



**VOLUME OF
CITYU**



Year 2019

**CityU/Columbia University
Joint Bachelors Degree Program**

ADMISSION-PEDIA

English Version

JIANGTIAN (Joey) HOU

YIJIE FANG WENDA LI
QIMENG SHI ZHENFENG TU
HANYI WANG

Editorial Board

(All members of the Editorial Board are students of the CityU/Columbia University Joint Bachelors Degree Program.)

Chief Editor Jiangtian Hou

Editors Yijie Fang Wenda Li
 Qimeng Shi Zhenfeng Tu
 Hanyi Wang

Layout Design Jiangtian Hou

Illustrator Jiangtian Hou

Proofreading Jiangtian Hou

Special Thanks College of Business, City University of Hong Kong

We hereby authorize City University of Hong Kong to provide this handbook to any interested students.

Editorial Board, January 2020

Preface

Months after admitting to Columbia University, I can still vividly remember the morning in March; I, who normally wake up at 8 am, unaccountably woke up at 5:30 am. Turning on the charging phone, I saw an unread email notification shown on the screen. The sender of this email was Columbia University. I was very excited to receive this email which I had been waiting for several months. Laying on my bed, I withstood my anxiety and opened the notification which would determine my future. “Congratulations,” a word among the speech of joy and welcome came into my eyes. At that moment, a strong sense of happiness eased my tension. I immediately fell off my bed and could not hold back telling this exciting news to my family, classmates, and everyone around me.

As a student majoring in Computational Finance which has only been established for two years, I knew that being the first one in my major to study at Columbia University was an honor and also a kind of responsibility. Behind the honor, it was the great help from professors of College of Business (CB) in City University of Hong Kong (CityU) and my own industriousness for a period of time; Responsibility represented the requirement of consistent progress to myself, and the mission for blazing a trail for my peer in the same major and accumulating experiences. It reminded me that when I enrolled in CityU, I received the enrolment guideline, ‘CityU-pedia’, from CityU seniors. The preparation and detailed information stated in this guideline warmed my heart and helped me a lot before kicking off my U-life. It also reminded me of the time before admitting at Columbia University. Although I have received the caring guidance from the Global Engagement Office (GEO) and College of Business (CB) of CityU, as the first student from Computational Finance major who was possible to join this Program, I still had to face my worries without advice from my peer.

Thus, to help interested students, who are preparing for this Program or want to get ready and know more about it, to approach to the experiences from seniors directly, I tried to list out my preparation process, organized my experiences and wrote the first draft of this handbook. With the help from kind-hearted students who have also joined this Program, various experiences are also included in this handbook which is enriched and completed. My wish for creating this handbook is now going to achieve.

I sincerely hope that the experiences with kindness provided by seniors in this handbook can be a beacon of the preparation path for students who are reading it. I hope that it can help students arrange their time properly and have a wiser and effective plan for preparing the Program. During the preparation process, it is hoped that students can also learn from their experiences and understand their personalities more profoundly.

Bless you, my dear and lucky junior sisters and brothers!

Jiangtian (Joey) Hou, Editor
January 2020

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1

Preparation Timeline

CityU

Year 1 - Summer before Year 2	Confirm the overall arrangement of class schedule with the professor-in-charge
	Compare the class situation now with your previous one
	Plan your year 2 class schedule
Year 2 Semester A	Apply the Program at your major department / college
	Attend the interview arranged by CityU
	GEO announces the CityU first-round interview result
Year 2 Winter Semester break	ELC organizes workshops for eligible students
	ELC arranges mock interviews
	CityU provides suggestion on writing and interview for students

REMARKS

Start preparing for the Personal Statement

Start contacting your parents and high school to prepare the transcript/ certificate of graduation

Columbia

Year 2 Semester A
- Winter Semester break

Year 2 Semester B

Do online application on Columbia University admission website

Submit personal information and Resume

Submit Personal Statement

Attend ALP examination

Attend interview

Receive the ALP result

Receive the interview result

REMARKS

Pay attention to the time
Apply as early as you can

Remind CityU professors to
submit recommendation
letter

USEFUL LINKS

Official website of Joint Bachelor's Degree Program of CityU and Columbia University

