

韓國中央大學交換心得分享

學校簡介

韓國中央大學（Chung-Ang University, CAU）位於首爾市，是一所擁有悠久歷史的高等學府，以其卓越的教學品質和創新教育理念著稱。中央大學能在韓國教育界佔有一席之地，與其背後的強力支持者——斗山集團（Doosan Group）密不可分。斗山集團是韓國一家歷史悠久且多元化的跨國企業，業務涵蓋建築設備、能源、工程以及消費品等多個領域。中央大學提供多樣化的課程，涵蓋人文、藝術、商業及科技等領域，並且高度國際化，吸引來自世界各地的學生前來交流與學習。學校校園現代化且交通便利，位於韓國首都的中心地帶，使得學生能同時享受學術與都市生活的平衡。

校園分為首爾校區與安城校區，我的交換主要在首爾校區，這裡的地理位置非常便利，靠近地鐵站，生活機能極佳。中央大學還以其藝術與表演學科聞名，特別是影視學院（School of Performing Arts and Media），是許多韓國影視界明星的母校，例如演員玄彬和金秀賢都曾就讀於此。這讓中央大學在學生之間有著很高的知名度，也吸引了對影視藝術感興趣的學生。

課內學習經驗

在中央大學的交換期間，我總共選修了三門課程，其中有兩門課程分別是我個人比較推薦的，分別為 **Integrated Marketing Communications (IMC)** 和 **Management Information Systems (MIS)**。三門課的教授的英文授課流利且幾乎沒有口音，這讓國際學生在學習過程中能毫無障礙。

IMC 課程是我最喜歡的課程之一。教授非常鼓勵學生與他討論個案的應用或者是課堂任何不理解的專有名詞，並且設計了與實際案例相關的個人報告。IMC 期末報告的設計非常有挑戰性，要求學生應用理論進行分析，並要求進行一對一的問答環節，幫助我們更加理解該理論的精髓。這門課不僅讓我更有信心面對行銷實務，也讓我體驗到了嚴謹而專業的學術環境。

同時，該課程採取個人報告的形式，完全避免了團體作業中可能出現的 "free rider" 問題，這對於希望公平評分的我來說是一大優勢。我認為這與韓國非常重視學業態度的文化有關。此外，教授對於學生的請假制度非常嚴格，要求學生提交正式證明文件，並規定請假超過四次將無法參加期中或期末考。另外，遲到也被視為不被允許的行為。雖然這些規定看似嚴苛，但我認為這是對學生應有的基本尊重與責任心的要求。

MIS 課程則讓我接觸到許多前沿科技與概念，例如元宇宙（Metaverse）、比特幣（Bitcoin）、星鏈計畫（Starlink）、大數據及互聯網應用等。教授非常喜歡給學生即興報告的機會，通常會給 10 至 15 分鐘準備時間，要求我們當場發表。我認為這種形式的訓練非常有助於提升抗壓能力，也讓我逐漸克服對於用英文表達的恐懼，變得更加自信與大方。在該課堂上，教授有時會特別向台灣學生詢問我們對於台灣半導體產業的看法，甚至會討論一些與中國政治相關的問題。我發現，這樣的討論不僅讓我有機會以台灣人的角度表達想法，也讓我更加珍惜自己的身份。我深刻感受到台灣在國際舞台上的重要性，這讓我對身為台灣人感到自豪，同時也激勵我更加努力。

課外生活經驗

首爾是一個購物與娛樂的天堂，對於追星愛好者來說更是夢幻之地。在交換期間，我喜歡的團體的小分隊恰好回歸，因此我參加了演唱會、KBS 音樂銀行的預錄、生日會以及聖誕粉絲見面會等活動。雖然在首爾追星十分便利，但同時也需要處理各種突發狀況，例如票務問題、周邊商品有瑕疵等，並且多數時候都需要使用英文溝通。這樣的經歷讓我在解決問題與英文實用能力上都進步了不少。

首爾的娛樂消費相對台灣更實惠，例如音樂會票價較低，質量卻非常高。我也推薦學弟妹可以考慮看音樂劇，或者搭乘首爾的夜間觀光巴士，遊覽整個漢江的夜景。漢江的寬廣景色以及汝矣島附近的現代百貨在夜晚的燈光映襯下顯得格外美麗。對於秋季交換的學生而言，還可以體驗到濃厚的聖誕節氛圍，這是韓國基督教文化中不可或缺的一部分，值得期待。

