International Students Exchange Session

S. A. Meguid

For Global Reach!
Welcome to ISE Session!
A Special Thank You!

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Our Vision of ISE
Exchange Pathway
Partner Universities
Mapping of Courses
Cost of studying abroad
Myth Buster
Presentations/Input by Dave Scott, Alexandre Caron and Rachel Baker
Q & A
Conclusions
Foster and Encourage Personal Renewal by:

• Developing the skills necessary to integrate and fit in new environments, and being attentive, respectful and appreciative of others

• Embracing and respecting the diversity of other cultures, respecting their common values and traditions,

• Facilitating global educational, research and professional experience, and

• Developing greater personal independence and confidence in managing own affairs.
Why You Should Study Abroad?

• It is not about achieving high grades.
• It is about:
  • Fitting in a new teaching environment.
  • Joining a new culture.
  • Making new friends.
  • Embracing the diversity experienced in your newly adopted society.
  • Respecting its values and traditions.
  • Tolerance and acceptance of any perceived unusual social/religious customs/practices.
Impact of Studying Abroad

- Facilitate daily contact with the natives.
- Helps you to develop the skills to integrate and fit in a new environment.
- Helps you to embrace and respect the diversity of your newly adopted culture.
- Respecting its common values and traditions
- Develop the skills for small talk to help you develop new friendships.
- Manage your finances and time.
- Develop the skills for conflict resolution.
Current MIE Partner Universities

- Lund University
- University of Vienna
- ETH-Swiss Federal Institute of Technology
- University of Stuttgart
- Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Fudan University
- HK University Science & Technology
- Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- Tsinghua University
- Peking University
- SCUT and Shanghai University
- Keio University
- Kyoto University
- Nagoya University
- University of Tokyo
- Korean Advanced Institute of Science & Technology
- National University of Singapore
- Nanyang Tech University
Student Exchange Pathway

1. Complete course authorization form and study plan.
2. Complete:
   - Examine List of Partners
   - Cover letter
   - Statement of Purpose
   - Study plan
   - Transcript
   - Financial Statement
3. Apply to program
4. Student meets with Exchange Advisor (CIE/Carla/David)
   - Discuss possible challenges, get clarification about staying abroad
   - Forms and other documents returned to ISC and host university
5. Begin planning for move
   - Accommodation arrangement
   - Travel insurance
   - Visa, Finance
Forms to be Completed

- Course Authorization Form for Engineering Students
- Study Plan for Degree Completion upon Return from Exchange Form
- MIE International Exchange Scholarship Application
ISE Requirements

• Satisfy host and home institutions’ requirements.
• Satisfy host country entry requirements.
• When applying for a student visa, a **number of countries** may demand documentary proof of your **financial status and health insurance as well as medical examination**.
• When approving a student’s application for exchange, consideration is also given to his/her character and ability to be a good ambassador for MIE/UofT.
• MIE/UofT will help you with the mapping of your courses.
• MIE will help you to ensure that you complete your degree on time.
• Selection of equivalent courses is carried out by the student in collaboration with UGC.

• Equivalence of syllabi of overseas courses and MIE courses in terms of content, contact hours and assessment is necessary.

• MIE has a list of approved courses delivered by our partner universities.

• Design courses are tricky because they should be taught by PEng.
Cost of Studying Abroad?

https://www.gooverseas.com/blog/how-much-does-it-cost-to-study-abroad
Is it costly to study abroad?

It is more costly **NOT** to study abroad
# Examples of Cost of Studying Abroad

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Meals</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>$8 - inexpensive meal (fast food)</td>
<td>$15 - meal at a mid-range restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>$67 - average weekly grocery bill</td>
<td>$60 - average weekly grocery bill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>$200 - $250 per month</td>
<td>$300 - $500 per month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Monthly rent</th>
<th>Utilities</th>
<th>Cell phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>$150 - $200 per month</td>
<td>$40 - $70 per month</td>
<td>$10 - $15 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>$300 - $500 for a one-bedroom apartment</td>
<td>$50 - $80 per month</td>
<td>$50 - $100 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>$100 - $200 per month</td>
<td>$30 - $50 per month</td>
<td>$30 - $50 per month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Local transportation</th>
<th>Personal expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Monthly pass: $60</td>
<td>Pair of jeans: $80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Monthly pass: $40</td>
<td>Beer at a pub: $4.50 (beer is cheaper)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Monthly pass: $15</td>
<td>Pair of jeans: $90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>$800 - $1600 per month</td>
<td>$6000 - $12000 for one semester in Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>$700 - $1400 per month</td>
<td>$4200 - $8400 for one semester in France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>$600 - $1200 per month</td>
<td>$3600 - $7200 for one semester in China</td>
</tr>
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<td>Australia</td>
<td>$12 - inexpensive meal</td>
<td>$20 - meal at a mid-range restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>$60 - average weekly grocery bill</td>
<td>$46 - average weekly grocery bill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>$250 - $300 per month</td>
<td>$50 - $70 per month</td>
<td>$10 - $15 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>$250 - $300 per month</td>
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<td>$700 - $1200 per month</td>
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Financial Planning

• Plan Ahead.
• Know your Resources.
• Budget Wisely and Stick to it!
• Research all your costs (including currency exchange).
Cutting the Cost of Studying Abroad

1. Rethink How You Book Flights
Airfare prices become very expensive as flight dates approach, yet students habitually reserve flights close to departure.

2. Leave Your Old Credit Card At Home
Most credit cards will charge customers a foreign exchange fee (1-3%) on every transaction overseas. If you plan to live in a foreign country for 6 months, this expense can become very substantial.

3. Get International Student Status
Full-time student should get another piece of plastic called. “International Student Identity Card” issued in over 130 countries, gives cardholders discounts on any product, and services.

4. Apply For Funding
With thousands of international and domestic organizations dedicated to funding student travel, every student can find a scholarship, loan, grant or fellowship relevant to their needs.
• This annual international exchange scholarship is open for undergraduate students from MIE.

• Applicant must enjoy good academic standing.

• The scholarship is for up to $2,000 maximum, and is for one time only. Typically, $1,500 for one semester and $2,000 or two.

• Interested applicants must complete a scholarship application - together with a letter of approval from the host institute with a detailed program of studies - showing the need for the funds.
 Myth Buster!

- Delay my graduation. Definitely, Not- But!
- Financial difficulties. Yes, if you do not plan.
- Communication problems. Attend language classes.
- So many unknowns. You are an Engineering Student!
- What will I gain? Personal Renewal!
- What if I fail? Do Not Come Back!
- How about my job opportunities? Truly, Much Greater.
I’m Lost!

Where do I get helpful information?

1. MIE’s website.  
   http://www.mie.utoronto.ca/undergrad/exchange/
2. Carla, MIE’s Undergraduate Office.
3. David, Undergrad and Postgrad Coordinator
5. Past Exchange Students.
6. Exchange_Officer@mie.utoronto.ca
Wonderful World: Charm and Beauty!
Conclusions

• We hope that you will put some thoughts into what I have shared with you today,

• Advance your education by studying in an environment entirely different from your current environment outside your comfort zone,

• Gain truly meaningful cultural and linguistic knowledge, learn a great deal about yourself and gain confidence, knowledge and wisdom, and

• Forge further international goodwill among human beings.
THANK YOU!