<https://cityu-hk.gs.columbia.edu/>

Application Timeline for CityU Applicants:

<https://cityu-hk.gs.columbia.edu/application-timeline-cityu-applicants>

CityU ELC:

<http://www.cityu.edu.hk/elc/>

CityU ELC Writing Studio:

<http://elss.elc.cityu.edu.hk/ELCPages/ELSS/WritingStudio>

2

GPA & Choice of Courses

GPA

In order to participate in the CityU selection for Joint Bachelor's Degree Program, students have to reach the minimum CityU GPA of **3.3**. Based on the actual situation, students who acquire GPA higher than **3.7 (the baseline of Dean's List)** may have a higher chance to be selected.

EXPERIENCE SHARING



The courses taken in Year 2 Semester A are very helpful in raising GPA before submitting application to Columbia University. Students should seize this chance.

2017 Wenda Li (Economics)

Learning more practical knowledge will be beneficial in finding jobs, so you don't need to put all your efforts in raising GPA.

2017 Qimeng Shi (Economics)

Though your GPA may not be high at the end of Year 1, you still have chances to raise it in Year 2 Semester A. Mathematics courses account for a vast part in Year 2, and you can get high marks by more practices. If you have spare time, you can do preview for courses in summer.

2017 Zhenfeng Tu (Mathematics)

GPA is only one of the requirements for admission. The learning enthusiasm shown in the Personal Statement, quality of the recommendation letter, extra-curriculum activities in your CV and charisma shown in the interview are also very crucial.

2017 Hanyi Wang (Mathematics)

Studying in Humanities and Social Sciences requires the ability of presenting opinions with evidences. This ability is gradually cultivated during consistent academic practices and it is also the most important part in humanity education. A high GPA is only the concomitant while building this ability.

2017 Yijie Fang (Social & Behavioral Sciences)

PAST SITUATION

According to the professors in charge for admission to Columbia University, the average GPA of students who joined the Program and admitted at the University in 2018 (i.e. the students admitted at CityU in 2016) was **3.66**.

SENIORS' ADVICE

There is no pre-determined number of admitted students for the program. Still, GPA is one of the selection criteria for this Program. However, high GPA does not mean high chance of admission to Columbia University.

Choice of courses

You can choose the courses for your study based on the following 4 aspects:

- (1) Strength in getting good result
- (2) Future development
- (3) Individual interest
- (4) Possibility of getting a reference letter and its quality

EXPERIENCE SHARING



Be well prepared about the consequence of taking equivalent courses, for example MA1200 and MA1006. If you are in doubt, you need to discuss with your program coordinator. Moreover, CS1102 and CB4303 are very difficult to register, so students can consider asking professors or seniors for more advice, or register them at the paper add/drop period.

2017 Wenda Li (Economics)

Students majoring in Economics and Finance will have a lot of fundamental courses when they start their studies at Columbia University. Students can take related fundamental courses about Corporate Finance and Financial Modeling at CityU to get well prepared for future studies.

2017 Qimeng Shi (Economics)

Through taking different GE courses, you may able to discover your future path. You can first consider these 5 aspects, namely Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Computation, Finance, and Statistics.

2017 Zhenfeng Tu (Mathematics)

EXPERIENCE SHARING (CONTINUED)

Since the course plan of Computational Finance are very well structured (15-19 credits for each semester). I suggest that students should strictly follow the instruction from CB to arrange schedules for each semester. In the course plan, some of the Mathematics and Computer Science courses require paper add/drop. Students should arrange their schedules in advance during Year 1 summer and Year 2 Winter semester break. They should raise requests with the offering units, so as not to disrupt the progress of the course.

2017 Jiangtian Hou (Computational Finance)

I suggest that you should browse the websites of CityU/ Columbia University and read the information about the humanities courses which can apply for credit transfer in Columbia University. As for students majoring in Mathematics, you can take more GE humanity courses in Year 1 to fulfil the credits requirement.

2017 Hanyi Wang (Mathematics)

Apart from the requirement stated in course mapping and major courses, I paid most attention on personal interest and comprehensiveness in the field while choosing courses. Interdisciplinary background and academic training are very important for students who want to continue their studies in the humanities and social sciences. This can broaden your mindset when analyzing problems, and also help you find some research directions that you are interested in. I think that humanity studies require your own critical analysis as well as passion.

