

NCHU Ambassador- 2024 Winter Vacation- International Students' Life Experience

Goo Ruo Yun

Why is NCHU my first choice for Veterinary Medicine?

Ashamed, before embarking my university journey, I was actually unaware of National Chung Hsing University. Due to my environmental factors, the focus had always been on National Taiwan University when comparing the same major. Also, many people choose National Taiwan University for its international rankings. It is undoubtedly that my first choice that time was also National Taiwan University. However, or I can say luckily, due to less-than-ideal high school grades, I did not successfully enter NTU. I am very grateful now to have been favored by the goddess of luck as I am enjoying my university life at its finest thanks to NCHU. Many around me did not succeed in entering their first choice and opted National Chung Hsing University. Despite this, with a growing understanding of the veterinary field, we have no regrets about our initial decision and are firm in our choice to continue studying at National Chung Hsing University. Here I am to tell you why.

If one has some understanding of the veterinary field, they would know that within the societal profession, we can specialize in small animals (dogs, cats), large animals (cows, horses, etc.), wildlife (zoos, conservation facilities), public service (government agencies), and more. Our university, with its roots in agriculture, particularly excels in the field of livestock (cattle, pigs, chickens, etc.). To meet societal demands, our university has continuously improved knowledge and hands-on learning opportunities in various areas, making our faculty and techniques increasingly sophisticated. Professors demonstrate mature medical techniques for different animal species and generously impart complete logical thinking and diagnostic models for students to reference. Comparatively, different universities have their own specialties or areas of expertise. Before entering, it's advisable to inquire about the field of interest and the corresponding university.

With the growing emphasis on animal welfare, students without a veterinary license may have limited opportunities for hands-on experience with animals. Therefore, our department provides many opportunities for internships at external units. For example, during the winter break of my sophomore year, I interned at a pig farm in Taichung, and in the next summer of my third year, I interned at the Animal Control Disease of Taitung. During these internships, I learned many things not covered in class, encountered common clinical cases, enhanced my thinking abilities, and had numerous practical opportunities. Doctors and seniors there are very willing to teach and they are happy to see students who always take the initiative. In addition to the mentioned internships, there are other units such as Leofoo Village Zoo, Wild One Rescue Center, and Farglory Ocean Park, and even universities abroad in Thailand and Japan that offer internship positions. According to my classmates, each internship provides unique experiences and is a series of eye-opening growth process.

On the contrary, we must adapt to a high-pressure environment and acknowledge that people tend to forget what they have learned. The only option is to review gradually, allowing the acquired knowledge to become ingrained in oneself. Due to the diverse range of animal species, beyond just dealing with dogs and cats, veterinarians must learn the physiological knowledge, anatomical structures, potential diseases, and specific medications that may cause noticeable side effects for

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various animals. The knowledge acquired each year is a gradual accumulation, and by the junior year, it is necessary to integrate the previously learned knowledge into a logical thinking pattern. This is essential to successfully pass the national examination and obtain a veterinary license. The process is not easy, as we are taking on a profession where we are responsible for lives. However, the struggle is worthwhile for the pursuit of a career we are passionate about.

In addition to sharing about the department, I would like to briefly introduce our university's International Affairs Office. Our school's International Affairs Office goes above and beyond to take care of us, foreign students. During holidays, they organize activities or prepare small gifts for those of us who cannot go home, such as providing mooncakes for the Mid-Autumn Festival or preparing dumpling rice for the Tomb-sweeping Day. There is also Dragon Boat Race on land on the Dragon Boat Festival. They also frequently organize cultural trips to different counties and cities, such as Nantou, Changhua, Tainan, and others. We often receive messages from them, reminding us of scholarship application deadlines, cautioning against online scams, and providing information on advanced course registrations. With such creative ways to attract and occupy us foreign students, lot of us are moved and appreciate for what they have done. Although we are very occupied by our classes and exams, we are still willing to participate to OIA's events once we had the chance. I must say, I am truly grateful for the assistance from the International Affairs Office and hope to let more people see the excellence of National Chung Hsing University!

