

OUTGOING STUDENT FEEDBACK FORM – 2005/2006

Programme IMABS

University Attended
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

INDUCTION/ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

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

It lasted 3 or 4 days in total I think. One day devoted specifically to the IBEX program that I was on, with the other days being general international orientation. It was useful as it provided an opportunity to meet the other exchange students and ask questions to current students. Some of the sessions were good introductions to university life, however some were rather amusing, such as how to give a handshake, but the sessions were not all compulsory. They provided an itinerary of all the activities so you could choose which ones to attend.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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

Much more emphasis placed on student interaction in the classroom, with a percentage of your grade based on class participation. This was a good way of ensuring that students covered the material set for each class, as some professors would direct questions at certain students. I had full access to most courses provided so long as too many prerequisites were not required. The exchange students got first pick out of all the courses available and registration was handled on our behalf by the international office, which was very helpful. Assessment was generally based on class participation, individual assignments, group work, mid terms and finals. I think this division of assessment was beneficial, as it did not attribute most of your grade to your final exam, meaning that work was more constant throughout the year.

MBS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Level of support up to and throughout the year

Access to university information in the office was useful. Email reminders throughout the year were also helpful. Also enjoyed the dinner with Sue.

MBS SECOND YEAR MEETINGS

Any additional information that could have been useful

Cost of living, as I think I exceeded the estimation but I suppose that could have just been me. Information on the available courses may have been helpful, although I think they had already been chosen by the time of the meetings.

HOST INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

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

Very high. Emails, letters and faxes received once my place had been confirmed with regard to course choices, accommodation, health insurance

and vaccinations. They provided me with a buddy who had been in Manchester the previous term, who got in touch with me to answer any questions I might have had, which was useful. The international office organised events throughout the year for the exchange students, such as trips and seasonal lunches. Carmen and Julie were very friendly and helpful and encouraged you to stop by just to say hello.

ACCOMMODATION

Not the best. For some reason they decided to place half the exchange students in one of the nicest available halls in private studios, whereas the other half, including me and one of the other exchange students from Manchester were placed in the not so nice 26th street dorms. Personally I did not think they were too bad as we had single rooms and I had a great view of the empire state building from my window, but when you consider the price we were paying and compare them to the other dorms available, they were definitely not the best. All the exchange students were placed on the same floor, which was great in the first semester but not so great when they all left and I didn't know that many people.

DESTINATION INFORMATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE

Transport, travel, social life, integration with local students, student activity groups
Excellent experience overall. There was a free shuttle bus to the campus that ran quite frequently, although often quite crowded, especially in the mornings. However it was only a 25 minute walk so could be avoided. Plenty of opportunities for travel, especially during the holidays. I visited Niagara Falls, Washington DC, Boston, Philadelphia, Las Vegas and California. I recommend the China town buses that take you to nearby cities for as little as \$15. Endless possibilities for a social life as in the middle of New York, everything from sightseeing, shopping, clubs, music, comedy clubs, eating out and many more. I feel I made the most of my time there as did most things that I wanted to, which is probably why I spent so much money. My integration with local students was probably quite minimal as it was easier to mix with other international students, especially those in the same halls. I also did not join and clubs or groups, which probably would have made it easier to meet local students and I recommend.

DESCRIBE IN ONE SENTENCE YOUR YEAR ABROAD

Amazing once in a lifetime experience that I will never forget.