

Final report from summer school 2019



長榮大學
Chang Jung Christian University

1. Personal information:

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Major: Financial management (fim-pa), Year 1

Duration of stay: 28.6.19-26.7.19

Home University: University of Hradec Kralove

Host University: Chang Jung Christian University

2. Preparation before leaving:

Visa: Because I am Cambodian, I need to apply for a visa. However, I would not need a visa (just get an online travel certificate) if I go for travelling for 14 days. It took 3 working days to get a visa, which gives me 60 days of stay in Taiwan, after submitting documents in Taipei. A visa costed me 1126czk. After Taiwan, I went to Japan, so I applied for a visa to Japan that costed me 590czk.

Flight ticket: I bought tickets twice. I could not take the first flight because I had a problem at the airport. The problem was when checking in, the airline (Emirates/ flightdubai) asked me for the travel certificate (for travelling- allow 14 days of stay only), which was not my case because I came to Taiwan to study for more than 14 days and not for travelling, but still they did not consider my Visa that was stamped on my Passport. My ticket for the first flight costed 19000czk (include trip from Prague-Taipei and Cambodia-Prague), and the company did not compensate me, saying that it was my mistake. That first return ticket, departing on 26th of June, was forfeited. I was informed by my travel agency that the next flight of Emirates had no more economy class left until 5th of July (and the program started on 1st of July, so I could not wait till the 5th).

I was not able to attend the opening ceremony at CJCUC in Taiwan because of the absence in the flight from Prague. I bought a new ticket immediately which costed me 27000czk (Prague-Kaoshiung and Cambodia-Prague), and the most unexpected thing that happened was when I checked in with another flight the next day, they didn't ask for my Travel certificate at all, only check my Visa.

Travel Insurance: I bought insurance from ERV, Evropska Pojistovana for students of UHK. It costed 1664czk.

3. Studying

CJCUC and Classes:

We did not have a summer camp like previous year, but it was enjoyable enough for me. One day in each week except the last week, we had school trips to visit some industries and local landmarks, but the weather was really hot and humid. The subjects/courses were various, and we did not only study theories but also do some practices. To me, most of the things were totally

new things for me although they might be not interesting at all for others. I was expected that we could have a Chinese class for beginner, but there were not.

Class started from Monday to Friday from 9am-12:30am and 1:30pm-4pm. We had 1 hour break for lunch, but because the morning class usually ended early, sometime we had 2-3 hours for lunch break.

- On the first week, we visited Metal industry and Chinese herb industry. We had cooking class, which allow us to know more Taiwanese typical and local foods. We had class about robot and business cultural differences, which was one of my favorite.
- In the second week, we had class about drone controlling, and visited Brick industry. We went to Fo Guang Shan Buddha Museum, which was the best part that I loved the most in the program. We also did some computer designing and printing.
- In the third week, we had chance to make a small robot, made some keychain and small books as souvenir. We also had class of tasting Taiwanese snacks, and we also visited Salt Mountain and Anping tree house.
- In the last week of the program, we had 2 days of exploring Taiwan. We visited museum and an association where we got to know about one of the most polluted river in the border between Tainan and Kaohsiung. It was an interesting and concerning topic. We also had class about Chinese calligraphy and painting, and wine tasting.

Moreover, every week, we had class of cross-cultural communication, which was also one of my favorites. Also, the school had Buddy team who helped us with everything we needed, and I got quite close with most of them. They are really helpful and friendly people. Thanks to them, my stay in Taiwan was great.

Dormitory:

It was covered by CJCUC. We stayed in dormitory of CJCUC. It was a room for three people with bathroom inside. Toilet paper were not provided. Generally, I liked the room except the closet for clothes, which did not smell good, so I did not use it at all. There was no Kitchen in the dorm, so we had to go out everyday around campus to have meal. One meal costs around 100NT\$, which was cheaper compare to Czech. The air-conditioner and lights were available only for some specific hours, but I think it was enough. We use a shared refrigerator. There was one washing machine (one time costed 20NT\$) and dryer (one time costed 20NT\$). Inside the school campus, smoking and drinking alcohol were not allowed, but I did not have problem with that since I do not either smoke or drink alcohol. In addition, males and females live separately and were not allowed to enter opposite sex room, and I was okay with this since it was the way to show respect.