在入學前，我其實是不知道國立中興大學這所學校的。因為環境的關係，在相同科系的比較之下一直被關注的只有國立台灣大學。除科系之外，許多人更會為了學校的在國際的排名而就讀國立台灣大學，可想而知當時的我第一志願也是國立台灣大學。不過因為高中成績並不理想，沒有順利進入第一志願。現在的我十分慶幸受到幸運女神的眷顧，在第二志願過著想要的大學生活。身邊許多人也像我一樣，沒成功進入第一志願而改讀第二志願。雖然如此，隨著對獸醫這領域的認識，我們並沒有後悔當初的決定，也堅定自己繼續留在中興大學學習的選擇。這就來告訴你為什麼我會這麼說。

若有稍微了解過獸醫這個領域，會知道在社會職業中的我們又可以分為小動物（犬、貓）、大動物（牛、馬等）、野生動物（動物園、保育所等）、公職（公家單位）等等。歷史記載著中興大學是由農業「起家」的，因此畜牧業（牛、豬、雞等等）為我校獸醫學院極為資深的一領域。後來為了適應社會的需求，我們學院開始精進各個領域的知識及手動學習機會，讓各方面的師資和技術越來越完善。教授們皆展現出對於不同動物物種的成熟醫療技術及不吝嗇地傳授完整的思考邏輯和診斷模式供學生參考。在對比之下，不同的大學都有各自較專長或資深的領域，在入學前不妨提前打聽看自己有興趣的領域以及相對應的大學。

隨著動物福利的重視，未持有獸醫執照的學生能在動物身上動手的機會被限制。因此，我們系上提供了許多到校外單位實習的機會。舉例來說，在大二寒假時我曾到台中豬場去實習、即將升大四的暑假則到了台東市動物防疫所去實習。在實習期間學到了許多在課堂上沒學到的東西、臨床上常見的病例和促進學生的思考能力、更是有許多實作的機會。除了以上提及的兩個實習單位，還有其他的單位例如六福村動物園、野灣野生動物保育協會、遠雄海

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洋公園等等，甚至是國外泰國、日本的大學也有提供實習名額。據同學分享，在每個單位實習都有不一樣的心得且是一次又一次大開眼界的成長過程。

除了系上的分享，我也想稍微介紹我們學校的國際事務處。我校的國際事務處可說是盡智竭力、鞠躬盡瘁，想方設法照顧我們這些外籍學生。逢年過節，他們都會為沒辦法回家的我們準備小活動或小禮物，例如在中秋節時準備月餅、在清明節時準備粽子等。他們也經常舉辦不同縣市的文化旅游，像是南投、彰化、臺南以及其他。經常會收到他們的訊息，提醒我們申請獎學金的期限、小心網路詐騙、提供進階課程的報名等等。不得不說，我真的很感謝國際事務處對我的幫助也希望能讓更多人看見國立中興大學的好！

| Photos | Brief Introduction (maximum of 100 words per photo) |
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| <p>The illustration depicts my English teacher's polite and thorough instruction on various aspects of English conversation, grammar, and IELTS exam preparation. This opportunity is invaluable for enhancing English proficiency at no cost. Engaging in English conversation practice facilitates cultural exchange and idea-sharing, while targeted preparation for exams like IELTS, TOEFL, and TOEIC ensures</p> | |
|  | <p>Annual dinner for celebrating the end of the year held by OIA. 國際事務處舉辦的年末尾牙。</p> |

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Department of veterinary medicine won the Agricultural cup.

獸醫系在農院盃中獲得了冠軍。



OIA gave cinnamon rolls for us to appreciate our teacher's hard work on mothers' day.

國際事務處在母親節時準備了肉桂卷讓我們送給喜歡的老師感謝他們的付出。



The internship opportunity given by our department at Animal Control Disease of Taitung.

在臺東縣動物防疫所實習。