Is the Student Exchange Program different than Study Abroad?

Yes! The Student Exchange Program (SEP) is an independent international experience. Unlike a traditional study abroad program where a student travels with a BYU professor and a group of BYU students, SEP is individual students immersing themselves with local and international students on a foreign campus for a semester independent of any BYU professor or other BYU students.

SEP is based on reciprocity and provides undergraduate business students with an opportunity to attend Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, a top business school in Hong Kong at minimal cost. One of the main benefits of SEP is that students have the opportunity to study at a foreign institution for the cost of studying at BYU and classes are taught in English! Students only need to pay BYU tuition. Approved classes transfer directly to BYU so students will not lose credit or academic momentum by participating in SEP for a semester. For a full list of classes visit the Whitmore Global Management Center in 360 Tanner Building. The only classes guaranteed to transfer are business courses.

Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Milton Friedman once described Hong Kong as the world’s greatest experiment with laissez-faire capitalism. Its track record, with its GDP growing 180 times over and its GDP per-capita growing 87 times over between 1961 and 1997, proves that Hong Kong’s low taxation and free trade as a policy of positive non-interventionism has served it well. One of the four Asian Tigers, Hong Kong has one of the greatest concentrations of corporate headquarters in the Asia-Pacific region. Additionally, Hong Kong is the largest center of initial public offerings in the world, successfully raising 22 percent of the world’s IPO capital on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

Hong Kong is known as the place where East meets West, reflecting the mix established by more than a century of British colonial control on traditional Chinese culture. As a result Hong Kong has a highly modernized way of life that rates in the top ten countries in terms of broadband penetration, yet traditions such as Ba gua mirrors are commonly found to ward off evil spirits. From the nightlife of Lan Kwai Fong to hiking the hills of the New Territories, to taking part in Chinese festivals, Hong Kong provides an exciting mix of activities.
HKUST

QS World University Rankings ranked HKUST No. 40, world’s top 200 Universities (2011) and 1st in Asia in 2011/2012. Likewise, its business program is one of the top rated in the world, its MBA program ranked No. 10, Global MBA Rankings (2012). HKUST’s world class faculty complements such international recognition; all hold PhD degrees from renowned universities across the world. Most senior faculty members have taught in leading international research universities or worked in major industrial laboratories. With one of the largest school level Exchange Programs in Asia, HKUST is a great place for students to gain international experience in a multicultural environment with global perspectives.

Program Details

- A broad spectrum of business classes are offered.
- Many courses feature learning experiences designed to actively involve students with the people, history, arts, attitudes, and traditions of China.
- Many courses will count for Marriott School courses and toward the Global Management Certificate.
- While studying in Hong Kong, an important part of students’ educational experience will include visiting sites near Hong Kong.
- Visits to cultural sites and other field trips such as museums, cathedrals, monuments, and theaters will enhance students’ study and increase appreciation and understanding of the Chinese culture.

Prerequisites and Course Requirements

- Courses are available in both English and Cantonese.
- Many courses are transferable to the Marriott School.
- Students must complete at least nine credit hours to maintain full-time student status.
- All courses must be pre-approved before the trip by the Marriott School’s Whitmore Global Management Center.
- For a tentative list of courses available at HKUST, please visit the GMC (360 TNRB).

Where do Students Live?

- Students are responsible for making their own housing arrangements.
- Students may live in on campus housing.
- Students may live off campus in an apartment.
- Students may live with a host family.

Preparation for Student Exchange

All students are expected to register through ISP for a one credit, pre-departure preparation class that will be held one night a week during the 2nd Block. Contact Laura Ricks (360 TNRB) for more information.

What Funding Sources are Available?

- Regular BYU tuition scholarships, Pell grants, and Federal Insured Student Loans may be applied to Student Exchange Programs.
- Students who submit the financial aid section of the International Study Programs (ISP) application and who have a current FAFSA form on file at the Financial Aid office, will be considered for a SEP scholarship awarded through the Kennedy Center.
- Private grants and scholarships outside of BYU may assist: kennedy.byu.edu/student/scholarships.php.

Application Process

- Complete the online application at kennedy.byu.edu/isp/.
- Application deadline: 11 October 2013 (winter), 21 February 2014 (fall)
- Applicants should email ibcareer@byu.edu when application is finished to set up an interview.
- Students from all majors on campus may apply; however, preference is given to business majors and minors.
- ISP and the GMC reserve the right to cancel this program, revise its offerings, or make any adjustments to the preliminary cost estimates due to conditions beyond its control.

How Much Does This SEP Cost?

Students need to pay the $25 ISP application fee. After acceptance into the program, students will be expected to pay a $325 program fee. The fee includes HTH Worldwide health insurance which is mandatory for all students leaving campus. Students will be exempt from HKUST tuition, but will still need to pay regular BYU tuition. BYU tuition payment plans and scholarships are still applicable.

Students will be responsible for their airfare to and from Hong Kong, visa fees, ground transportation, accommodations, meals, and any other educational and personal expenses incurred during the program.

Pick your future. Pack your bags.
gmc.byu.edu/exchange