

心得分享

我是資管研究所的瓊之，很幸運用一個學期交換到新加坡南洋理工大學（以下簡稱 NTU），NTU 長年在 QS 世界排名上穩居前 30 名，當時申請動機就是想去看看世界頂級一流學府學子們的生活方式和世界觀、學校課堂教學方式，後來在新加坡認識的台灣交換生的申請動機大都也都是因為 NTU 在國際上的知名度。

NTU 在申請交換的過程中碰到不確定的程序寫信到 NTU 國際處很快就獲得回信，因為是研究生，NTU 的選課上有比較多限制，除了不能修商學院的課以外，只能從 NTU 開的一串課程清單中選擇，行政人員甚至善意提醒我如果都是選擇接近機械工程的課，欲交換的學院最好選工程學院，在交換程序中 NTU 似乎有比其他姐妹校複雜一點點，但學校的老師、行政人員、宿舍工作人員都非常友善，交換期間遇到需要協助時通常都能得到比預期更多的幫助，像是我有個晚上宿舍房間鑰匙忘在房間裡，房間被室友上鎖了，撥打 24 小時緊急電話，30 分鐘內就有開鎖人員來協助，事後須繳交約台幣 500 元的開鎖費，若鑰匙也弄丟沒記錯是約台幣 1000 元，但當下能獲得即時的協助比較重要。

我在 NTU 選修兩門課，一堂是關於化學材料的概論課，另一堂是航運管理，研究生只能選修研究所開設的課程，並且在申請交換程序中就至少要選上一門課程，化學材料這門課是預錄的線上課程，每周老師都會固定安排線上視訊回答學生的問題，大多都是小考題目的問題，老師也會很耐心講解，但沒有化學背景修起來比較吃力；航運管理是請兩位業界講師各負責一半的課程講授，都是業界已經具有一定地位的高階主管，兩位講師都口調流暢、樂於分享業界實際例子，總共有兩次期中考一次期末考，課程內容對航運管理提供廣泛概略的介紹，是我特別喜歡的一門課，每周都要複習課程進度，只有一次期中考是選擇題，另外兩次考試題目都是論述簡答題，必須掌握航運管理的邏輯、不是全部背起來就會寫，會明顯感覺到自己有學到新東西，不是背完書考完試就全部忘光。

課外生活方面，NTU 的國際處會舉辦很多交流活動，不論是國際學生之間的或是新加坡國內學生和國際學生之間的交流，但如果要深入了解當地文化、跟新加坡本地學生有比較頻繁的互動可能還是要靠社團活動參與，每棟宿舍樓都有自己的多個社團，在學期結束後不同宿舍樓會有競賽交流，常見的宿舍社團包含：排球、籃球、躲避球、田徑慢跑、西洋棋、圍棋、飛鏢、桌游等，也有校級的社團例如：熱舞、龍舟、攝影以及多種運動類社團，NTU 的社團風氣相當盛行，我加入宿舍的慢跑社團，認識到當地的幾位工程學院的同學，對當地的教育制度、人文、社會風氣等幾乎都是透過跟他們聊天了解的，蠻推薦若有學弟妹未來去 NTU 交換可以參與當地的社團。

去交換帶來的好處有幾項：1. 擴展國際觀：大家都說出國能擴展國際觀，我到出國之後才真的了解這句話，在不同的國家看到不一樣的生活方式、自己

生活圈外的人們如何思考、生活，看到更大的世界之後或多或少會有所啟發，在那裏認識的上海交大去交換的中國同學就跟我說看到有快 30 歲的學生才剛進入校園上大一，他覺得人生好像除了按部就班準時畢業、努力追求高分以外還有其他彈性的空間，一趟交換下來視野變得比較開闊是我自認比較重大的成長。

2. 提升語言能力：新加坡以英文為第一語言，雖然在 food court 若碰到華人面孔商家仍會使用中文交談，整體的英文使用程度絕對比在台灣多，學校課程也都是英文教學，這對使用英文對答、思考、閱讀都很有助益，以上兩點是我去交換比較明顯感受到的具體助益。

