

2020 出國交換經驗分享會

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2020年因新冠肺炎影響，國際交流活動受影響，本院邀請兩位出國交換的學生分享經驗，分別到美國伊利諾大學香檳分校及德國曼海姆大學。儘管和以往相比體驗到的時間較短，但兩位學生仍從中得到許多寶貴經驗，以下擷取自同學的分享：

洪立宇 同學

交換學校：德國曼海姆大學

過去在高中已經有過到德國交換的經驗，很開心藉由這次交換舊地重遊，並幸運地找到以前的朋友，也順利在當地結交新朋友。因為曼海姆大學是以商管為主，所以這次我做了一個跨出舒適圈的決定，選擇曼海姆大學的資財系，對我而言也是蠻特別的一個突破，因為對於許多資訊學院的學生而言，在交大通常都上偏理工的課程，而透過交換上到一些財經相關的課程，像是Fintech(金融科技)和blockchain(區塊鏈)的應用。

交換期間我修了Data Mining, Data Security & Privacy, German B2, German History。德國和台灣上課的有些不同，例如基本上每一堂課不管是程式還是非程式的課程都有練習課，而且練習課是大家都必須參與，因此在練習上獲得很多幫助。考試的方式是期末考整本書的範圍，沒有期中考，因此時間安排和讀書進度必須事先規劃好。而報告大多是期末報告，採小組合作的方式，通常一組可能會超過五六個人，算是比較大型的合作，我認為在這些方面都與台灣的上課模式不同。

德國在3月多就因為疫情封鎖學校，但是學校的應對措施並沒有像台灣做的那麼完善，直到4月底才正式規定在室內和公共區域要帶口罩。疫情爆發後基本上都是透過線上修課、繳交作業，也因為比較少到學校去上課，感受最深的是生活步調變得非常緩慢，卻也因此有多餘的時間思考自己未來的方向。

最後我想分享自己交換的心得，我認為除了修課、旅遊，最重要的是體驗當地文化，非常鼓勵大家可以多出去看看，多走走，而且一定要願意打開自己的心，放開自己去接受、去改變、去聆聽別或瞭解自己。

吳浩安 同學

交換學校：伊利諾大學 - 香檳分校

因為受到疫情影響，這次交換只有短短兩個月的時間，因此主要著重在我所體驗到的文化差異上，分別是有兩個印象深刻的故事。有天和同學在等公車時，看見一位坐輪椅的女生要從道路到人行道，但因為道路和人行道有落差，她無法單靠自己的力量上去，剛好當時我們在一旁等公車，然後她做了一個我從來沒有在台灣會預期別人會對我做的事情，只見她對我們伸出一隻手，然後問我們能不能幫忙拉他一把。

在尋求幫助的當下，她是非常有自信的表示她需要幫忙。這件事讓我學習到，我們不必把自己的地位放得很低，或是擺出自己很可憐這樣子去求別人幫忙，而是要能夠很有自信的詢問。因為給予他人幫助是一種能力，不僅是受到幫助的人，幫助別人也能從中獲得快樂。而我認為這種正向回饋的關係能在社會裡不斷傳遞會是一個蠻不錯的狀態。

第二個故事，是有次獨自去逛社團博覽會，因為不習慣一個人行動，所以有點不自在，剛好遇到熱情的同學想跟我介紹，當下我就把台灣人那種不太好意思又有些尷尬的態度擺出來，回答：「Maybe not?」對方聽了反而很意外的告訴我：「It's ok to say no」他意識到我不太好意思拒絕，也告訴我直接拒絕也沒關係。這次的經驗讓我感覺對方很尊重我的選擇，而他們的友善是單方面的，不強迫人也不會因為被拒絕而態度變差。

在當時不管跟任何人講話，都能感受到他人談吐的自信，相較之下就顯得自己在这方面有很大的不足。大多數人也都很友善，不求回報方面付出，對於每個人都給予很大的尊重及空間。去學校的健康中心做檢查就能察覺，每項檢查前，需要你捲起袖子打針或是脫掉上衣照X光的時候，醫護人員都會很清楚用口語徵詢你的同意，才會繼續下一步的檢查。總結這次的交換，雖然只有兩個月的時間，仍讓我看到許多文化差異，並從中發掘許多自己的不足及當地文化值得學習之處。

