

國立東華大學
National Dong Hwa University
姐妹校國際交換交流學生心得報告
International Inbound Exchange Student Report

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原學校 Home University	Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta		
原系所 Home Department	Management and Business		
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Going on exchange to another country was my aim since I registered in Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta, and it was achieved in this year and I really glad that I got the opportunity to study in National Dong Hwa University Taiwan this semester. I was so exciting when my university offering me to go abroad and find some experience before I graduate. I receive my approval letter in November and start taking care something like health report, insurance, visa and other thing before leaving on mid February. And after that the only thing I need to worry was just waiting for my first flight to study abroad in Taiwan.

Departure/Arrival in Taiwan

Leaving Indonesia was an emotional moment in my life since this is the first time I was gone to another country and it just make my parent worried. First flight from Ahmad Yani Airport in Semarang early in the morning headed to Soekarno Hatta International Airport Cengkareng, Jakarta. It was a direct flight from Jakarta to Taiwan. Arrived in Taoyuan International airport at night after 6 six hours flight and planned to meet with the volunteer from Dong Hwa's student in Taipei Main Station (Train Station). Since I and my friend did not know where Taipei Main Station was. So, all of us decided to ride a taxi to go there and this moment was worsen when the taxi driver cannot speak any other language except mandarin. Oh my God I was just laughing when I see my friend try to make him understand where we are going to.

In there we finally met with the volunteer from Dong Hwa, their name was Lisa and Julia (I do not know what their Chinese name). We did not have a time to do a proper greeting due to the train

schedule that will took us to the Dong Hwa was near the time. We rushed to find the train and even after entered the train we just simply took a nap and did not any time to chat with Lisa and Julia. Around midnight we arrived in Hualien station. Because we cannot arranged a meeting with the dormitory manager so we split up, me and my friend dipo stay a night in the hostel while the other continuing to depart to Dong Hwa and Jennifer was taken with them to.

First month in the National Dong Hwa University

Before we split with the girls one of them Lisa give us 2 piece of paper which show Chinese character on it and a simple map which dorm we are going to be. First time to step on Dong Hwa University I was just amazed how big this university. There were a lot of sport fields and dormitories. I live in the dorm 4 with my friend while jenni live in the dorm 2 and the volunteer live in the dorm 6 it was just so far away from mine and jenni's dorm. Before we arrive in Taiwan we were informed that in Taiwan that time the weather were already warmer and I guess I don't need to bring a lot of warm cloths but the reality was the opposite, it was so cold in Taiwan.

The first week was the orientation week, we were gathered to join the welcoming party from Dong Hwa University to all of the International program from, exchange, master degree and Doctor of Philosophy degree. We met people from mainland China, Mongolia, Spain, Czech Republic and the other including Indonesia.

After the greeting event we went to OIA building for registration process and some other thing that need to be done that day in order to get my student ID. In the same week, we went to our Management Science and Finance Department for applying some course for one semester. Wanda was one of the staff that handled our needs for applying the course. She treat us so well and really kind.

I decided to take 6 courses 3 from my department and the other were Chinese language because this course was the main point I went on exchange in Taiwan and the last 2 just something that I think it would be fun to join in. the class went well there was no such big differences with Indonesian teaches. But one thing that different was just in here all of the teachers were so active to encourage their student to enjoy during their lecture.

First Trip to Taroko

This was my first time to look around another side of Hualien. All of the International student and mainland China were invited to this event. We went early in the morning due to there are some spot that we were going to. 3 buses took us went to taroko national park, enjoying a beautiful scenery that I cannot find in my country. How Taiwan makes such a road under a huge mountain, it really gave me a huge thrills but it was just so amazing. After passing that kind of road, we went to a place that really beautiful and all of the thrills before was paid off with a beautiful scenery that Taroko gave to us. In there we also passing through one spot that looks like a small village a place where the original Taroko tribes live and now it become museum now because I did not see someone who resemble as people from Taroko. But it was so cool. Their cultures were different from mine, from the shape of the house, their clothes and daily life.

The second place, we went to a place which look like cultural shop around Hualien, they sell so many things including art that the artist itself made it live performance making some arts that really amazed me. The last trip was visiting a beach; I forgot the name of the beach but it near the campus.

Daily life

I spend my daily life in Dong Hwa just like the what the other student did, study, going out with some friend, attending the class, going to the library sometimes, did the group's assignment. But sometime I did playing around, doing nothing in the weekend, spending time in front of my laptop, pretty much same with the ordinary student.

I want to join with some club but because I just live in here for 4 months, so I think I will pass it. Live in dong hwa was not so difficult, I can accept the diversity in here, and moreover Taiwanese people were so kind. They did not mind helping a person who came from nowhere even cannot speak the same language. They were polite even the elder to youngsters.

My roommate Alan, he came from Taoyuan. Taking History Course in Dong Hwa University. He was a good man, he willing to cooperating with me about all of things in the dormitory. It help me a lot, cause I can living peacefully and did not need to worry about something unnecessary that can bothering me in the future, he is good friend.

Trouble

Actually I did a huge mistake for not paying attention to the date requirement to live in here and it really gave a huge loss, so we all got some trouble that really need to be fixed as soon as possible. But somehow we resolve the problem and continue our study in here.

About my study

From all the courses that I take until now the hardest courses is fundamental Chinese, I did do well in this course, due to the schedule of the course that start in the evening and ended in the night time and also I cannot put a good concern to this course, and it worsen for the mid and final test which also done in the same schedule and we have to do it one by one which really took some times, and I ended up forgot what I have studied the other day. But I do understand some of the teacher lectures though.

There are 2 courses that I enjoyed the most, the first is Strategic Management in Tourism and Hospitality, the reason are the lecture was just easy to understand, the class was also fun, and the most important part is the teacher was just stunning, gorgeous and I really admire her. She put too much effort to make her student enjoyed her class and make her student remember all of the material from her lecture in many ways. It makes me feels like I made a huge loss for not attending her class because it made me lose too many information from the lecture. I hoped I got a chance to attend her class again. The second course is English learning and popular culture. I would call this class as a relaxation class, why?. Because this course we learn to understand the meaning of some western song, old and folk song. I really enjoyed this class, the teacher was also friendly and cool, but he was not Taiwanese, he came from Canada I guess. I was just really glad took this course.

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In conclusion, thanks to my beloved Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta that gave me an opportunity to go on exchange here. And big thanks to National Dong Hwa University which accept us with a warm greeting, especially for International division that have been such help for me and my friend to get experience here. I am so glad that my university makes a relationship with this beautiful University. Also the entire teacher, especially for Athena Mak and Jason thank you for being so admirable. Friends from all over the world that study in Dong Hwa University. And not to mention our

volunteer Lisa, Julia, Jessica and others, thank you for helping us from the start until now, I hope you girls got what you want in this beautiful university. I am glad being here, Thank you.