

# SEP Report

## 1. Student Information

Faculty/Major	Science/Quantitative Finance
Host University	University of Florida
NUS Semester and Year of Exchange (eg. AY14/15 Semester 1)	AY15/16 Semester 1

## 2. Study at Host University

Please provide information on the academics at your host university:

- Studying or learning culture at your host university. How were classes conducted?
- What did you like most or dislike most about the academics at your host University?
- Advice on module registration and module mapping

Classes are mostly conducted in classrooms, and lecturers love to encourage participation from students in terms of voicing out ideas and answering questions.

I like that the exams are non-cumulative, which means that I do not have a huge amount of content to study for finals.

Being an exchange student, the school system may not allow registration for certain modules with pre-requisites. Students should decide early on which modules they want to take, and email the respective module coordinator their NUS transcript showing that they have met the pre-requisites. This is to avoid being unable to register for those modules during module registration.

Please list the courses that you took during SEP. (Please take note that the list of modules available to exchange students at the host university are subject to change. This table merely serves as reference.)

Host University			NUS Equivalent		
Module code	Course title	ECTS Credit	Module code	Course title	Modular credit
AST1002	Discover the Universe	3	GXK1500	General Education Module (sep)	4
STA4183	Theory of Interest	3	MA4269	Mathematical Finance II	4
MAP2302	Elementary Differential Equation	3	MA3220	Ordinary Differential Equations	4
ECO4400	Game Theory and Applications	4	MA4262	Game Theory	4

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## 2. Accommodation

**What kind of accommodation did you stay in during your exchange (eg. on campus / off campus)? Would you recommend this accommodation to future outgoing students? Do you have any other suggestions?**

I stayed on campus and would recommend the accommodation for its proximity to school facilities. This is especially so for students who don't drive as the frequency of the public buses there is low.

## 3. Activities during SEP

**Were there any activities organized by school/student group/external organizations at your host university which you would like to recommend to other students?**

There is a weekly movie night called Gators Night on Friday, where there will be movie screenings, game booths and free food.

## 4. Cost of Living

**Please provide an estimation of how much money you spent during your SEP?  
Please list travel expenses separately.**

Airfare: \$2000  
Accommodation: \$4000  
Insurance: \$300  
Visa: \$400  
Food: \$1600  
Miscellaneous: \$200  
Travel Expenses: \$3000

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## 5. Challenges

**Did you face any challenging issues during your SEP stint? How did you overcome it/them?**

Americans could not understand my accent so I had to learn to speak in an accent which they could understand.

As it was hard getting around town, I would try to buy groceries for 2 weeks each time I went to the supermarket so that I did not need to go there as often.

## 6. Overall SEP Experience

**Please write one paragraph about your exchange experience and attach some photos that represent your exchange experience.**

I had a great time in the States. I love that my school has weekly movie nights where I get to relax and enjoy a movie. America is a huge country, where you can get to see natural landscapes and get close to wildlife. I went to a wildlife zoo in Texas and it was my first time getting so close to animals such as giraffes and deer, and the experience was amazing. When I went to New York City, I watched a Broadway musical. Although I couldn't appreciate it, it is such a popular activity in the city that I recommend anyone who is going to the States to try it at least once. This is a country with great history, from the Declaration of Independence, to civil war, world wars, and the civil rights movement. It is worth paying a visit to cities like Philadelphia, New Orleans and Atlanta where one can get to learn more about significant events that happened in the States. I particularly liked the World War 2 Museum in New Orleans and the Martin Luther King Jr Museum in Atlanta. They were very informative and gave me great insights into those events that happened in the States. When I was in New York City, I also went to the 911 Museum. It was a solemn place, a place to reflect on loving the people around us and understanding the dangers in the world that we live in. Since the States is a land of fast food, with global brands like McDonalds, Texas Chicken and Popeye's having been founded here, one of the most enjoyable things during my exchange was visiting these fast food outlets and trying items on their menu that couldn't be found in Singapore. The food was really great and I loved it. All in all, I had a wonderful experience during my SEP.

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## 7. Suggestions for future outgoing students

**Please share any other suggestions for future outgoing students.**

Put less stress on academics, keep an open mind, and focus more on making new friends, learning about the culture of the place, and exploring its cities.