

# Exchange in China 心得

西南財經大學 *Southwestern University of Finance and Economics*



From March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 until July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, I went to China for exchange. To be more specific, I studied at Southwestern University of Finance and Economics and chose Finance for my major there. In addition, the university is one of the best university of Finance in China and is located in Chengdu, the city which is popular for Panda.

I went to China on 3<sup>rd</sup> of March with my Indonesian friend and met my other friends in the airport. After we arrived at the school, we directly looked for Wan Xin 老師, the person who was in charge of the exchange students from Taiwan. Then, we registered our name and 老師 gave us the dorm room number and key. Afterwards, 老師 simply introduced the school and the buildings, then she asked the class leader to take us to take a photo for our student card and helped us to buy the internet inside the school. Then, we went to our dorm and at that time we were helped by our roommates to take the heavy luggage until fourth floor. After we put our stuffs in our room, we went out to buy our daily stuffs, such as bed, bucket, shampoo, soap, cable, etc. After that, we went to local restaurant to have dinner together.

On the next day, we woke up a bit early to buy the sim card for our phones because at the previous day we did not know where we could buy that. So, we decided to buy the sim card on the next day. After we bought it, our roommate helped us to choose the course. Because we chose it a bit late (usually the university's students choose the course at least two months before the class begin), so we needed to look for 老師 to help us contacted the professor and let us took the courses. But, unfortunately, it was really slow, even after two weeks' class began, we still did not have the courses officially. There were not our names in the name lists of the course and it made us confused. I chose 3 courses in the university and I had around 9 credits that I can transfer to NCHU.

Besides, for the dorm, it was super shocking. We lived together with Chinese student and it was super dingy, untidy, and smelly, especially the bathroom. Furthermore, one of my roommate snores every night and it disturbed me every night. Actually, I and my friend were in the same room and we really could not stand it. We already cleaned the room but whenever our roommates came back to the dorm, the room would dirty and mossy again.

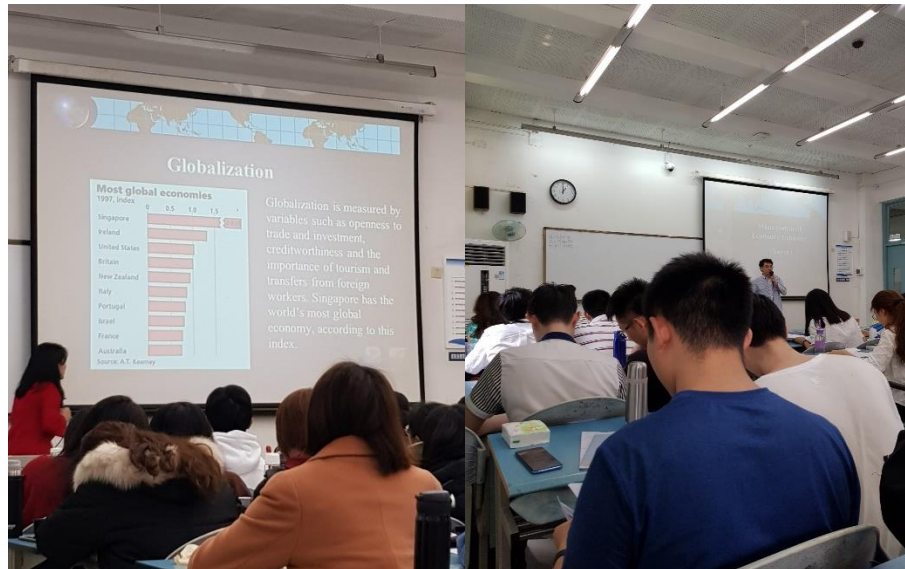
We did not know how to tell our roommates because we felt uneasy and we afraid that it would hurt them. Therefore, we ended up with telling 老師 and asked her whether we could move to international students building or not, and did not live with Chinese students because we realized that we had different life habits and could not live together. But, 老師 did not permit us to move to international building because they said the international student buildings were full and did not have any spaces for us, and they also did not permit us to live off-campus.



Several days after that, we finally met Indonesian friends and they said that in their buildings, which were international student buildings, had a lot of free spaces and they proofed it to us. Then, we tried to tell 老師 again that there were a lot of free spaces for us and even if we needed to pay, it was not a problem for us. But, shockingly, 老師 said that we could not live there because the building was just for international students and we were counted as Chinese student. For me, this reason was doesn't make sense, we were obviously not Chinese, we were Indonesian people, and we were exchange students. Is that because for them, exchange student is Chinese student? Or is that because we came from Taiwan? But why another exchange student from another country could be treated very well? They had their own room and lived with other exchange students. But, we did not stop until there and therefore we still begged 老師 to give us chance to move out from the room. Then, 老師 said that if I could find any Taiwan students who lived in the international student buildings, they would tell the office and let me lived there. Finally, because of my other Indonesian friends help, I could find exchange student from Taiwan last semester who lived in the building, but 老師 said that it must be in this semester. After that, we still struggling and finally found Taiwan students who lived there now and they were willing to help us. However, when we told 老師 about it, they again said that they did not know about it and would process it. But, until I left China on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2019, she did not process it. At the end, I felt tired and gave up, and I still lived in the same room until I finished my exchange period.

On the other hand, for the subject and the professor, I felt that the way the professor taught us was really good. They were not only explained it clearly but the material was also challenging and qualified. They also encouraged us to learn and understand the material

clearly by giving us assignments and exams, and letting us did the presentation on the current financial topic. I think these ways are really helpful for us to understand the material more.



Besides, I and my friends also did another activity beside went to the class, such as we joined the international week in our university. We introduced Indonesia and sold Indonesia cuisine. We also travelled to another city together with another Indonesian friends and international students. We went to Shanghai on April, to Xian on May, and to Chongqing on June. For me, it was super fun to meet and travel with another friends.







For me, go to China for exchange is an interesting experience that I have in life. In china, I had both happy and sad moments, but overall, I felt grateful to have this kind of experience because I could know Chinese culture and people and I could meet new friends. For me, this is not only can make myself better, but also can increase my knowledge and experience.

Last, my recommendation is treat all exchange students similarly. I hope next exchange students from NCHU will not have same experience with me and will enjoy every moments during the exchange period in Southwestern University of Finance and Economics.