海外生活的挑戰與成長

在交換期間，我幾乎沒有遇到生活上的困難，因為我本身就有 TOPIK 3 級的韓文程度。唯獨來自於對授課方式的不適應讓我最頭痛。例如，我一門課的教授在期末考前並未按時公布考試消息，甚至安排的文化之旅行程也延遲發布，這讓學生們的讀書計畫被迫調整。面對這樣的情況，我選擇在期末的教學評估中如實反映我的建議，而非直接當面反饋，避免影響教授對我的期末評分。我認為這樣的溝通方式既能有效表達學生的需求，也尊重了教授的專業。

在文化衝擊方面，因為我懂一些韓文，偶爾會察覺到他人與我對話時未使用敬語，這讓我一開始感到有些不適。或者是在外吃飯的時候遇到對“會中文”的客人有敵意的店家，因為我們就發生被多收一隻啤酒的錢。但隨著時間推移，我學會了不把這些細節放在心上，以一種更寬容的心態去面對，退還金額當然必須，只是就也不會想跟對方吵架了。此外，首爾的計程車司機脾氣普遍較暴躁，開車速度快且車道變換時很少打燈，有時甚至會在路上與其他司機發生爭執，剛開始對這樣的情景都會比較害怕。

最後，我個人成長在於學會追隨自己的心意。在台灣時，我總是習慣配合團體的計畫，甚至會犧牲自己的想法來迎合他人。然而，在首爾的四個月中，我漸漸學會享受一個人的自由，也更加勇敢地說“不”。這樣的心態轉變讓我感受到前所未有的輕鬆與滿足。

心得與建議

總結來說，這次交換的經驗讓我更有自信，更加珍惜作為台灣人的身份，也學會了用英語表達自己的想法。雖然目前無法具體評估這段經歷對我未來的影響，但能夠在非英語系國家生活四個月，確實是一件值得驕傲的事，畢竟點餐購物時都是使用韓文。我也非常感謝這段時間能給予自己喜歡的偶像滿滿的應援，認識來自不同文化的朋友，這些回憶將永遠留存在我的心中。

對於未來想要交換的學弟妹，我建議提前了解學校的課程安排與生活環境，並且勇於接受文化差異帶來的挑戰。這段經歷雖然充滿挑戰，但絕對值得投入時間與努力，因為你將收穫到的不僅是知識，還有無價的人生經驗。

Introduction to the University

Chung-Ang University (CAU), located in Seoul, South Korea, is a prestigious institution with a long history, renowned for its excellent teaching quality and innovative educational approach. The university's prominent position in South Korea's education sector is closely tied to its strong supporter, the Doosan Group. Doosan Group is a well-established and diversified multinational corporation in Korea, with businesses spanning construction equipment, energy, engineering, and consumer goods.

Chung-Ang University offers a wide range of courses across humanities, arts, business, and technology, attracting students from around the globe due to its high degree of internationalization. The campus is modern and conveniently located in the heart of South Korea's capital, providing students with a balance between academic and urban life.

The university comprises two campuses: the Seoul Campus and the Anseong Campus. My exchange primarily took place at the Seoul Campus, which boasts an extremely convenient location near a subway station and excellent living amenities. Chung-Ang University is particularly renowned for its arts and performance disciplines, especially its School of Performing Arts and Media. It is the alma mater of many prominent figures in the Korean entertainment industry, including actors Hyun Bin and Kim Soo-hyun. This gives the university high recognition among students and attracts those interested in film and performing arts.

Academic Experiences

During my exchange at Chung-Ang University, I enrolled in three courses, among which two stood out as my personal recommendations: **Integrated Marketing Communications (IMC)** and **Management Information Systems (MIS)**. The professors' English proficiency was impressive, with almost no accent, ensuring that international students could learn without language barriers.

IMC was one of my favorite courses. The professor encouraged active discussion of case studies and clarification of any specialized terms. The course included assignments tied to real-life cases, which made learning highly relevant. The final project was particularly challenging, requiring students to apply theories to analyze cases and participate in one-on-one Q&A sessions. This approach deepened our understanding of the core concepts and gave me confidence in tackling marketing practices while experiencing a rigorous and professional academic environment.

