

General Information			
Host Country	Taiwan		
Host School	Shih Chien		
Program start & end dates	Fall 2023 - Spring 2024 (Sept 8 2023 -July 1 2024)		
Program of Study at KPU	ETP		
Type of Study Abroad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X Exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> UMAP exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
General Evaluation			
In a couple of sentences, summarize and explain your general evaluation of your experience.	Truly an eye-opening experience. I'm so grateful and happy I was given the opportunity to study abroad and immerse myself in Taiwan while reconnecting with family members.		
What is your recommendation rating of the University and why from a 1 (bad)– 10 (amazing)?	I would give it a 7. There was a lot of misinformation from the office themselves and sometimes I would either completely miss out on certain things or pay extra.		
Arrival			
How easy or challenging was it to obtain your travel documents (visa, permits, etc.)?	Pretty hard, Ian told me some wrong things that led to me getting some unnecessary documents		
Describe your transportation arrangements to your host country. Would you alter any part of those arrangements?	A plane flight over and then a subway to my destination. No, I would not change anything.		
How was your experience clearing customs and immigration upon arrival in your host country? Any surprises?	Simple and easy, no surprises.		
Describe how you traveled to your host facility. How long did it take and how much did it cost?	Took a 4-minute walk since I found my own accommodation.		
Orientation and Assistance			
How satisfied were you with the assistance available to at your host school? Were there people and resources available for you for support?	It was ok, they were there to help whenever I needed.		
What help did you receive from the international staff or office?	Just class and travel tips.		
How was new student orientation at the host university? What did they do?	Met the president of the university while he introduced Taiwan and the University. Then he called our countries and had everyone stand up once yours was called.		
Housing & Daily Life			

Describe your accommodation in your host country. Were you pleased with this choice or what would you have done differently?	Very happy since I lived alone in my own space. Next time I would like to live somewhere with a window above ground for fresh air and minimal cockroaches.
When could you move into housing and how long were you allowed to stay?	Immediately and however long I wanted.
What kinds of services and facilities were nearby where you lived (shop, cafe gym, parks, pharmacy, stations...)	Parks, restaurants, convenience stores, pharmacies, bus and subway stations.
Describe what you did about meals and what other options were available. How satisfied were you with the food?	Lots of choices nearby and the university food had extremely affordable and tasty food. I was quite happy during my stay.
How close was your accommodation to where you studied?	4 minute walk
Academics & Course Registration	
Describe the registration process at your host institution. What assistance was available to you? Were you satisfied?	I constantly had communication with Ian from Shih Chien, he took care of all students from North America. He was a nice guy but he kept telling me wrong things and I ended up missing out on some things and pay extra.
What advice would you offer to another exchange student about registration at your host institution?	Although they work there and oversee your stay, do your own research. Always ask for a second opinion.
What tips do you have for finding the courses and course syllabuses/ outlines?	If you want mandarin taught courses you need to be able to speak Mandarin or have a connection.
Academics & Course Registration (cont'd)	
How satisfied were you with the amount of knowledge/skills you obtained from your host?	Pretty happy, I learned lots and experienced even more.
How did the style of teaching, and workload compare to Canada? Was it more independent or group learning?	I wrote almost zero essays, and they mainly did group presentations for marks.
How many courses did you take during your time abroad? Are there particular courses would you recommend?	I think I took over 10 in total. All of the are ok.

What was your impression of the computer facilities, library, internet access, specialized equipment and supplies available at your host facility?	Library was super amazing, quiet and organized. And everything was kept in relatively good shape considering the building looks super old.
Cost	
Books and Supplies/per term:	\$50
Flight:	\$2000
Accommodation/per month:	\$500
Meals/per month:	\$500
Local transportation/per month:	\$30
Health insurance/per term:	\$100
Communication (internet, phone, etc.) – per term	\$200
Travel documents (Passport, Study permit, visa, etc.)	\$250
Vaccinations:	\$0
Personal spending (entertainment and extra travel) – per term	\$2000
Were there unexpected costs you encounter? What items were less or more expensive than expected?	The highspeed rail was a lot more expensive than what I had imagined.
Extra-Curricular & Social Activities	
What type of organized activities were available to you? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future students?	Lots of clubs and some trips were organized specifically for the exchange students.
Did you travel outside the host location? If so, where do you recommend?	I went down the entirety of Taiwan. Id recommend Alishan and Taichung.
What opportunities were there to work or volunteer? Did you require special permits to do this?	Lots of volunteer opportunities at middle schools and high school.
Health and Safety	
Describe any health/safety concerns or issues you had during your experience.	Just a common cold.
What helped you keep safe and healthy? Did you access any health care supports and if so how was the experience?	Nothing in particular
What wellness supports did they offer at the University? Were	Aside from health insurance I don't know.

there counselling or medical services?	
Personal and Cultural Connections	
Were there any cultural differences you had to adjust to? Were there language barrier issues?	No
What part(s) of the country and culture did you most appreciate?	The mistreatment of service workers
How was it traveling alone and making friends?	Really fun, Id do it again if I could
How were you treated by local people? By university staff and faculty? By students?	Pretty good
How accommodating are they to students with a disability? Were there any accommodations offered?	I don't know
How is the situation for students who are visible minorities in your host country?	Lots of locals actually like them
How welcoming are they to for those who identify as LGBTQIA+?	The older generation doesn't like it but there are lots of lgbt events for the younger generation.
Overall	
What are 5-10 important things other students should know before going to your host country/region?	
1. Know basic Chinese words	
2. Have some cash ready	
3. The buses can be confusing so download a couple local apps to make to easier	
4. Stand on the right side of the escalator, don't block the left as it is used for walking up	
5. Convenience stores are truly convenient, you can find lots of things you need in there	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
What was the most rewarding part of your study abroad experience?	Reconnecting with family and making friends
What was the greatest challenge you faced during your experience	Probably Jet lag for the first few days.

abroad?	
How has your perspective changed as a result of your study abroad experience?	I appreciate my parents a lot more than before and I feel as if I have grown as a person and matured more.
What else do you want to add about your study abroad?	Was fun, I recommend others to try.

Below is a space to share photos

