Study at an Ivy League institution on Exchange for a semester or a year!
I’m a business major at my home university and you want me to study where?

- That’s right! We want to welcome only the very best incoming exchange students to the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, which is located within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University.

- Since its inception in 1909, the Dyson School (formerly the Department of Applied Economics and Management) has earned a national and international reputation for its unique combination of quality and breadth in research, undergraduate and graduate education, extension, and outreach.

- As part of the nation's only Ivy League institution with a land grant heritage, the School has flourished and evolved over the last century with a mission to engage in "frontier research and innovative education/outreach that inform and foster the public stewardship and private management of businesses, organizations, livelihoods, and natural resources."
We’re highly selective.

- Our undergraduate program is among the largest and most selective majors on the Cornell campus and features 10 concentrations in both applied economics and management.
- The program is accredited by AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.
- Our graduates (about 220 per year) have a high placement rate and their starting salaries are considerably higher than the national average of business majors.
- The Dyson School’s undergraduate program is currently ranked #3 by *BusinessWeek* and #10 by *U.S. News and World Report*. 
Sounds great! Are there limitations?

- Enrollment in ALL classes in the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management (AEM) is very competitive.
- Full-time, degree-seeking Cornell students are always given priority.
  - The following courses have been very difficult (or impossible) in which to enroll: AEM 2000 Contemporary Controversies in the Global Economy; AEM 2200 Business Management and Organization; AEM 2410 Marketing Plan Development; AEM 2420 Marketing; AEM 2600/2601 Managerial Economics (full year sequence); AEM 3240 Finance; AEM 3340 Women, Leadership, and Entrepreneurship; AEM 3360 Intermediate Accounting I; AEM 3440 Consumer Behavior (or HADM 3347); AEM 4020/2021 Food and Brand Lab Workshop (full year sequence); AEM 4130 Business Strategy Research; AEM 4140 Behavioral Economics and Managerial Decisions; AEM 4190 Strategic Thinking; and AEM 4420 Emerging Markets.
  - The following upper-level courses are not available: AEM 2700 Management Communication; AEM 4000 Practitioner's Overview of Securities Markets and Investment Banking; AEM 4010 Commercial Bank Management; AEM 4060 Risk Simulation and Optimization; AEM 4200 Investment Management in the Global Economy; AEM 4210 Derivatives and Risk Management; AEM 4230 Contemporary Topics in Applied Finance; AEM 4260 Fixed Income Securities; AEM 4280 Valuation of Capital Investment; AEM 4290 International Finance; AEM 4570 Advanced Corporate Finance; and AEM 4620 Technology and Financial Markets.
That sounds scary. What are my options?

- Check all of the courses Dyson offers here: [http://dyson.cornell.edu/undergrad/courses.php](http://dyson.cornell.edu/undergrad/courses.php); fall 2014 courses [https://classes.cornell.edu/browse/roster/FA14/subject/AEM](https://classes.cornell.edu/browse/roster/FA14/subject/AEM)

- We encourage students to explore business-related courses offered by departments in other colleges/schools at Cornell, including Department of Economics (ECON), Policy Analysis & Management (PAM), Hotel Administration (HADM), and Johnson School of Management undergraduate courses (NBA).

- Don’t worry! Visiting exchange students have lots of options. Just remain flexible when choosing courses.
What can you tell me about Cornell and Ithaca, New York?

- We’re located in the Finger Lakes, a tourist destination in Upstate New York
- Top wine destination with over 100 wineries (plus brewing and distilling!)
- Agri-tourism
- Outdoor activities (skiing, snowboarding, sailing, golf, tennis, kayaking, hiking, etc.)
Ithaca, New York

• “Ithaca is Gorges!”
  • Refers to the 100+ gorges and waterfalls located within 10 miles of downtown
  • The largest, 215-foot Taughannock Falls (pronounced Tuh-GAN-ick), is three stories taller than Niagara Falls
  • Along with the falls, gorges and beautiful lakefront, the surrounding county offers access to 28,000 acres of public forestland for hiking, mountain biking and outdoor recreation

• Recognitions
  • “Smartest City” (Luminosity.com)
  • “#1 College town in the USA” (American Institute for Economic Research)
  • “The Most Secure Place to Live” (Farmers Insurance Group, one of the largest insurance groups in the country)
  • #8 of the Top Ten Places to Live (Kiplingers)
Ithaca, New York

