

MARINA

Toronto, Ontario

Specialist in Finance & Economics, Class of 2017

Why did I choose Rotman Commerce? I chose Rotman for both what it offered in the classroom and outside of it as well. Both of these aspects are both equally important during your university experience. In the classroom, Rotman challenges you to think in ways you may not have before, which is incredibly important in order to enhance your knowledge and capabilities. Outside of the classroom, the University of Toronto community is a unique one. You'll find an array of opportunities, both related to your field of study and outside of it. The university really offers you the chance to be open minded, and allows you to explore through opportunities that you may not find elsewhere. For example, the school has a Quidditch team! Also, everything you need is in Toronto, a few steps away from campus.

What do I do outside of class? Outside of the classroom, I'm part of a student run investment fund called Rational Capital Investment Fund. Though it's important to explore outside your field of study, I think that this organization is the perfect opportunity to get hands-on experience that you may not get until later years during your university career. I've also been sailing competitively with a sailing club in Toronto since high school, and I occasionally volunteer as an instructor. In the winter time, I am a snowboarding instructor at a local hill for the City of Toronto.

What is my advice to incoming students? Don't underestimate your courses (like I did during my first ECO100 term test), and don't spend too much time overthinking it. While your performance in your classes is important, your university experience is also made up of what you do outside the classroom. Learning as much as you can and shaping your personality happens both in the classroom and outside of it. Also, the only thing as annoying as rush hour traffic is trying to get a cubicle at a library like Robarts after classes. I highly recommend looking for those small little places hidden on campus that are always quiet. My favourite places are the Rotman School of Management south building, Knox College, and Graham library.



My highlight at Rotman Commerce has been placing second in an investment competition during my first year of university. I was surprised and very excited because it wasn't something that I would have expected to happen. Though I performed well, I didn't think I had a chance against upper-years who had taken more advanced courses. Never underestimate your capabilities! I always continue to surprise myself.