Transportation:

On 28th of June, I arrived at Kaohsiung airport by myself, and the buddy of CJCUC picked me up. The transportation from the airport to CJCUC were covered by school. Most of the students rented scooter for a month since they arrived CJCUC. I did not rent one since the weather was not good, and it was quite dangerous. Instead, I bought iPass card for 100NT\$, and charged the money inside (for 1 month, I charged 3 times totally around 500NT\$). I could use it for travelling with local train or paying in Seven (7), a 24h shop where you can find everywhere in most Asian countries. In the third week, I travelled to Taoyuan and Taipei on my own, so I bought the ticket from express trains (costed totally 1220NT\$). The hardest things when you want to travel to far city in Taiwan by Express trains, you have to book ticket as soon as possible, not because it would be cheaper, but because the train usually has no seat left. The one that I bought had seat but it took me 6h to come back to Tainan, and normally it should takes only 3-4h.

Travelling:

After leaving Taiwan, I went for a short trip to Japan for 5 days. Since I am Cambodian, to visit Japan, Visa is required, and I applied for it in Czech before leaving to Taiwan and it costed me 590czk. I visited some famous landmark in Tokyo and Enoshima. I booked and stayed in hostel for 2 days (5000yen or 1200czk) and spent 3 days at my friend house, which is not so far from Tokyo.

After Japan, I went to Cambodia, my home country. On the way to Cambodia, I transited for 12hours in Malaysia, so I visited Malaysia. Since it was a short trip in Malaysia, I spent only around 500czk. I was in Cambodia for 1 month 1 week before leaving to Czech Republic again.

Finance:

We received scholarship money from University of Hradec Kralove 27000czk (no flight ticket included), which was enough for a stay in Taiwan for 1 month. In addition, when we arrived, we had to pay CJCUC 84Euros for activities fees, and later we received it back from University of Hradec Kralove. My second flight ticket costed, as mentioned above, 1127\$ (25500czk). In Taiwan for 1 month, the living cost including travelling, souvenirs, and foods costed around 13000czk.

After leaving Taiwan, I went to Japan for 5 days and my home in Cambodia for 1 month and 1 week. The flight ticket from Taipei to Japan costed me 3233czk. For 5 days in japan, I spent around 7900czk (1200czk for accomodation, 2 days at hostel). The most expensive things about Japan are Transportations, so if you plan to visit there, I recommended you to use pasmo card or buy a day pass ticket depends on how you want to travel.

A short trip in Malaysia costed around 500czk.

My flight ticket from Japan to Cambodia costed 8735czk. I will not calculate my living expenses in Cambodia since it is where my home is, and most of expenses were covered by my family.

Totally, the whole trip costed around 58 868 czk (excluding my first flight ticket that were dismissed (19000czk), Visa expenses for Taiwan (1126czk) and Japan(590czk), and staying costs in Cambodia). If I included everything, it would be 79 584czk.

4. Inclusion:

Taiwan may look like a small island countries, but there are so many things, many foods, and variety of places I could explore in 1 month. Although I am asian, and we shares some things in common with Taiwan; I still can feel the uniqueness of this little island country, and I am surprised by it. In addition to get to know more about the country itself, I also had a chance to learn so many new things in different fields of study and experience lots of new things more than I expected. The living cost is reasonable, and everything is convenient. One problem is many Taiwanese people cannot understand English, but they are really open and friendly; they always try their best to make us understand them. I had quite bad experiences at the beginning of my journey because I had to spend double for buying flight tickets, but later I had a great time in Taiwan thanks to the great opportunity provided by University of Hradec Kralove, and the cooperation between Chang Jung Christian University and Hradec Kralove University.

If you are going to come for this opportunity, I am sure that you are going to have the best time abroad, and you will go back with knowledge and many unforgettable memories.