You can ask for a copy of course mapping table from your program coordinator in advance. It can be a reference for choosing courses but there may be fine-tuning or great change every year. Please be prepared for adjustment when necessary.

2017 Yijie Fang (Social & Behavioral Sciences)

SENIORS' ADVICE

Don't worry much about grades. Actually, when you have strict requirement on yourselves and have acquired good writing ability and analyzing ability, everything will go as it will be.

3

IELTS/TOEFL Exams

In order to fulfil the admission requirement of Columbia University, all students whose English is not their mother tongue are required to provide English exam result. Here is some advice for students who is going to take IELTS/ TOEFL Exams.

IELTS Exam

There are 4 tests in IELTS exam including listening, speaking, reading and writing. The highest score for each section is **9** and the difference between each level is 0.5. The overall band score, which is already rounded up to the next half band, is calculated by taking the mean result of 4 tests; The highest score for each section is **9** and the difference between each level is 0.5.

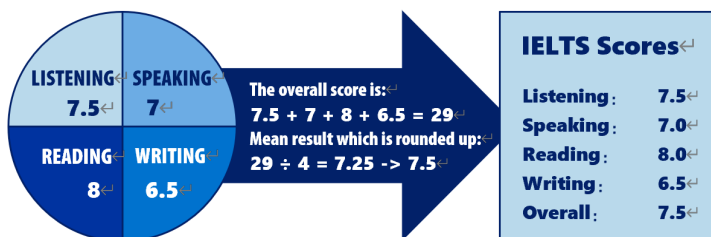


Figure of IELTS scores and score report

The Joint Bachelor's Degree Program requires **a minimum score of IELTS 7.0**. There is no requirement for score requirement for each of the 4 category. For example, if the IELTS Writing part is lower than 7.0 but the overall score is 7.0, it will not affect the final result.

Students who have never attended IELTS exam can prepare and attend it from Year 1 summer to Year 2 Semester A. Those who have attended the exam before should check whether the result and the validity period meet the requirements for the Program.

SENIORS' ADVICE

IELTS result will remain valid for 2 years starting from the date of taking the exam. Students whose result is going to expire by the time of your application will need to retake the language test.

EXPERIENCE SHARING



Be careful of the deadline for submitting the IELTS/ TOEFL result and prepare it in advance so that it won't affect your application. The exam fee for each IELTS exam in Hong Kong is around 2000 HKD, so one should grasp opportunities and take exams with care.

2017 Jiangtian Hou (Computational Finance)

TOEFL Exam

There are 4 tests in TOEFL exam including listening, speaking, reading and writing; The highest score for each section is **30**; The total score is the sum of scores in 4 tests and the highest total score is **120**.

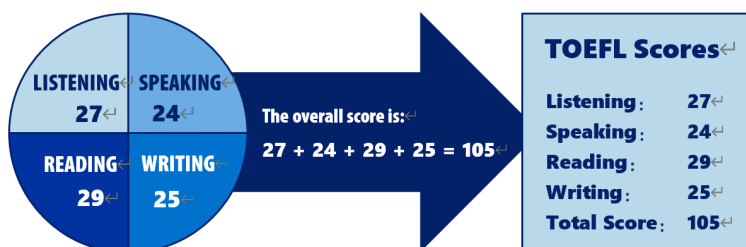


Figure of TOEFL scores and score report

The Joint Bachelor's Degree Program requires **a minimum score of TOEFL 100 (iBT)**. There is no requirement for score requirement for each of the 4 category.

Students who have never attended TOEFL exam can prepare and attend it from Year 1 summer to Year 2 Semester A. Those who have attended the exam before should check whether the result and the validity period meet the requirements for the Program.

EXPERIENCE SHARING

Students should better attend the IELTS/TOEFL once in Year 1 Semester B, so they still have chance to retake it even the result does not meet the requirement or being busy preparing other application materials in Year 2 Semester A.

2017 Hanyi Wang (Mathematics)

USEFUL LINKS

IELTS:

<https://www.britishcouncil.hk/exam/ielts>

TOEFL iBT - Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority

Website:

<http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/ipe/toefl/>

SENIORS' ADVICE

TOEFL result will remain valid for 2 years starting from the date of taking the exam. Students whose result is going to expire by the time of your application will need to retake the language test.

