



### Personal Information

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**Degree Program at TAU: MBA**

**Host University: University of St. Gallen (HSG), Switzerland**

**Exchange term: 09/2016-11/2016 (11 weeks)**

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### Exchange Experience

The University of St. Gallen is located in a small, yet a charming city, in the north-east part of Switzerland. Staying at the heart of Europe, a train ride away from Germany, Austria, France and Italy, allows one to enjoy richness in culture, history and of course- nature.

The university is located on the hill side of the city, allowing you to enjoy an amazing mountain view during classes. The city of St. Gallen has student life and a well organized student body, which makes sure local and foreign students will have often events to visit. The university also operates a career center where you can get help adapting your CV and other relevant documents to the local market. Foreign students can enjoy sport services with no additional fee.

The International Study Program (ISP) is an intensive exchange semester for MBA graduates from all over the world. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to collaborate with Chinese, Indians, Mexicans, Brazilians, Canadians, Italians and many more. The program includes several mandatory classes and several optional classes regarding the business world, with a European perspective (moreover, you can take free German language classes, offered to foreign students). The international faculty had carefully selected a team of experienced professors who take an interactive teaching approach, ensuring the integration of the students with the material via group work and class work. They encourage self thinking as well as team spirit, class participation and of course- to come prepared for the class 😊 Some classes I particularly liked were European Corporate Governance and Global Managerial Communication as it allowed me to broaden knowledge in new learning areas.

In addition to the core curriculum, the ISP program is well invested, as it exposes its students to world-known dynamic companies. During the exchange semester we visited Roche, Nestle, Buhler, Siemens, the UN and others, spread all around Switzerland. It allowed better absorbance of class discussions as well as encouraged the bonding of the students.

Other useful information: Visa to Switzerland is not necessary, if you intend to stay not more than six months. The dorms are not very big, however located in different central areas of the city. According to your budget you can choose for instance between a studio apartment and a 3 students' apartment (bear in mind that Switzerland is one of the most expensive

countries in the world...). If you want to live in the dorms, you might be asked to present a health insurance, so make sure you have one before the departure. The transportation system is very convenient and efficient, in Switzerland in general, and is of course- very punctual. So be on time ☺ The Swiss people offer a European cuisine, and are big fans of cheese (fondue), potatoes (rusti) and of course- chocolate, probably the best you'll ever eat! Though I participated in the Fall semester, I HIGHLY recommend to take bring your warmest coat with and other winter necessities.

To sum up- HSG is an excellent university, considered one of the best business schools in Europe and in general. It offered not only a vibrant learning experience which brought theory and practice together, but also enriched me with cultural knowledge and allows me to explore beautiful Europe.



The Exchange group on graduation day ☺