on a cruise to the Caribbean for 7 days.

DESCRIBE IN ONE SENTENCE YOUR YEAR ABROAD

My year in the USA has gone by way too fast and I really enjoyed living in Chapel Hill, travelling around North America, going to Football games, rushing Franklin Street after UNC beat Duke, the warm weather – too many things to list!