4

Recommendation Letter

Columbia University application website requires students to submit one or two recommendation letters, one of which must be **written by CityU academic staff**.

Before your submission, you need to seek approval from the CityU professors and submit his/her email address in your application form. Your referees will receive notification directly from Columbia University to send their recommendation letters electronically. Applicants can choose to reserve the right to “view the content of the recommendation letter” or not.

In preparing for the recommendation letter, your referee usually requires an analysis of your strength and weaknesses. Thus, students should have more communication with your professor so that he/she can know you better.

EXPERIENCE SHARING

Here are 5 points from experiences of 2017 seniors:

- (1) You should let your professor understand why you want to go to Columbia University and tell him/her why you worth this recommendation.
- (2) It is better to talk about the recommendation letter with your professor face-to-face and tell him/her in advance the timeline when you would like to have the letter.
- (3) If you would like to find the professor of related course to be your referee, you have to try your best to get high score in this course.
- (4) You should try to find a professor from your major to write your recommendation letter.
- (5) It is better to find a professor who understands the US education system and knows the way of writing recommendation letter.

USEFUL LINKS

Stanford University: Guide of writing recommendation letters
<https://undergrad.stanford.edu/academic-planning/engage-faculty/asking-letters-recommendation>
Columbia University: Guide of writing recommendation letters
<http://admissionsblog.sipa.columbia.edu/tag/letters-of-recommendation/>
Columbia (GS): Guide of writing recommendation letters
<https://gs.columbia.edu/content/medical-school-letters-of-recommendation>

SENIORS' ADVICE

Students should start paying attention to major leaders/professors from Year 1 or Year 2 Semester A. It would be more convenient to prepare for recommendation letters if you can make connections with them or let them know you (by making responses in class, having conversations after class, going to office hours, etc.) Students who are Research Assistants can also try to request for recommendation letters with their supervisors.

Students may ask your major leader or the professors of your major/college core courses as your referees.

Students should try to ask for two recommendation letters. You need to provide information about yourself to your professor, such as transcript, CV, self-introduction, etc. (it does not have to be formal but the information should help to identify your merits and uniqueness).

We recommend students to waive their rights of viewing their recommendation letters in order to keep their letters fair and truthful.

5

High School & Public Examination Transcripts

As part of the application requirements, students are required to provide original high school and public examination transcripts.

High School Transcripts

It is recommended that you apply for your **official high school transcript** in Year 1 summer. It should have the school stamp and be sealed in high school envelope. You can submit it in person or have it sent to your program coordinator. English version must also be provided if the official document is not in English.

Public Examination Transcripts

Students also need to present official original public examination transcripts. English version must also be provided if the official document is not in English.

EXPERIENCE SHARING



Many students are very busy in Year 2 and cannot go back to their home country to collect their academic transcripts. Please contact your high school and apply for public examination transcript as early as possible.

2017 Hanyi Wang (Mathematics)

SENIORS' ADVICE

High school transcript needs to be arranged in advance. You can contact your parents or high school teachers for help.

SENIORS' ADVICE

If your transcripts are not in English, you must try to ask for an official English translation. You may also seek help from your program coordinator whether you can translate the transcripts by yourself.

6

CV/Resume

While doing Columbia University online application, students can choose to submit their CV/ Resume.

CV

CV (Curriculum Vitae) is a written self-introduction of personal experiences. It usually describes personal experiences, academic background and related skills such as details of research findings, reward record, related publication, etc.

Resume

Resume is an abstract about your education experiences, work experiences and skills. Compared to CV, Resume is more concise which usually consists of 1 page (single-sided paper) and cannot exceed the length of 2 pages.

SENIORS' ADVICE

CV is more about academic and scientific research experiences. Students can put in their achievements gained in high school such as competition award, academic achievement and research study in the CV.

SENIORS' ADVICE

Resume is more about personal and job experiences. Students can include their education experiences, honor awards, professional or volunteer activity experiences, personal expertise, etc. in the Resume. CB students can seek advice from its Business Career Development team on how to revise your CV/ Resume.

