

Experiencing Life in Bocconi on Exchange

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Beedie School of Business › Finance
Study Abroad › Exchange

Program: Study Abroad › Exchange
University: Bocconi University
Location: Milan, Italy
Experience Faculty: Beedie School of Business › Finance

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from Italy. SFU provided two choices in Italy, that being Rome and Milan. I decided on Milan due to its central location and prestigious school.

Financial Preparation

Prepping financially I looked on Numbeo for the cost of living, searched up apartments for rent in Milan and how much transportation would be. This provided me a base cost of approximately \$2000 a month. Then I added other expenditures such as a budget for going out, travelling and shopping. Overall a budget of \$3000 a month will be sufficient.

Packing

Regarding packing I left for Milan in January and returned in June. This made it tough to pack as the weather changed drastically from my arrival to departure. Milan is similar to Vancouver in the winter and gets quite warm in the spring/summer. I would pack for all seasons to be prepared. Other things to consider are an outlet adapter, a power charger, a backpack for weekend travels, school supplies, and carry toiletries.

Travel and Transportation

Travel cost around \$1500. and Transportation in Milan is quite inexpensive. A monthly metro pass is 20 euros or 30 CAD, that includes tram, subway and bus.

Preparation Tips for Future Students

Getting prepared for abroad was an overwhelming experience. There was so much to do and a lot of uncertainty. A few tips that would have been useful prior to going abroad would be finding housing accommodation and getting your student Visa from the Italian consulate. Getting your Visa can be frustrating, go to the Vancouver consulate student visa requirements to ensure you show up with all the paperwork. But you will need a round trip flight booked and housing accommodation. If you do not get into the dorm (Aparito) book an Airbnb for 2 weeks with a free cancellation policy.

Wrap Up

Overall, exchange can be a challenging time. It is a lot of work and planning just to get there. Then once you are in Milan, you are in a foreign city with no friends or family. But facing adversity is a part of the experience. You will create lifelong friends and have memories that will last a lifetime. When you push yourself outside of your comfort zone there is so much to experience. To give a few tips for upcoming exchange students, go to every event held by ESN Bocconi during the first 2 weeks, and travel as much as you can. But do not skip a lot your classes Bocconi requires you attend a minimum 80% of class to take the midterm and final exam.

Reflection & Tips

Reflection

Reflecting back on my experience I would love to do it again. Tips I would provide our go to all your classes, go to every social, travel with friends as much as possible and immerse yourself into the Italian culture.

