

Dear future Marshall Plan students and fellows,

In the following report I'm going to give you some information and advice about my MPS study exchange semester at NYU Tandon School of Engineering in New York City.

I studied at NYU from January 23 until May 31 2016 in the graduate (master's) program Integrated Digital Media. While the main campus of NYU is located in Manhattan (Washington Square Park) the Tandon School of Engineering has its space inside the MetroTech Center in Downtown Brooklyn.

My general impression of the research stay abroad:

Honestly I have to admit that studying and living a semester in New York City was the best decision I made during my whole time as a student because living in NYC is so exciting, inspiring and impressive every single day. I don't know what exactly it was but the city made me extremely productive and motivated to accomplish things in my work.

Even though I was not required to take a class during my stay I enrolled for the class "MS Thesis in Digital Media" which is the final thesis course. This helped me a lot throughout the semester because it forced me to work on my project regularly, enabled me to exchange information about my progress with fellow students and I got feedback from the professors which helped me to improve my work constantly. The only thing that was "not so cool" was that I had to pay around 4,500 USD in tuition fees for this one course. The course had 3 credits, 1,500 USD per credit. But still, in my opinion it was totally worth it because I was integrated in the student life at NYU – an invaluable experience for a lifetime.

Throughout the semester I was able to make many new connections as there were a lot of talks by industry people at NYU and we got invited to meet-ups at leading companies like Microsoft or Spotify.

Quality of the host institution

NYU is the largest private university in the United States. Everything is very professional and the learning environment was perfect in my opinion. As I mentioned above, I spent most of the time at the campus in Brooklyn which contains the MAGNET (NYU Media and Games Network) – a space where students of the program Integrated Digital Media have their classes. Inside MAGNET graduate students have access to the grad lab – a room where graduate students can work on their thesis projects which is perfectly equipped with the latest Apple Thunderbolt displays and Mac Minis (if needed). The whole infrastructure of NYU is really extraordinary. There was also a gym on campus and a huge kitchen with FREE Starbucks coffee. It is simply a paradise for engineering students. The thesis course by De Angela Duff was very professional and I learned a lot from her. She was an excellent teacher who constantly motivated us students to do our best.

Contacts within the host institution:

Mrs. De Angela L. Duff
Co-Director / Industry Associate Professor
Integrated Digital Media / NYU School of Engineering
MAGNET (NYU Media and Games Network)
2 MetroTech Center, Rm 882
Brooklyn, NY 11201
deangela.duff@nyu.edu | 646-997-0718 (office) | <http://bxmc.poly.edu>

Recommendations for future Marshall Plan students and fellows:

New York City has so much to offer, see a lot, live in different areas, work hard, make as many contacts as you can, go to as many meet-ups as you can, enjoy the city as hard as you can. Don't hesitate to contact companies for your future career.

And my biggest recommendation:

Apply for a Marshall Plan scholarship. This really can be a life-changer. It's not that common and easy to get the chance to study abroad supported by a scholarship – so go for it!

For any questions I'm glad to help you out:

Stefan Kaltenegger
office@stefankaltenegger.com
www.stefankaltenegger.com