USEFUL LINKS

CityU CV writing guidelines

<http://www.cityu.edu.hk/caio/city-u/careercvcoverletters.asp>

Vault.com Resume samples

<https://www.vault.com/resume-tips/resume-samples-templates>

7

Personal Statement

In your application, you will need to provide a **Personal Statement**: the information about yourselves. It is about the personal situation of the student, personal experience and the motive of admission. The Joint Bachelor's Degree Program requires a Personal Statement within 1500 words.

PAST SITUATION

2017 Personal Statement topics:

Given your experiences as a student now in your second year at the City University Hong Kong, how have you changed in comparison to who you were in high school? How do you imagine an international academic opportunity like the Joint Bachelor's Degree Program with Columbia University might also lead to new experiences that will change you as a scholar and a person?

Successful essays should not only identify and describe specific elements of the Joint Bachelor's Degree Program that meet your needs as a student, but should also explain how your studies at CityU complement the major you intend to follow at Columbia University, and how this program is compatible with your future aspirations. (1,000–1,500 words)

EXPERIENCE SHARING

There are various ideas for writing Personal Statement. Students should choose the one which is suitable for their writing style and can best show themselves. Here are some writing ideas and advice:



Answer 3 questions in the Personal Statement:

(1) Why did I choose CityU initially?

(2) Why do I need to choose Columbia University?

(3) What will this help me in my future career planning? Not only consider what Columbia University can give you but also what you can contribute to the University.

2017 Jiangtian Hou (Computational Finance)

SENIORS' ADVICE

CityU ELC will organize a Personal Statement writing studio for students and introduce the writing requirement, methods and techniques. Then, ELC will allow students to talk to the CityU ELC teachers through Skype or face-to-face in selected timeslots. The teacher will evaluate and provide advice for your writing in terms of its structure, selection of content material and thesis.

Before submitting Personal Statement, students still have the chance to talk to different ELC teachers at CityU face-to-face and ask for their advices to revise it. Students can also discuss with ELC teachers for making more online appointments.

Personal Statement requires you to tell a good story and a good story will reflect your qualities, passion, expectation on yourself and unique experience. This story needs to impress yourself first so that it can impress others.

EXPERIENCE SHARING (CONTINUED)

Describe my passion in math in the Personal Statement, why I chose math to study, why I chose Statistics to study, how CityU experience enriches me and what I want to do in future. It is better to show that you are confident to continue your studies in Columbia University.

2017 Zhenfeng Tu (Mathematics)

The key of this writing are understanding your goal and development direction, whether you are suitable for this Program, and whether you can reasonably utilize the resources of Columbia University.

2017 Qimeng Shi (Economics)

The significance of Personal Statement is to describe the story between you and your major: if you have a deep affection for this major and how Columbia University will help your future development.

2017 Hanyi Wang (Mathematics)

I wrote a story about visiting a counter-Japanese war veteran, expressed my intention and passion in learning Social Sciences through the story, and stated that I might continue to pursue this professional direction.



Think thoroughly before writing the Personal Statement and do not afraid of repeated revision and even rewriting. Talk more with ELC teachers during the writing process.

2017 Yijie Fang (Social & Behavioral Sciences)

USEFUL LINKS

CityU ELC Writing Studio:

<http://elss.elc.cityu.edu.hk/ELCPages/ELSS/WritingStudio>

8

ALP English Examination

Similar as CityU, Columbia requires students to finish the course of **University Writing (UW)** to meet requirements for graduation. In addition to meeting prescribed IELTS/ TOEFL standard, students need to sit for the **American Language Program (ALP) Essay Exam** organized by Columbia University.

Purpose of Examination

The ALP result is in a scale of ten with highest score of **10** and lowest score of **7** (theoretically, the lowest score should be 0 but according to the official ALP, result which is lower than score of 2 will not be admitted to the program and the lowest score for this program's case will be 7). The difference between each level is 1.

Students who attain a score of 10 in ALP represents that their English level allows them to study UW course directly. For those who fail to achieve a score of 10 (e.g. score of 9, 8 etc.), they need to attend the corresponding ALP course based on their scores (similar to ELC course in CityU). Students who are not allowed to study UW course directly, are required to finish ALP first.

