

Why I Want to Join the Undergraduate Study Abroad Program

I entered University of International Business and Economics in Beijing in September 2010, and majored in finance. Studying industriously, I won the third grade scholarship in 2010 and the first grade scholarship in 2011. I also gained the honor of the university's outstanding student for my excellent performance in both academic studies and extracurricular activities.

After I graduate from University of International Business and Economics, I plan to go to American for the postgraduate study. I wish to pursue a more analytical and focused course of study in finance than MBA Program, but I also prefer a shorter and more industry-oriented experience than the Doctoral Program. So the Master of Science in Financial Economics in Columbia Business School is my ideal program.

As for my career management, I wish to do analytical jobs with potential employers such as investment and commercial banks, asset management companies, consulting firms, and policy-oriented organizations. Since globalization is the world trend, especially in finance, I may work in America or other foreign countries. Coming back to China is not my only choice, and I want to try more possibilities.

I want to join the undergraduate study abroad program and have applied for one semester's exchange at Columbia University. Studying at Columbia for the next semester suits my academic and personal goals for three reasons. The precious experience at Columbia will give me a chance to receive the top undergraduate education on my academic major from a different perspective, improve my job and career management, and help me to blend into American culture and society.

First, studying at Columbia will give me a chance to learn about economics in American perspective, which can not only expand my view and deepen my understanding about economics but also give me an essential preparation for my further study in American. The goal of the economics program at Columbia is to train students to think analytically about social issues, and as such provide a solid foundation for my further study and careers in finance. What's more, the Columbia faculty in economics continue a distinguished tradition of research in a wide range of fields, from pure theory to applied subjects. I can benefit a lot studying with these outstanding faculty members who have achieved major distinctions for their work.

Second, studying at Columbia will improve my job and career management. America has the world's most mature financial market and New York, where Columbia locates, is the world financial center undisputedly. Almost all the world's leading financial institutions assemble on Wall Street, and Wall Street practitioners supplement Columbia's curriculum with their insight drawn from the practical world of finance. There is no doubt that Columbia provides the best financial atmosphere in the world,

and I can definitely enlarge my knowledge about the industry from what I see, what I hear and what I feel at Columbia. Then I may become much clearer about my future career management.

Finally, studying at Columbia will help me to blend into American culture and society. I will be in a totally new environment for the whole semester at Columbia and take courses together with students who boast varied business backgrounds, an array of nationalities, interests, and talents, and strong academic credentials. Getting along with these students at Columbia will help me understand American culture as well as build an international vision. Besides, the city of New York itself is a mirror of American culture, and so living in the city will give me an insight into American society. As I mentioned above, globalization is the world trend and I may begin my career in America. Getting used to the life there when I am an undergraduate will make it much easier for me.

For all the reasons above, I want to join the Undergraduate Study Abroad Program sincerely.