

General Information			
Host Country	South Korea		
Host School	Hankuk University of Foreign Studies		
Program start & end dates	September 1, 2022 to December 21, 2022		
Program of Study	Business Administration		
Type of Study Abroad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
General Evaluation			
In a couple of sentences, summarize and explain your general evaluation of your experience.	The opportunity to study abroad was an experience I'll never forget. I learnt so much by getting to experience living in a different country and finding my way around on my own. I arrived with self-esteem dropping but through the time I was there, I was able to build up my self-esteem again.		
Arrival			
How easy or challenging was it to obtain your travel documents (visa, permits, etc.)?	It was easy to obtain my student visa, it only took a week to get it. I booked an appointment at the Korean Embassy and advanced and it took around 15-20 minutes.		
Describe your transportation arrangements to your host country. Would you alter any part of those arrangements?	I booked a flight that had a layover at Seattle. I would alter my arrangement by book a direct flight as it is less trouble just because some layovers are not long enough to make to your next flight.		
How was your experience clearing customs and immigration upon arrival in your host country? Any surprises?	Going through immigration was a quick and smooth process, I made sure to have all required documents ready. Going through customs was really quick because I didn't have anything to declare. I'd say my whole arrival process took less than 45 minutes.		
Describe how you traveled to your host facility. How long did it take and how much did it cost?	The travel time took 15 hours to get to Incheon Airport, 1 hour to taxi to the hotel which cost around \$70. On the day of Dorm check-in I spent \$10 on a taxi.		
Orientation and Assistance			
How satisfied were you with the orientation and student assistance available to at your host school?	The student orientation was held online due to the circumstances of COVID at the time. My dorm manager was very friendly and helpful.		
What help did you receive from the international staff or office? What was your evaluation of your host schools international staff or office?	I had to ask the international staff for a new certificate of enrolment as the date was wrong which was required for my ARC, they were able to print it right away. I think the international office were able to help when needed. Things were pretty organized so I didn't find myself needing to visit the office that often		
Orientation and Assistance (cont'd)			
How was new student orientation at the host university? How did it suit your needs?	Student Orientation was held online, it gave me the information I needed but I think it would have been nice to have it in-person to meet new people.		
What was it like to adjust to the culture of your exchange site? Were there people and resources available for you to talk to about	It took a while to adjust to the culture as there are some differences between the KPU and the host University. The orientation informed us about what resources we're available to us. We had each had a buddy that we could message if we had any questions.		

what you were experiencing?	
Housing & Daily Life	
Describe your accommodation in your host country.	My accommodation was an off-campus dorm. International house C. There were four units each floor. There were four levels and they only had stairs. Each unit had 3 individual spaces so everyone had privacy. It's a keyless building so you enter a code for the building for your unit.
How early could you move into housing before term and how long after the end of term were you allowed to stay?	The earliest you could move in was dorm check-in, which was a week before the semester started. Dorm check-out started the last day of the semester. You are allowed to stay after the end of the term but they charge your stay per day
What kinds of services and facilities were nearby where you lived (ie markets, gym, parks, pharmacies..)	There we're many food places around the area. there was also a grocery store and markets less than a 10 minute walk away. The school had a gym which I was able to access for 20,000 KRW a month. There's also pharmacy nearby. There is a river/park area thats a 20 minute walk from the campus
Describe what you did about meals and what other options were available. How satisfied were you with the food?	The cafeteria had many options available throughout the semester. They would post their menu for the week online. They had two options for lunch and one option for dinner. They also serve snacks throughout the day as well. There are also many resturants near the campus as well. I was very satsified with the options of food around campus
How close was your accommodation to where you studied?	The accommodation was very close to the school. It was behind the campus and it would take less than a 2 minute walk to get to campus.
Academics & Course Registration	
Please describe the registration process at your host institution. What assistance was available to you? Were you satisfied?	They had their own system for registration. There are two websites, one for planning your courses and one for when it is actually time to register. Registration time was KST. Registration would be a week during a certain time. Some specific course you can't register until the first week like the business courses The website was in korean so it was a little difficult to navigate through the website.
What advice would you offer to another exchange student about registration at your host institution?	Really plan ahead and have multiple back ups in case you don't get your first choice. Course registration is very competitive.
What course load would you recommend for future students? Are there particular courses would you recommend?	I would recommend three courses because I think it is more manageable. I would recommend taking Korean History as it was a very eye opening course.
Academics & Course Registration (cont'd)	
How satisfied were you with the amount of knowledge/skills you obtained from your host?	I definitely learned a lot. I took courses that are not specifically in my field, such as international organization but it definitely gave me a bigger perspective of politics and the economy, which I think could be useful in HR.
How did the style of teaching, and workload compare to Canada? Was it more independent or group learning?	The workload was very participant and test heavy. Participation matters for most courses and midterms and finals are worth at least 25% to 35%. Classes were lecture and class discussion based. I would say it was more independent learning, unless there was a group project.
How many courses did you take during your time abroad?	I took three courses