- Residents
  - City of Ithaca: 60,000 (of which, 30,000 are students!)
  - Tompkins County (city, plus surrounding area): 102,000

- Main areas around campus
  - Collegetown
  - Downtown “The Commons”
  - Ithaca Mall & Triphammer Mall
Ithaca, New York

- **Ithaca Transportation**
  - Ithaca Airport: Direct flights to Detroit, Philadelphia and New York City
  - Good public bus system (TCAT)
  - Exchange students receive a free bus pass when they arrive
  - Car share program
  - Car rental for road trips

- **Top destinations for Exchange Students**
  - New York City - 4 - 5 hours by bus
    - *Over 8 departures per day with Greyhound, Shortline or Campus to Campus buses; 1 hour by plane*
  - Toronto, Canada – 4 hours
  - Montreal, Canada (French speaking) – 6 hours
  - Niagara Falls – 3 hours
  - Boston – 6 hours
  - Philadelphia – 4 hours
  - Washington DC – 6 hours
Live Music On & Off Campus
Big acts come to campus too!
(Phoenix, Arcade Fire, Passion Pit, Flaming Lips, etc.)

Collegetown Bagels: A Favorite Hang Out

Fine Dining in Collegetown

The Commons – Downtown
Many Independent Businesses & restaurants
Cornell’s Campus
"I would found an institution where any person can find instruction in any study."

Ezra Cornell, 1868

- Founded in 1865 by Ezra Cornell and Andrew Dickson White
- More than 100 years of excellence in teaching, research, and extension
- Both a private university and the land-grant institution of New York State, Cornell is the most educationally diverse member of the Ivy League
- More than 260 buildings on 745 acres
- Forty-one Nobel laureates have been affiliated with Cornell as faculty members or alumni
- Ithaca campus: 14,158 Undergraduates; 6,964 Graduate/professional
  - Every US state is represented
  - 19% international
- 1,564 Faculty; 8,081 Staff
One of 7 undergraduate colleges at Cornell

- Agriculture & Life Sciences (CALS) → The Dyson School is located within this college
- Architecture, Art & Planning
- Arts & Sciences
- Engineering
- Hotel Administration
- Human Ecology
- Industrial & Labor Relations

CALS is the second largest college at Cornell

- Over 3,500 undergraduate students, 21 majors, 28 minors, and 1,200 classes

CALS’ Academic Priority Areas

- Food & Energy Systems
- Environmental Science
- Economic & Community Vitality
- Life Sciences

CALS: Knowledge with a Public Purpose

Student-run organic farm host weekly farmer’s Market on campus
Semesters

- Two 14-week semesters per year: Fall and Spring
  - Fall: mid-August to mid-to-late December
  - Spring: mid-January to mid-to-late May

- Plus two shorter semesters: Winter and Summer
  - Exchange students cannot take winter or summer classes without paying tuition for them (~$1,000 per credit)
Classes

- Must enroll in a minimum of 12 credits (not including physical education)
  - Most courses are 3-4 credits each
  - Can take any physical education class too (choose from more than 100 per semester including dance, soccer, tennis, yoga, martial arts, sailing)
  - *We do not* recommend more than 15 credits unless your home university requires it
- Check to see what your home university requires you to take
- You may not take two classes that are scheduled at the same time
- Grading options
  - Letter; S-U (Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory); Some offer both, although some classes are only available as Letter OR S-U
# Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/U</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Grade Point Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>Excellent to very good: comprehensive knowledge and understanding of subject matter; marked perception and/or originality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Good: moderately broad knowledge and understanding of subject matter; noticeable perception and/or originality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Satisfactory: reasonable knowledge and understanding of subject matter; some perception and/or originality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Marginal: minimum of knowledge and understanding of subject matter; limited perception and/or originality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>Failing: unacceptably low level of knowledge and understanding of subject matter; severely limited perception and/or originality.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# General Percentage Equivalents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100 – 97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>96.9 – 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92.9 – 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89.9 – 87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86.9 – 83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>82.9 – 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79.9 – 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>76.9 – 73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>72.9 – 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>69.9 – 67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>66.9 – 63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>62.9 – 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Class Levels

1000: introductory course, no prerequisites, open to all qualified students
2000: lower-division course, open to freshmen and sophomores, may have prerequisites
3000: upper-division course, open to juniors and seniors, prerequisites
4000: upper-division course, open to seniors and graduate students, 200- and 300-level course prerequisites
5000: professional level (e.g. management, law, veterinary medicine)
6000: graduate-level course, open to upper-division students
7000: graduate-level course
8000: master's level, thesis, research
9000: doctoral level, thesis, research