Most Valuable Aspects of This Experience

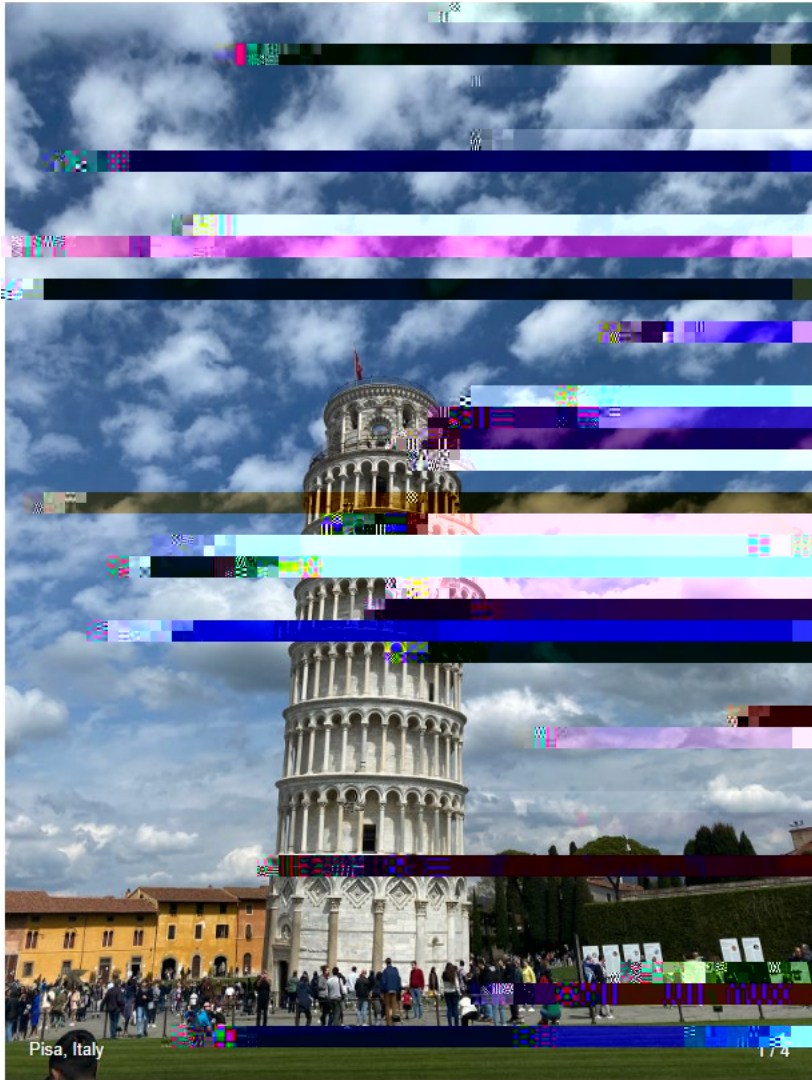
The most valuable aspect is pushing yourself outside of your comfort zone and facing adversity. You will become more confident, well rounded and willing to take more risks in the future.

Connection to Academic Studies or Career Goals

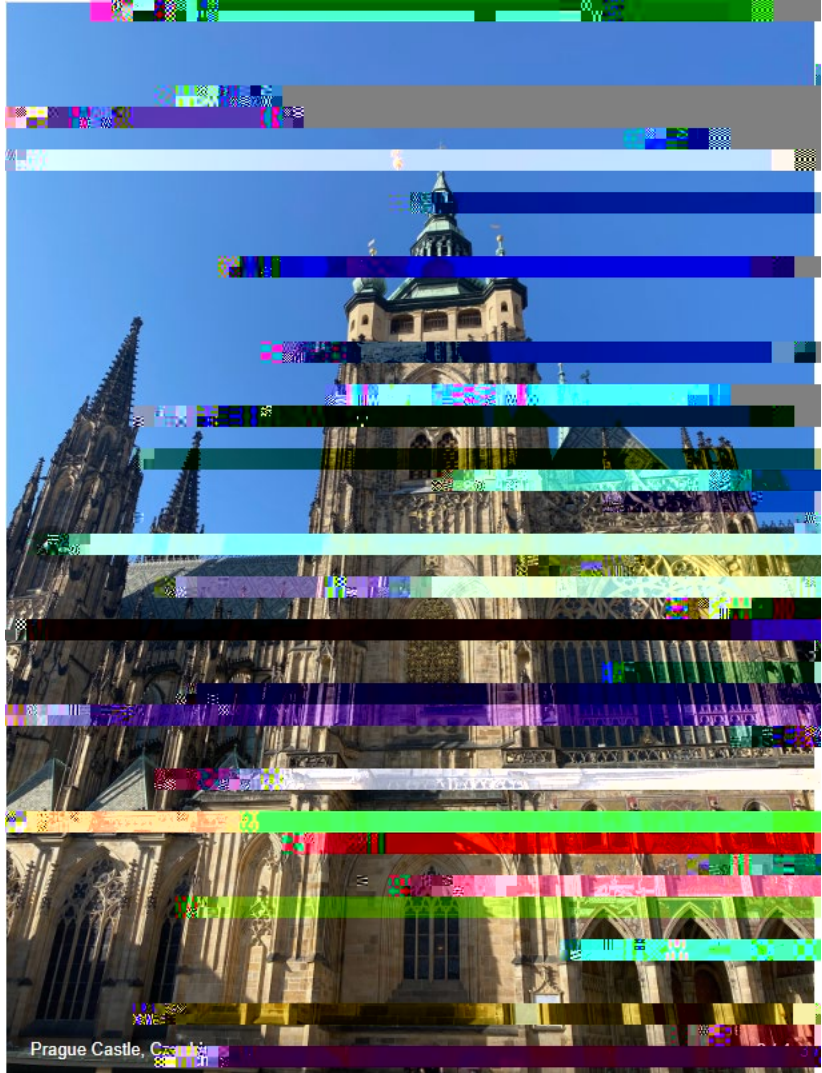
Bocconi is one of the top business schools in Europe. Their exams are quite difficult but you will learn a lot. I loved attending my classes. I studied International finance, Derivatives and entrepreneurship in the fashion industry. Studying international business abroad is one of the best ways to truly learn international business. Likewise, studying fashion in Milan, there is no better place, after all it is the fashion capitol of the world.

