



EXCHANGE REPORT

Nattapat
Techa-atik

Yonsei
University

About Me:

I am a junior at BBA Program, Thammasat (major in finance). I have made many Korean friends before I went to Korea which made my life there much easier. I also picked up the language through them. And that is also how I came across going exchange in South Korea. My year in Korea (Fall 2013~Spring 2014) was precious to me as I met many new friends and I was able to experience and learn many things in Korea.



Preparation:

The most important things that needed to be prepared are courses that you will take in the exchange institution and the visa.

Courses

The equivalencies of courses between Yonsei and Thammasat can be made within request through your faculty. BBA has more specific and difficult rules in terms of doing course equivalency than the rest of Thammasat. So you have to be more prepared.

Visa Procedures

Prior to your trip to Korean embassy, make sure that you bring all of the required documents. The embassy is quite specific on the documents which is elaborated on its official website.



Orientations

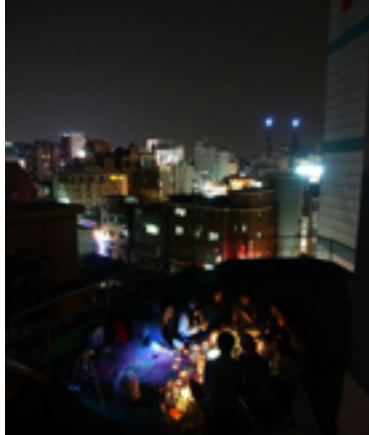
or as the Koreans called “OT” (Orientation Training). There are many OTs which are hosted by both Thammasat and Yonsei. Moreover there are the ones which hosted by Yonsei student clubs such as Yonsei Global: a club which Korean students host events for exchange students.

I recommend you to attend all of them to gather all the information needed and for me, these events gave me opportunities to meet new people and expand my network in Bangkok, Seoul.



Accommodations

I stayed on campus for the sake of convenience. I recommend SK Global House which provide all the basic needs and private bath room as in Korea, it is common to share bathroom with many people. It is much better compared to International House



Activity Log:

The Arrival

It was my second exchange. So preparation was smooth as my first exchange was in the States where there were much more strict regulations compared to Korea. I went straight to SK Global House after my flight arrived in Incheon International Airport. The check-in was rather easy if you prepared all of the documents before hand. However the staff are not the nicest people, you have to be calm and reasons will not work with them.





The Life

Life in Korea is really easy as the country is highly developed but I encountered two major problems which are:-

1.The hills: contradicting to Thailand where most land is flat, Seoul is based on a hill (especially Yonsei which is basically sat on a mountain) You will find people dressed fashionably and wear sneakers! Be prepared to walk a lot in Seoul and get your colorful New Balance which is popular among Seoul people.

2.Korean: Korea and even Seoul is a truly monolingual place. Even though the signs are in 4 languages: Korean, Chinese, Japanese and English. You will find it very difficult to do daily activities using foreign language. However Chinese and English is quite common in Sinchon (Yonsei area) and Myeongdong.