If applicable, what impact did the language barrier have on your learning?	No, my classes were taught in English
What was your impression of the computer facilities, library, internet access, specialized equipment and supplies available at your host facility?	The library had a lot of places to study. Internet was accessible all over the campus. Some buildings also had space where you could do group work.
Cost	
Books and Supplies/per term:	45,000 KRW
Flight:	\$1,625 CAD
Accommodation/per month:	400,000 KRW/ Month
Meals/per month:	250,000 KRW/month
Local transportation/per month:	50,000 KRW/month
Health insurance/per term:	224,000 KRW/term (4 months)
Communication (internet, phone, etc.) – per term	Phone: \$172 CAD
Travel documents (passport, entry visa, etc.)	Passport \$120 CAD Visa: \$84 CAD
Vaccinations:	N/A
Personal spending (entertainment and extra travel) – per term	\$300 for travel to Jeju, \$180 for entertainment, \$500 for personal spending
Were there unexpected costs you encounter? What items were less or more expensive than expected?	Unexpected cost was the ARC fee which was less than I expected, 30,000 KRW
Extra-Curricular & Social Activities	
What type of organized activities were available to you? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future students?	They had a buddy program and give-and-take program but they have limited space. I suggest joining these if you can. Sometimes there are events on campus as well.
Did you travel outside the host location? If so, where do you recommend?	I travelled to Jeju for a weekend. I would also recommend Busan.
What opportunities were there to work or volunteer? Did you require special permits to do this?	There were no work or volunteer opportunities.
Health and Safety	
Describe any health/safety concerns or issues you had during your experience.	I did not have any health or safety concerns.
What helped you keep safe and healthy? Did you access any health care supports and if so how was	I did not need to access to health care supports

the experience?	
Personal and Cultural Connections	
How successful were you at making friends with local (not international) people and students?	It was definitely hard making friends with local people and students because of the language barrier. The only way was if I was in the same group for a group project but the connection would end after the group project.
How did you find it adjusting to the culture of your host site?	It was difficult at first but I eventually got use to it. It was hard because I am in a completely different environment so I can't do everything I do how I would back home.
What, if any, cultural differences did you find particularly challenging?	The amount of people during rush hour. I was really shocked by how crowded a bus or subway could get. Also, some people would ask me for directions in Korean and I'm not able to help them.
What part(s) of the culture did you most appreciate?	The people there are respectful to everyone, even if you aren't able to speak Korean.
How were you treated by local people? By university staff and faculty? By students?	From my experience, most of mine were positive. The university staff and students were very nice and helpful. The local people were also nice.
As far as you could tell, how easy would it be for students with disabilities to study at your partner university?	I think it is accessible because they have elevators in buildings. They also have ramps if someone are not able to use stairs. They also have pedestrian that has a voice of when it is safe to cross. The everywhere such as sidewalks have bumps to guide those who can't see.
As far as you could tell, for students who are visible minorities in your host country?	I guess it would be foreigners, especially southeast asians and people from the western countries.
For students who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered?	From what I've seen, they are treated equally.
Overall	
What are five important things other students should know before going to your host country/region?	
1. Be familiar with their culture	
2. Learn some korean before hand	
3. Expect culture shock, lots of difference that you usual don't see in Canada	
4. Prepare for the unexpected, somethings can happen that might cause you to make changes to your trip	
5. Get ready to be uncomfortable	
What are ten important things you would tell another student who is going to your host facility/agency?	
1. Pack light	
2. Do some research on where places you want to visit	
3. Get familiar with their transportation system	
4. Make sure to have a budget plan for your time there	



5. Pack appropriate clothing for the weather	
6. Come up with a plan to stay in touch with your friends and family back home	
7. Have a back up plan for accomodation	
8. Your self-esteem might drop but you will regain it through the time your there	
9. Some people might not be as accepting and that's okay	
10. Be prepared for spontaneous adventures	
What was the most rewarding part of your study abroad experience?	The most rewarding part was getting that exposure in a completely different environment. I learned to be comfortable with being uncomfortable
What was the greatest challenge you faced during your experience abroad?	The greatest challenge was learning how to solve problems on my own. Studying abroad and living independently made me realize that I'm on my own and that I need to be responsible for myself.
How has your perspective changed as a result of your study abroad experience?	It has definitely changed my perspective, as being in a different country that speaks a different language, has a different society, it made me realize there is so much I did not know and that theres so much to learn and experience.
What else do you want to add out your study abroad experience?	Being able to have the experience to study abroad is something I value, it changed my perspective but how I view myself too.