

中文心得：

從高中時我就有個出國交換的夢想，或許是因為我自己的媽媽之前大學畢業工作前夕也有去英國遊學兩個多月並也自己與同學在那個年代就自由行遊歐洲，因此聽媽媽講很多他年輕時在國外的種種故事時更是令我嚮往去國外生活。而本身我自己也是一個很崇尚歐美文化跟喜歡英文這門語言的人，因此更加確定我的人生中一定要去當交換學生一次，因為對於我而言去旅遊跟去當學生在一個新環境居住、生活、學習，以及認識當地同學與室友等，都會與單純去旅遊有著不同的感受。

因此來就讀碩士前就有事先詢問中山大學交換學生的狀況，知道每年都有許多名額可以出國令我感到非常開心，而我覺得很幸運的是我申請到碩三去交換一年的這個時間點是我最夢寐以求的，算是 24 年的學生生涯準備劃下句點後，在工作前給自己一年的 gap year! 而申請到德國這個國家是我申請表填寫的第一志願（雖然我內心的第一志願是英國，除了語言因素外也因為我有著倫敦夢吧哈哈），但因為當初有詢問過如果化學系碩班要去英國只有雙聯這個機會，而我希望的是能比較沒有壓力的讀書跟旅遊並重，因此就沒有考慮雙連了！而德國也算是非常喜歡也想去，因為在德國的台灣人其實很多，且德國的物價也相對英國親民許多，最重要的是德國人的英文能力基本上可以說是非常好，若我不會德語的前提還是能生活跟上課，因此我就開啟我在德國佛萊堡大學的一年旅居生活啦～

在德國的第一學期我去了非常多地方旅遊，因為第一學期我選了兩門大學部的課程，因此這兩門課程對我有相關化學背景的人來說可以說是非常輕鬆而老師也說上課不用點名出席率不占分所以我時常跑出門玩。而也因為我十分幸運申請到了德國巴登符騰堡州的 BWS 州立獎學金，不但因為有這個州立獎學金我可以不用負擔任何辦理簽證的費用，也更是因為有這個每個月 800 歐元的獎學金讓我在歐洲的生活可以說是非常舒適，不用像很多只能靠自己積蓄生活的同學一樣需要非常精打細算（我也還是需要精打細算啦，畢竟歐洲東西這麼昂貴，但應該說我有更多預算可以跑去其他國家玩，而且很多甚至可以不去一次，我這一年總共去了歐洲 28 個國家，基本上所有大家能講出名字的我應該都去了 XD）。

而在德國的第二學期開始前，我有回台灣兩週左右，因此我的機票錢總共是兩趟的錢（都是直飛法蘭克福）。第二學期我選的兩門課程都是佛萊堡大學化學系碩士班的課程，且剛好都是生化相關的，老師們人都很好，同學們也都十分友善，而也因為我這學期比較認真有在去學校上課，我才有比較認識跟與班上同學互動 XD 也因為這樣我就在第二學期交了一個美國加州的男朋友哈哈哈哈哈（阿剛好我也不會德語，我對一板一眼的德國男生又沒有興趣），於是這一年來除了課業、旅遊玩樂，更是交到了一群非常要好來自韓國、日本、中國跟台灣的亞洲朋友們，以及最重要的一個我非常非常喜歡的美國男友，這一年的經歷將會是我這輩子進棺材前回想起都會微笑的溫暖回憶吧㊦

英文心得：

Ever since high school, I've always dreamed of going on a student exchange abroad. Maybe it's because my mom once went on a study trip to the UK for over two months before she started working after university, and she even traveled around Europe freely with her classmates—something quite rare at that time. Listening to her stories about her youth abroad really made me long for the experience of living overseas. I've also always been drawn to Western culture and genuinely enjoy learning English, which made me even more certain that going on an exchange would be something I had to do at least once in my life. To me, traveling as a tourist and living in a new environment as a student—studying, adjusting to daily life, meeting local classmates and roommates—are two completely different experiences.

That's why, even before starting my master's program, I looked into the exchange opportunities at National Sun Yat-sen University. I was thrilled to find out that there were many spots available each year. I feel incredibly lucky to have been able to go abroad during my third year of the master's program—it felt like the perfect timing. After 24 years as a student, I saw this as the best possible way to wrap up my academic journey with a meaningful "gap year" before starting work. I applied to go to Germany, which was my top choice on paper (though deep down, my heart was set on the UK—partly because of the language, and partly because I've always dreamed of living in London haha). However, I found out that the only exchange option for Chemistry master's students in the UK was through a dual-degree program, which would be more academically demanding. I wanted a more balanced experience between studying and traveling, so I didn't go for that option.

Germany, on the other hand, was still a country I really wanted to experience. There are many Taiwanese people living there, the cost of living is more affordable compared to the UK, and most importantly, Germans generally have excellent English skills. That meant I could still study and get by in daily life without knowing German. So, my one-year journey in Freiburg, Germany, began!

In the first semester, I traveled a lot. I had enrolled in two undergraduate-level chemistry courses, which were fairly easy for someone with my background. The professors didn't take attendance and it wasn't graded, so I often took the chance to explore. I was also fortunate to receive the Baden-Württemberg Scholarship from the state government, which covered all my visa application fees. On top of that, the monthly €800 stipend made my life in Europe much more comfortable. Unlike many other exchange students who had to rely solely on their savings and budget tightly, I had a bit more financial flexibility (though I still had to be careful—Europe isn't cheap!). With the extra budget, I was able to travel to other countries—some of them even more than once. Over the course of the year, I visited 28 countries in Europe! I probably made it to most of the ones people can name off the top of their heads 🤔

Before the second semester began, I returned to Taiwan for about two weeks, so I ended up buying round-trip tickets (both were direct flights to Frankfurt). For the second semester, I took two graduate level chemistry courses at Freiburg University, both related to biochemistry. The professors were kind, and the classmates were friendly. Since I started going to class more regularly, I got to know my classmates better and interacted with them more—which also led to me meeting my boyfriend from California, USA 😊 (Well,

I don't speak German, and I'm not exactly into the more reserved German guys).

So over the past year, aside from studying and traveling, I also formed close friendships with a group of amazing Asian friends from Korea, Japan, China, and Taiwan—and most importantly, I met a wonderful American boyfriend whom I really, really love. This year has been an experience I'll cherish for the rest of my life—one of those memories I'll smile about even when I'm old and looking back from my deathbed.