

Study Abroad Evaluation

General Information	
Your Name	[REDACTED]
Host Country	Taiwan
Host School/Agency	Shih Chien University
Participation Dates	Feb (mid) - June (mid)
Your Program of Study	Fashion Design
Type of Study Abroad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum <input type="checkbox"/> Independent <input type="checkbox"/> Other
General Evaluation	
In a couple of sentences, summarize why you rated your experience the way you did	<p>It was a really good learning experience, classes are very design focused compared to Kwantlen. Food and the culture of the way people were was fantastic. People in Taiwan was way nicer than I thought.</p>
Arrival	
How easy or challenging was it to obtain your travel documents (visa, permits, etc.)?	<p>It wasn't challenging but confusing to know what exactly I needed.</p>
Describe your transportation arrangements to your host country. Would you alter any part of those arrangements?	<p>The school arranged volunteers to pick me up with a small fee and it was great. They showed me to my dorm, school, and offered to go shopping with me for any necessities.</p>
How was your experience clearing customs and immigration upon arrival in your host country? Any surprises?	<p>No surprises. It went well.</p>
Describe how you traveled to your host facility. How long did it take and how much did it cost?	<p>Flying. Took about 12 hours, had to transfer at HK. Tickets were \$1300 round trip.</p>
Orientation and Assistance	
How satisfied were you with the orientation and student assistance available to at your host school?	<p>Really satisfied. There was opportunities and events set up by volunteers to welcome although I didn't go to all.</p>
What help did you receive from the international staff or office? What was your evaluation of your host schools international staff or office?	<p>Isabel tried really hard. At the host school, and at the office, I felt you had to do everything yourself if you wanted it to be done.</p>
Orientation and Assistance (cont'd)	
How was new student	

orientation at the host university? How did it suit your needs?	Good, made some new friends.
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 what you were experiencing?	There was a study buddy that was assigned to us to help us out if we needed help. There was the international office that I frequented if I needed help.
Housing	
Describe your accommodation in your host country.	I lived in the school dorm, it was smaller than expected but really cheap. Many exchange students moved out.
How early could you move into housing before term and how long after the end of term were you allowed to stay?	I moved in about two weeks early and I think you could only stay one week after the term and then you could pay extra money if you wanted to stay.
How comfortable were you with your accommodation?	It was a bit cramped as I had to share a room and washroom. I would prefer to move out if I had a chance.
Describe what you did about meals and what other options were available. How satisfied were you with the food?	There was no kitchen, everything we had to eat out. I loved the food, there was everything from western, asian, indian, mexican, etc..
How close was your accommodation to where you studied?	20 mins bus.
Academics & Course Registration	
Please describe the registration process at your host institution. What assistance was available to you? Were you satisfied?	The first week of classes were "test" then at the end of the week we had to sign up for the classes we wanted to take. Yes, I was satisfied.
What advice would you offer to another exchange student about registration at your host institution?	Talk to me and do your research.
What course load would you recommend for future students? Are there particular courses you would recommend?	Jewelry, about 3-5 classes. costume making, English based classes are good.
Academics & Course Registration (cont'd)	
How satisfied were you with the	

amount of knowledge/skills you obtained from your host?	Good, learned alot from my courses, would recommend taking classes in Mandarin beforehand.
How did the style of teaching compare to Canada? How did the workload compare to Canada?	Similar, but there was less class time for some classes to work on projects but overall very similar to Kwantlen.
How many courses did you take during your time abroad?	5
If applicable, what impact did the language barrier have on your learning?	A lot, I was lucky I knew a bit of mandarin because some advanced classes I took only was in Mandarin.
What was your impression of the computer facilities, library, internet access, specialized equipment and supplies available at your host facility?	Library was beautiful and huge. Similar to Kwantlen but equipment was much more specialized and more machinery.
Cost	
Books and Supplies/per term:	500
Flight:	1300
Accommodation/per month:	300
Meals/per month:	450
Local transportation/per month:	100
Health insurance/per term:	none
Communication (internet, phone, etc.) – per term	100
Travel documents (passport, entry visa, etc.)	200
Vaccinations:	free with doctors appointment
Personal spending (entertainment and extra travel) – per term	3000
Were there unexpected costs you encounter? What items were less or more expensive than expected?	less expensive in general
Extra-Curricular & Social Activities	
How satisfied were you with the out-of-class opportunities available at your host site?	It was okay, I did not really participate.
What type of organized activities were available to you? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future	tours and games, there was a trip organized to go to south taiwan that was really fun more trips.

students?	
What opportunities were there to work or volunteer? Did you require special permits to do this?	Volunteer at school events. I did not try working.
Health and Safety	
Did you feel safe in your host country?	Yes, but be careful taking the taxi at night by yourself as a girl!!
Describe any safety concerns you had during your experience.	.. " "
Personal and Cultural Connections	
How successful were you at making friends with local (not international) people and students?	pretty successful.
How did you find it adjusting to the culture of your host site?	easy, people were very welcoming and nice.
What, if any, cultural differences did you find particularly challenging?	language problems sometimes
What part(s) of the culture did you most appreciate?	people and the food
How were you treated by local people? By university staff and faculty? By students?	good,
As far as you could tell, how easy would it be for students with disabilities to study at your partner university?	easier if they could speak the language, but lots of elevators and ramps for every section of the building
As far as you could tell, for students who are visible minorities in your host country?	okay, not many minorities. People were really welcoming.
For students who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered?	easy, clear lots of gay guys in my fashion design program,
Overall	
What are five important things other students should know before going to your host country/region?	

1.	take beginning mandarin
2.	enjoy your time
3.	go travel around rannun? asia (japan)
4.	go enjoy the night life.
5.	prioritize what you want to do (learn vs travel)
What are ten important things you would tell another student who is going to your host facility/agency?	
1.	manage class time
2.	bring sewing stuff
3.	- join clubs.
4.	keep on top your work
5.	enjoy the different foods
6.	go to 7/11 and Family mart
7.	go to the different clubs and go to Cashbox for Karaoke.
8.	try food from the stands (night markets)
9.	Check out the library
10.	save money to travel.
What was the most rewarding part of your study abroad experience?	Meeting new people and learning the culture
What was the greatest challenge you faced during your experience abroad?	- language
How has your perspective changed as a result of your study abroad experience?	- so many different people in the world. puts a different perspective on people.
What else do you want to add about your study abroad experience?	if you're not sure, do it anyways.