Additionally, the individual assignments eliminated potential "free rider" issues often associated with group work, which I found to be a significant advantage for fair grading. I believe this reflects Korea's emphasis on academic diligence. Moreover, the professor implemented a strict attendance policy, requiring official documentation for absences and stipulating that missing more than four classes would disqualify students from midterm or final exams. Lateness was also considered unacceptable. While these rules seemed stringent, I felt they instilled a sense of responsibility and respect among students.

The MIS course introduced me to cutting-edge technologies and concepts, such as the Metaverse, Bitcoin, Starlink, big data, and internet applications. The professor frequently assigned impromptu presentations, allowing 10 to 15 minutes of preparation before requiring us to present on the spot. This format was incredibly helpful in building resilience under pressure and gradually overcoming my fear of expressing myself in English, making me more confident and articulate.

In this class, the professor occasionally asked Taiwanese students for their opinions on Taiwan's semiconductor industry or even political issues related to China. These discussions gave me a chance to express my perspective as a Taiwanese individual, further deepening my appreciation for my identity. I realized the significance of Taiwan on the global stage, which filled me with pride and motivated me to strive even harder.

Extracurricular Experiences

Seoul is a paradise for shopping and entertainment, especially for fans of K-pop. During my exchange, the subunit of my favorite group had a comeback, and I attended their concert, KBS Music Bank pre-recording, a birthday event, and a Christmas fan meeting. Although pursuing K-pop activities in Seoul is convenient, it also requires managing unexpected situations, such as ticketing issues or defects in merchandise, which often necessitated communication in English. These experiences significantly improved my problem-solving and practical language skills.

Entertainment costs in Seoul are relatively more affordable than in Taiwan. For example, concert tickets are less expensive but of high quality. I also recommend future exchange students explore musicals or take the Seoul Night Tour Bus to admire the stunning views of the Han River at night. The expansive river scenery, along with the modern lights of Hyundai Department Store near Yeouido, creates a breathtaking nighttime experience. For students attending in the fall, the festive Christmas atmosphere—a highlight of Korea's Christian culture—is something to look forward to.

Challenges and Personal Growth

During my exchange, I encountered minimal difficulties in daily life due to my TOPIK Level 3 Korean proficiency. However, the biggest challenge was adapting to the teaching style. For example, one professor failed to announce the final exam details on time and delayed the itinerary for a cultural trip, disrupting students' study plans. Faced with this situation, I chose to provide honest feedback in the end-of-semester teaching evaluation rather than confronting the professor directly, to avoid impacting my final grade. I found this approach effective in expressing students' needs while respecting the professor's professionalism.

Cultural shocks were also present. For instance, I occasionally noticed people not using honorifics when speaking to me, which made me uncomfortable at first. Additionally, some restaurants displayed hostility toward Chinese-speaking customers—for example, charging us for an extra beer we did not order. Over time, I learned not to dwell on these details and approached such incidents with a more tolerant mindset. Of course, I made sure to resolve overcharges but refrained from escalating disputes. Another challenge was Seoul's taxi drivers, who often had short tempers, drove aggressively, and rarely signaled when changing lanes. Initially, I found this intimidating but gradually adapted to it.

Ultimately, I learned to follow my own heart during this exchange experience. In Taiwan, I often prioritized group plans and sacrificed my ideas to accommodate others. However, during my four months in Seoul, I gradually learned to enjoy personal freedom and became more confident in saying “no.” This mindset shift brought me an unprecedented sense of ease and fulfillment.

Reflections and Suggestions

In conclusion, this exchange experience boosted my confidence, deepened my appreciation for my Taiwanese identity, and taught me to express my thoughts in English. While it's difficult to measure the long-term impact of this experience, spending four months in a non-English-speaking country was undoubtedly an accomplishment, especially as I navigated daily life using Korean for tasks like ordering food and shopping.

I am incredibly grateful for the chance to wholeheartedly support my favorite idols, meet friends from different cultures, and create cherished memories that will stay with me forever.

For future exchange students, I recommend researching the school's courses and living environment in advance and embracing the challenges that come with cultural differences. Though this journey may be filled with challenges, the rewards—both in knowledge and invaluable life experiences—are well worth the effort.