感想和建議部分，若未來學弟妹有意前往新加坡交換，生活用品上可以不用帶太多，我與其他交換生交換期間幾乎每兩個禮拜就去新山補貨和聚餐一次，坐公車就跨越國界到馬來西亞了，物價比新加坡低不少，周末的新山商場放眼望去幾乎都是新加坡人帶著行李廂或大背包準備採購完帶回新加坡，算是非常有趣的文化衝擊。辦一隻預付卡門號在當地會比較方便，若常有跨境需求可以選擇有贈送漫遊的方案，因為是華人為主的國家，在那裏的生活起居跟食衣住行適應上不會太困難。可以在台灣先辦好星展的帳號、申辦外幣帳戶，到當地使用星展或者大華銀行的 ATM 提新幣不用手續費，也能省去辦當地帳戶的時間。新加坡一年四季天氣炎熱，我的體感是比高雄夏天涼爽一些些，有些學校宿舍不會每間都安裝冷氣，我住到的房間剛好有冷氣，但多數時間都沒有開，我的美國室友在聊天時分享他的想法，大意是：應該是我們去適應新加坡而不是讓新加坡變得跟自己熟悉的環境一樣。去新加坡南洋理工大學交換是我很難得珍貴並且非常有意義的一次人生經歷，希望未來的學弟妹也能獲得一樣美好的體驗。

My Exchange Experience at Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore

I was fortunate to spend a semester as an exchange student at Nanyang Technological University (NTU), one of the top universities globally, consistently ranked within the top 30 in QS World Rankings. My primary motivation for applying was to experience life at a world-class university and to learn from its academic and cultural environment. Many Taiwanese exchange students I met shared similar motivations, drawn by NTU's strong international reputation.

Academic Experience

The application process for NTU was relatively smooth, with the university's International Office providing timely responses to queries. As a graduate student, course selection was limited to certain faculties, excluding the Business School, and I could only choose from a predefined course list. Despite these constraints, the faculty and administrative staff were incredibly supportive, always willing to assist beyond expectations.

I enrolled in two courses during my exchange: Introduction to Chemical Materials and Shipping Management. The former was a pre-recorded online course supplemented with weekly Q&A sessions, while the latter was delivered by two industry experts who enriched the content with real-world examples. The Shipping Management course, in particular, left a lasting impression due to its practical approach and insightful assessments, which emphasized understanding rather than rote memorization.

Campus and Social Life

NTU offers a vibrant campus life, with numerous events organized by the International Office and student clubs. While international students can interact with local students through these events, deeper connections often happen through active participation in campus clubs. I joined the dormitory track and relay club, which introduced me to local students and gave me insights into Singaporean culture, education, and social dynamics. NTU's strong club culture is something I highly recommend future exchange students to explore.

Key Benefits of the Exchange

Broadened Perspectives

Living in a different country allowed me to witness diverse lifestyles and worldviews. For example, I met a Chinese exchange student from Shanghai Jiao Tong University who was inspired by the flexibility of academic and career paths she observed in Singapore. Experiences like these helped me develop a more open-minded perspective.

Enhanced Language Proficiency

Being in an English-speaking country significantly improved my language skills, particularly in academic contexts. From lectures to daily conversations, the immersion greatly enhanced my confidence in using English for both formal and informal communication.

Reflections and Suggestions

For those considering an exchange to Singapore, a few practical tips:

Travel and Shopping: New Johor Bahru (Malaysia) is just a bus ride away, offering affordable shopping and dining options. Many locals and exchange students frequently visit for a cultural and financial contrast.

Banking and Connectivity: Setting up a DBS account in Taiwan before departure and opting for prepaid SIM cards with roaming features can make daily life more convenient.

Climate and Accommodation: Singapore's tropical weather is warm year-round but generally tolerable. Some dorms don't have air conditioning, so be prepared to adapt.

Overall, my exchange at NTU was an invaluable and transformative experience. It not only broadened my academic and cultural horizons but also enriched my understanding of global perspectives. I encourage future students to embrace this opportunity and create their own unforgettable memories.