Arts and Social Sciences

Université de Montréal

09/2015

Political Science/French

Canada

04/2016

$1400

$400

Canadian

N/A

N/A

You can either take the bus or a taxi from the airport to the host university.

Montréal – Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport

I did not attend the orientation session myself, but I heard from other exchange students that the orientation was fun and informative.

I would not recommend the university dormitory to future exchange students.

$382.00

It is a 15 minute walk from the main campus

There is no general internet access in the dormitories, but I bought myself a router and connected it to the main internet access available. In addition, there is a phone (landline) in every studio in the dormitories, but I did not use it; I used my cellphone.

I paid the first month's rent with my credit card before I arrived.

Off-campus housing that is close to the Universiy of Montreal is very accessible and, in fact, I would recommend off-campus housing anyday compared to living in residence. I have many friends that I met on exchange that found off-campus living arrangements for as low as $200 compared to the $382 that they charge in the residences. In addition, they had a lot more space and had more strategic living locations- closer to downtown Montreal. The residences are a bit far from everything and the Metro closes early. In addition, they had access to their own kitchen and washing/drying

$800

The residence at the University of Montreal is okay, but I would definitely recommend living off campus during an exchange.

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Since I completed my exchange in Quebec, they have the exact same banks as BC and opening a new bank account wasn't necessary.

Currency and methods of payment in Quebec are the exact same as in BC.

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It is the exact same as in BC.

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On the day of my arrival, I had to meet with an exchange advisor in person in a computer lab and he went through the process of enrolling in courses and, once I had selected the courses that I wanted to take for both trimesters, I met with another academic advisor and she officially enrolled me in courses.

Political Science

French

Only English language courses are available.

The manner and quality of instruction at the Université de Montréal is very similar to the one at Simon Fraser University. The courses are worth the same numer of credits and almost all lectures are either two or three hours long. However, tutorials are a little bit less common because most lectures tend to be three hours long. In addition, the grading scale at the Université de Montréal is easier than the one at Simon Fraser University, which means that it's a bit easier to get higher grades. Lastly, the big difference that I saw was that a lot of upper level midterms and final exams at the Université de Montréal are take-home. I haven't had any take-home exams at SFU yet.

Because I was able to take all of my courses in French at the Université de Montréal, I was able to greatly improve my written french. In addition, I was able to take a wide variety of Political Science courses that aren't offered at SFU; therefore, I feel like I enriched my academic knowledge in the field. Furthermore, I was exposed to a different way of thinking. Studying in the East coast of Canada and more specifically in a francophone province, I was able to experience how Canadians in different parts of the country think and learn what is politically important to them.

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