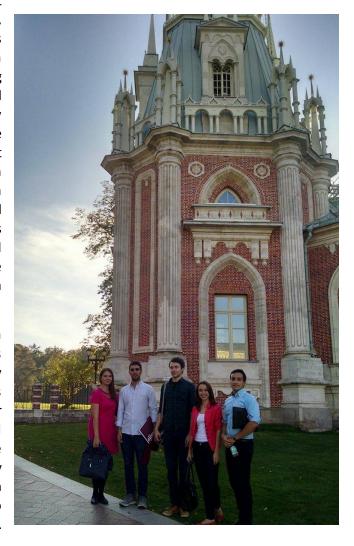
## I Chose HSE Because it Has Outstanding Economics and Finance Programs. Now I Can Say Certainly That it Was a Great Decision.

Hector Cantu, University of Texas alumni, spent a year in Moscow learning Russian language and visiting Strategic Corporate Finance Program.

## Russia & HSE

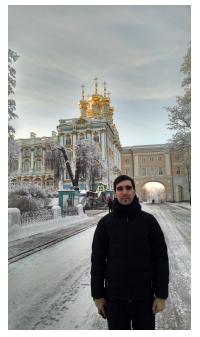
I majored in Economics and minored in Math at UT-Austin. I am originally from Monterrey, Mexico, and as my last year of Bachelor was nearing its end I decided to enroll in HSE in Moscow. I chose HSE because it has outstanding economics and finance programs. I also wanted to learn some Russian. Now I can say certainly that it was a great decision. I found Russia, the world's largest country and a very important economy in the world, a place that has so much to offer, from attractive landscapes to an extraordinary beautiful culture full of artists and epic folkloric dances. This country also stands out for its good education in universities, and HSE is among the top 3 best universities in the country, providing its students with a world-class education.

As one of the best universities of economics in the country, HSE Faculty of Economics has world-class professors and a high quality academic level of education. The Faculty gives courses on theoretical frameworks for understanding and analyzing major financial problems of corporations operating in the modern market environment. You can study disciplines of economics combined with modern finance-related fields that can prepare you to work and understand today's emerging markets.



The university is an excellent place to do economic and finance research because of the support of professors and the talented group of research students that you can easily find. HSE also offer constantly forums and conferences to help students apply their knowledge to work experiences. Example of employers of HSE students and graduates are ATKearney, Boston Consulting Group, Holt Value Associates, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Stern Stewart & Company, McKinsey, Monitor Group, KPMG, etc.

Some classes of finance and economics are instructed in collaboration with managers and partners from these companies.



I lived in Moscow, the capital of Russia, a city in which you can find countless things to discover, in which you can get to know many people from every part of Russia, you can find marvelous forests and gardens, outstanding fine arts events, and amazing friends. Moscow is a modern and cosmopolitan city with an incredibly efficient and beautiful metro, it can take you almost anywhere you want to go into the city. Art and literature are something common around the streets and endless kinds of museums are everywhere.

I liked Moscow and I fell in love with many other cities while travelling around, like St. Petersburg, Vladimir, Suzdal among others. There is so much history behind their walls that people can tell you every kind of unbelievable stories. Glittering palaces, vast geographical distances and spired churches are some places you can find in the unique beauty of this autonomous culture, Russia. It is definitely a great joy to travel. Also, there are so many cities that you can take advantage to discover by taking a train all around Russia and Siberia on the Trans-Siberian route.

Russians and HSE welcome many students from around the world. You can really quickly find amazing students to make friends with and uncountable activities at HSE to do and enjoy without any knowledge of Russian, but of course, learning the language can help you discover the real Russian heart and culture. I am glad to have studied in HSE and in the Russian Federation, it was a great experience. I recommend HSE to students who really wants to discover the biggest country in the world, high quality education in the fields of business, finance and economics and learn the beauty of the Russian culture with their great people.

## Going to Georgia, experiencing the beauty of the Caucasus Mountains



Thanks to a spring break at HSE, my classmate and I decided to implement our early idea to plan a trip we wanted to do some months ago when we arrived to Russia. We wanted to take advantage of the location and travel through the south of Russia, in the heart of the Caucasus, to Svaneti Mountains in Georgia. I recommend every person who has the opportunity to enjoy this wonderful jewel from Mother Nature.

Georgia is a country full of history and culture located at the intersection of Europe and Asia. The capital is Tbilisi, a relative small city but one full of charismatic and wonderful people whose principal characteristic is their warm hospitality.

We bought round trip tickets from Moscow to Tbilisi and then we booked small local flights to Svaneti which is located in the west of the country. The main idea was tracing a hiking route into the mountains and staying with locals for 3 days. After a wonderful time with nature, incredible landscapes and very tiring walks, we finished very happy and discovering a new world, the Georgian culture, the exquisite wine and the delicious food they have.

It is a pleasure to have wonderful adventures and meet majestic places that are purely Georgian like the way of life in the countryside. There is a unique Georgian cultural atmosphere among the locals, who can host you, and tell you interesting stories of the history of their country. Also don't miss the opportunity to try the food and wine from the region -- it is just incredibly good and organic. Recommendations from locals can be fundamental to get to know the region and to efficiently travel around the mountains.

Georgia is one of the uncountable destinations Moscow has nearby to visit. Russia is the biggest country in the world and there are thousands and thousands of cultural and natural treasures in and around the country. If you have the opportunity and are a person who likes thrilling adventures, Georgia can be an excellent location to visit during your study at HSE, Moscow.





