

## **MScSM Program Class 2016 Students offer advice on where to live, while in the program;**

### **Mississauga or Toronto?**

#### **Student #1:**

Having lived in the heart of the downtown area for my first academic year of UTM, I will admit that there were many advantages to living in the city as there were disadvantages as well. As some of you may know, there are many exciting things to do in the city in comparison to Mississauga. Yes, you are coming to UTM to study however you would also want to enjoy your experience as much as you can outside of academics.

For students who are willing to commute approximately 40 minutes daily to campus from the city and back, living downtown may be the best option for you.

For students who would rather live closer to campus to maximize on study time, group meetings, peaceful living area, etc then I would advise living in Mississauga.

If I had the opportunity to re-think my accommodation choice in my first academic year at UTM, I would prefer living in Mississauga because commuting after a long day of class could be a challenge, although I managed well.

I would encourage you to carefully consider when choosing, know what you are willing to cope with, use your instinct and choose based on your personality as this can determine how you enjoy your two years.

#### **Student #2:**

As a student moving to Toronto for the first time, I would suggest for the next year students to stay in Mississauga for the first year (as most courses are on UTM campus) and move to downtown for second year. However, if the students are interested in attending networking events, it is advisable to find a living arrangement that is close to a go-train/bus station while they stay in Mississauga. I really liked the Clarkson area. It is one bus ride to UTM campus and has easy access to Toronto Union station. Feel free to share my contact information with students who wish to contact me for more detail.

**Student #3:**

I definitely think that living in Mississauga while in the MScSM program is the more convenient choice, considering the majority of our courses and events take place at the UTM campus. That being said, I know that many of the students from out of town might prefer living in Toronto since they have access to all the excitement of downtown, and may have a better overall experience living abroad.

The morning and afternoon commute may be a little tiresome, but I think that if I were moving to the GTA for the first time, I would want to experience living in Toronto as it might be more exciting. Plus, there is free transportation to the Mississauga campus (UTM shuttle bus).

To summarize:

If someone is more concerned about the convenience of getting to classes and MScSM events, living in Mississauga might be more ideal.

If someone is more interested in experiencing Toronto and a city that might have more to offer, Toronto would be more ideal. (Although, I do love Mississauga :) ).

**Student #4:**

As for Mississauga vs. Toronto, I would say Toronto. From what I understand, the rents for Mississauga and Toronto are about the same; and in Toronto, there is greater access to amenities and the transit system is really good. However, I wouldn't live downtown. Instead I would live a bit north of downtown in midtown or even uptown, as public transit makes the shuttle easily accessible, and the rent may be a bit cheaper. Additionally, it won't be as crowded.