Most exchange students take courses at the 3000 or 4000 levels—try to balance your course load so you don’t take ALL difficult courses!
CALS Exchange Program

- CALS has the largest exchange program on campus
- CALS exchange program is bigger, but still small!
- We welcome approximately 20-30 students per semester
- Dedicated international office to assist with your needs
- YOU enrich our classrooms and help us to recruit students to attend your home institution
Exchange Benefits

- **Buddy Program**
  - Paired up with previous exchange student to help answer questions before arrival & once on campus

- **Exchange Orientation Program in Fall & Spring**
  - Make friends and learn your way around before classes begin!

- **Free Bus Pass**

- **Career Development**
  - Mock interviews, prepare a resume for the US, etc.

- **Massive online library database**

- **Access to 17 on-campus libraries, some open 24 hrs/day**

- **Fitness centers (for a fee)**

- **Join clubs, fitness classes, sports, etc.**

- **Faculty advisor assigned to every exchange student**
Tips to Succeeding at Cornell

- Prepare yourself to be challenged
- “Shop” for the right classes during the first week of the semester—you can change your schedule around and make sure you’re happy
- Read each course syllabi
  - given at first day of class
  - be sure you understand class requirements (books, readings, assignments, etc.)
- Make sure you have the pre-requisite coursework
- Top tip from previous exchange students: Keep up with the reading each week as it is easy to fall behind
- Check office hours for Teaching Assistants or Professors, and take advantage of them if you need the help!
Getting Involved: Over 1000 Student Organizations & Clubs

- Absolute Zero Breakdance Club
- Dragon Boat Club
- German Club
- A capella groups
- Slope media
- Sports
- Music, Arts, Performance Groups
Housing Options

- On campus ([www.housing.cornell.edu](http://www.housing.cornell.edu))
  - West Campus House System
    - Largest community
    - Faculty-fellows; Dining plan required; Most expensive option
  - Program Houses (International Living Center, Ecohouse, Just about Music, etc.)
    - Smaller than West Campus System
  - Cooperatives
    - Smallest, most like European models
    - Shared kitchen, shared chores & cooking (pay a small fee to buy core food supplies)
    - Very popular with exchange students
  - Staying one semester? No problem, housing contract is cancelled after semester ends.

- Off campus options – many options, better selection for full-year leases

- Due to housing shortage in the fall, on-campus housing is usually only available in the spring. Students may need to live off-campus in the fall.
  - If you want to live on campus arrive in the spring!
Dining on Campus

- With more than 30 dining options on campus offering a huge variety of menu selections, you'll never have to worry about where to eat.
- You do not need a “meal plan” to dine on campus (you can pay by cash or credit card)
- Dining plans
  - From 7:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m. each day, there is always a Cornell Dining location open where you can use your meal plan benefits for a complete sit-down meal, a deli sandwich, sushi to go, or just a café latte between classes.
    - Traditional Meal Plans
    - West Campus House Meal Plans (required if you’re living on West)
    - Debit Meal Plans
Health Insurance Requirement

Beginning in the 2014–2015 academic year, all international students are required to purchase the Cornell University Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP). This requirement is intended to help safeguard the health and education of every international student at Cornell.

- Cost is ~ $1,100 USD per semester (2014-15)
- More information here: [http://www.studentinsurance.cornell.edu/](http://www.studentinsurance.cornell.edu/)
Application Guidelines

You should:

- Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of U.S. 3.0 on 4.0 scale (above average grades)
- Have completed at least 2 full-time semester of college/university-level studies
- Be proficient in the English language
  - TOEFL may be waived, talk with your international coordinator
- Be nominated by your home institution
Acceptance Process

- We will contact you or your home university if we have questions about your application.
- We will send you welcome letter by email first (April for Fall; October for Spring).
- You will receive original letter by mail. I-20 and other materials will be included. You can then apply for housing and the US visa.
We are an Interconnected Caring Community

- CALS Exchange Coordinator and Staff
- Academic Advisor
- International Students and Scholars Office
- CALS Student Services including career preparation such as resume and cover letter development, practice interviews, and more
- Counseling services
  - Gannett consultations 24/7
  - Walk-in “Let’s Talk” sessions
  - Peer networks
Questions?
What are you waiting for?
The Exchange Program, CALS, and Cornell University look forward to welcoming YOU in Ithaca, New York!