2020 Overseas Experience Sharing Session of International Exchange Students

Due in large part to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, international exchange activities have been affected. Our college invited two exchange students to share their experiences, at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the United States and at the University of Mannheim in Germany, respectively. Although the current exchange program is shorter than the program in the past, both students still gain a lot of valuable experience. The following information was extracted from their sharing,

Student: Li-Yu Hong

Exchange: University of Mannheim in Germany

I had studied as an exchange student in Germany when I was in high school. It was great to revisit the places by the exchange program and luckily contact my old friends successfully as well as make new friends there. Because the University of Mannheim focused on business management, I decided to step outside my comfort zone. Choosing the Department of Finance of the University of Mannheim was also a very special breakthrough in my life. In general, many computer science students at Chiao Tung University usually take science and engineering courses; however, while on exchange, I took some finance courses, such as Fintech (financial technology) and blockchain applications.

I took Data Mining, Data Security & Privacy, German B2, German History during exchange. There are some differences between Germany and Taiwan in a way of conducting classes. For example, almost every class, no matter which is a coding course or a non-coding course, has a practice session in which everyone must participate, and I gain a lot from it. The examination would cover material from the entire course at the end of the semester. Because there was no mid-term exam, students must plan ahead for the reading schedule and conduct the time management effectively. In addition, many reports are final reports, which would be team collaboration. Usually, a group would comprise more than five or six members, and this kind of cooperation would relatively be regarded as a large-scale cooperation. I think these aspects are different from the way of conducting classes in Taiwan. Germany's schools closed down in March as details of the coronavirus pandemic emerged; however, the school's actions responding to COVID-19 were not as complete as those in Taiwan. It was not officially required to wear a mask indoors and in public areas until the end of April. After the outbreak of the pandemic, students took courses and handed in homework online. Because I seldom went to school, I felt the slow pace of life and spent more time thinking about my future direction.

Finally, I want to share my exchange experience. In addition to study and travel, I think that the most important thing is to experience the local culture. I

strongly encourage everyone to go abroad to explore the world, visit different places, as well as be willing to open your mind to absorb, change, listen to others, or understand yourself.

Student: Hao-An Wu

Exchange: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, this exchange was only two months long, so the main focus here would be the cultural differences I have experienced. There were two memorable moments. First, one day when I was waiting for the bus with my classmates, I saw a girl in a wheelchair who was going up a curb. However, because of the gap between the road and the curb, she could not steer her wheelchair up on her own. When she saw we were waiting for the bus on the curb, she did something that I had never expected others to ask for me in Taiwan. She waved at us and asked if we could help her.

In the meantime, she seemed very confident to express that she needed help. This experience taught me that we don't need to look down on ourselves, or make ourselves miserable when we ask for someone's help. On the contrary, we shall be able to ask for help with confidence. Moreover, helping others has a dual benefit. Not only does it provide support to needy people, it makes the helper feel better too. I think it would form a good self-amplifying cycle that this positive feedback would be pursued continuously in society.

Second, one day I went to the Clubs Fair alone. I felt a little uneasy because I was not used to going out alone. Meanwhile, I met a passionate classmate who wanted to share something with me. I then behaved as Taiwanese would do while feeling embarrassed, and replied, "Maybe not?" To my surprise, he said: "It's ok to say No." He realized that I was too embarrassed to refuse, and told me that it was okay to refuse directly. This experience made me feel that he respects my decision very much. In addition, they don't force people to change and they won't have negative attitudes towards people because of rejection.

At that time, no matter whom I talked, I could feel their confidence. In comparison, I showed much less self-confidence. Most people were very friendly and helped others without expecting in return. They treated others with respect and kept the space they needed. You can feel the same way when you go to the health center of the university for a physical examination. Once you needed to roll up your sleeves for shots or take off your shirt for an X-ray, the medical staff clearly asked for an oral consent before moving forward. In summary, although staying in the USA only for such short two months, I was able to sense cultural differences, from which I realized my own imperfections and the merits worthy to learn.