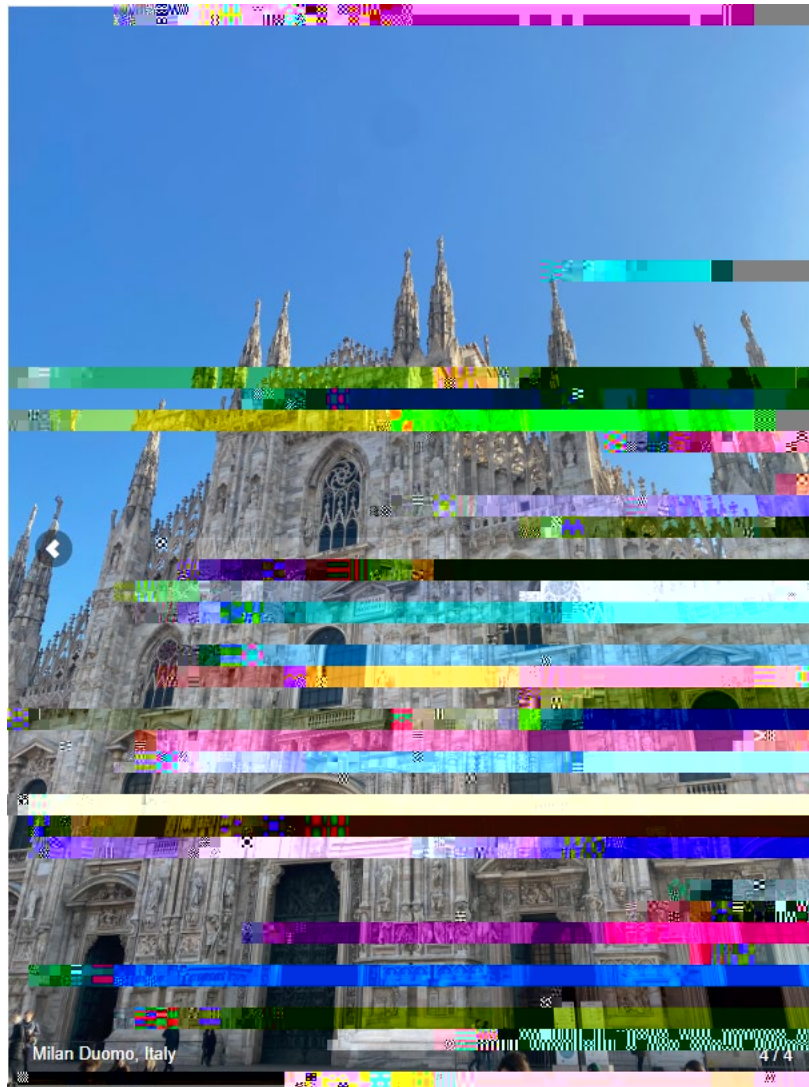
Advice for Future Students

My overall advice would be push yourself outside your comfort zone, travel a lot, go to as many socials as possible and immerse yourself in their culture.









Milan Duomo, Italy