Generally speaking, students are required to study 3 credits more for every 1 score below the top score of 10. If students acquire a score of 8 in ALP, they have to study English courses of 6 credits before they are qualified to study the UW course (3 credits) in Columbia University.

Examination Format

The examination format for ALP is writing which requires students to handwrite a piece of writing with no upper and lower word limit within 105 minutes.

Questions are usually stated in two paragraphs in which expressing two different views concerning an incident. Students are required to compare two opinions and write out the view for/ against the incident and its reasons; or they can raise their opinions, argue and write with the support from these paragraphs.

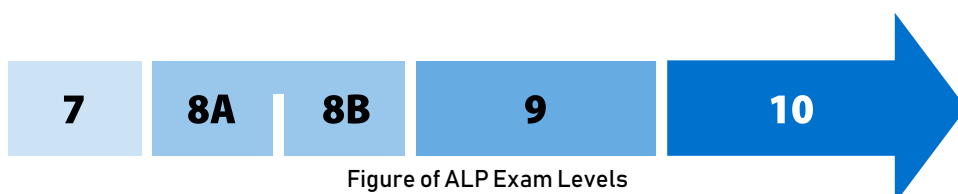
SENIOR'S ADVICE

Writing examination puts emphasis on students' logic and ability of using English. While students are putting stress on the argumentative methods and thorough logic in the writing, they should also use accurate and advanced vocabularies and sentence structures in a fast writing speed. They can also practice with IELTS writing questions (similar topics but with easier requirements and more focus on language expression) or GRE issue writing questions (more logical requirements but different genres).

Grading of Examination

The final result of ALP will be released via e-mail to students after the notification of the interview.

Except for a minority of students who can straightly attain a score of 10, most students usually achieve a score of 8 and 9. The score of 8 will be divided into two groups: 8A and 8B. 8B refers to a slightly better performance than that of 8A. However, if students are successfully admitted to the program, 8A and 8B are all treated as a score of 8. If students who attain a score of 7 are eventually admitted to the program, they will be postponed studying at the Columbia University under their instructions because students need to finish ALP course first.



EXPERIENCE SHARING



Students can consider memorizing 4-5 excellent GRE sample essays. They can be found from the official GRE guide.

2017 Zhenfeng Tu (Mathematics)

ALP essay examination is not just about grammar and vocabularies, and also the angle and depth of arguments.

2017 Hanyi Wang (Mathematics)

Students need to pay attention to logic and naturalness of language during writing. I suggest avoiding some conjunctions with strong stress on steps in different arguments. (e.g. Firstly..., Secondly..., etc.)

2017 Qimeng Shi (Economics)

USEFUL LINKS

ALP:
http://gs.columbia.edu/content/international-students#/cu-accordion_item_4019

SENIOR'S ADVICE

Columbia University applies MLA format in Reference List. Students can quote the two given paragraphs and write them in the Reference List at the end of the essay; Students who have lots of materials can also write their familiar and reliable sources in the Reference List.

Essays can be written in alternate lines which will be convenient for later revision.

SENIOR'S ADVICE

In fact, the result of ALP exams will not be treated as the only criteria of admission. Successful applicants contained students who got 8A in ALP Exams, while there were students who got 10 (equivalent to native English speaker) that were not accepted. The opportunity of being accepted will not increase much if the score is at or higher than 8. Still, if students get a score of 7 in the exam, they should gain more opportunities in the interview by preform better in other aspects.

9

Interview

During the application process, students need to attend interviews organized by CityU and Columbia University respectively. This will determine whether students can continue to participate in the application process or being successfully admitted.

CityU Interview

After handing in application forms at CityU, students will be contacted by their program coordinators and major coordinators for on-campus interviews. Interviews are conducted by CityU faculties.

EXPERIENCE SHARING



CityU interview is comparatively relaxing and pleasant.
Everyone can calm down and handle it with confidence.
2017 Zhenfeng Tu (Mathematics)

Columbia Interview

At the end of the application process, shortlisted students will attend the Columbia University Interview. Qualified students will receive emails after ALP exams and will be informed about the interview time and venue.

PAST SITUATION

The following are some interview questions for 2017 students in Columbia University interview:

- (1) Why did you choose CityU after high school graduation?
- (2) Why did you choose your current major?
- (3) What courses have you taken at CityU?
- (4) Why do you want to go to Columbia?/What value do you think this program has?
- (5) How will your study at CityU assist your study at Columbia?
- (6) What is the meaning of Core Curriculum to you at Columbia?
- (7) What kind of difficulties do you foresee after coming to New York?
- (8) What are your plans after graduation? Where do you want to work?
- (9) What strengths do you have for study?
- (10) What do you want to bring to Columbia University?

PAST SITUATION

The following are some interview questions being asked to 2017 students in CityU interview:

- (1) Why do you want to study at Columbia University?
- (2) What do you prepare to do after studying at Columbia University?
- (3) What do you want to do after graduating from Columbia University?

PAST SITUATION (CONTINUED)

- (11) If you are accepted by this program, what preparations will you do?
 - (12) Can you introduce your hometown?
 - (13) Do you have any other questions for me (the interviewer)?
- (This is usually the last question of the interview session.)

EXPERIENCE SHARING

Columbia University interview is very crucial in determining your success in the application. While preparing for the interview questions, students are recommended to think about the following two sets of question with their past, personalities and goals:

'Why do I need to choose Columbia University? / What can Columbia University bring to me?'

'Why does Columbia University need to choose me? / What can I contribute to Columbia University?'

Thus, students can be more assured of their application motive and answer the questions to the point.

2017 Jiangtian Hou (Computational Finance)

Questions are very easy and the atmosphere depends on you. The interviewer usually will ask the next question based on the interviewee's previous answer. Thus, don't be nervous and answer questions based on your actual experiences and feeling. Remember to stay confident.

2017 Hanyi Wang (Mathematics)

For myself, I was quite relaxed in the interview. The second half of the interview was basically chatting. The interviewer was interested in my hometown, and we talked over topics about food. Yet, don't be too relaxed and always remember this is an admission interview. We still need to show our confidence and strengths.

2017 Yijie Fang (Social & Behavioral Science)

SENIOR'S ADVICE

It is recommended to study thoroughly on your Personal Statement since the interviewer will ask many questions based on this material. However, you only need to cite some views or mention part of the experience and do not directly quote it.

The interviews certainly expect your confidence and spontaneity. You can also be well prepared by organizing your views and thought in advance.

Epilogue

CityU/Columbia University Joint Bachelor's Degree Program Admission-pedia, is in charge by 2017 Program participant, Jiangtian (Joey) Hou (Computational Finance), who is the producer and editor.

CityU College of Business offers thoughtful guidance in composing and completing this handbook with lots of valuable comments and suggestions. Five 2017 participants of this Program, as well as the editor of this handbook, completed the content and provided excellent advice in modifying it.

Yijie Fang (Social & Behavioral Sciences) was mainly responsible for composing the content of "Seniors' Advice" in section 2, 7 and 9; Wenda Li (Economics and Finance) was mainly responsible for composing the content of the main body and "Past Situation" in section 4 and 9; Zhenfeng Tu (Mathematics) was mainly responsible for composing the content in section 2, 7, 8 and 9; Hanyi Wang (Mathematics) was mainly responsible for composing the content of TOFEL Examination in section 3. Besides, Qimeng Shi (Economics and Finance) provided valuable opinions for the language used in and the content of this handbook. All editorial board members provided holistic assistance in all "Experience Sharing". For this, we would like to express our gratitude to all program coordinators, professors and members of the editorial board.

Jiangtian (Joey) Hou (Computational Finance) did a lot of coordination work for the composition of the handbook and also undertook the design of it. Furthermore, other students from CityU also contributed a lot in the English translation for the handbook. We sincerely appreciate their efforts.

We genuinely hope that all professors, students and parents can share their precious opinions. We will put our heads together and continue to enhance the content of the handbook.

CONTACT

Jiangtian (Joey) Hou
(Computational Finance)
jh4170@columbia.edu

Yijie Fang
(Social & Behavioral Science)
yf2509@columbia.edu

Wenda Li (Economics)
wl2728@columbia.edu

Zhenfeng Tu (Mathematics)
zhenfentu2-c@my.cityu.edu.hk

Hanyi Wang (Mathematics)
hanyiwang8-c@my.cityu.edu.hk

Chief Editor
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