

## **Personal Report of Exchange Student**

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Exchange Period: May 1, 2017 to July 31, 2017

I am really happy and very grateful that I have had the opportunity to experience to live and learn in Europe through the ERASMUS+ project. I am very grateful to Prof. Dr. Arndt Sinn, the head of the ERASMUS+ project at the University of Osnabrück for his promotion of this program, I was able to become an exchange student at the Law School of Osnabrück University in Germany from May 1, 2017 until July 31, 2017.

Through this opportunity, I was a bit understanding about the culture of Germany and several other European countries, I experienced the life of Germany and make friends with exchange students from different countries.

In Taiwan, there are legal systems that the succession of teachings are from Germany. I feel honored that I have the opportunity to study directly in the origin country of Taiwan's legal system.

Since I have a school-based course or a cram school in my daily life in Taiwan, I have less free time. But in the past three months as an exchange student, it is entirely up to me to make arrangements, so the degree of enrichment is depend to me. However, the exchange of this program is only three months, each day is very precious. So before I set out, I had planned on how to use it every day of the next three months.

My expectation of myself is: To maximize the harvest of these three months. I did study every day until the blurred vision, I was willing to go to sleep. I've arranged school curricula, enhance my language skills, traveling, cooking and so on. My life is much more abundant than I was from birth to the present.

In the following article, I shared my experiences of daily learning, seminars, life and travel during the exchange period.

### **First, learning:**

Exchange students in principle are free to elective courses they are interested in or need. I think it is fresh to go to class with foreign students in foreign countries.

Germany is undoubtedly a nation of rigorous character, which is also reflected in the

classroom. I was impressed by German students, they're not only dressed properly during class but arrived early in class, I fully felt that they were rigorous in their learning attitude, active and creative in learning.

In teaching methods, professors in addition to teaching theory, but also to the actual case to help students understand and guide the way to lead students to think.

German students are also raise questions and insights to discuss with the professor very eagerly in the class. I think it is because of this attitude of learning that new ideas and thinking will be stirred up. This is not easy to see in Taiwan's classroom. These are all at different points of showing each other's culture.

However, in my observations, I think that students in my home university will not lose to German students. If we have this opportunity more often to let more students to study abroad, I believe we will be able to absorb the advantages of many other countries and make us more competitive on the world stage.

One thing I most expected in a week was Meeting with Professor Gesk on Tuesday. Not only I listen to my professor's guidance on my thesis, but also eat Schweinshaxe, cake or exotic food. I can grow my expertise while still enjoying my food. This is my most anticipated and most enjoyable time of a week.



Picture 1. Noon break in the campus

## **Second, seminar of criminal law:**

The theme of the seminar " Organized Crime and Terrorism " was organized by a team of Prof. Dr. Georg Gesk, the host of CIRCLE(Center for International Research on Chinese Law and Economics) , held on June 22 and 23, 2017.

As organized crime and terrorism have become more internationalized, in order to correspond to the frequent terrorist attacks in Europe in recent years, the theme of this seminar is quite clear and the issue is targeted at "Organized Crime and Terrorism." Participants came from China, Taiwan, Brazil and Germany.

CIRCLE organized this international seminar so that criminal law scholars from different countries could learn from each other and absorb new knowledge, deepen their understanding of these issues and help to find solutions to the problem.

This seminar had the best interactive than I've ever participated in before. From the preparation of content we saw that the host team noticed every little detail. In addition to refreshments, each participant has the full text of translation of Chinese and German. There are also live interpreters on site to ensure that every participant understands everything.

After the end of each speech, the audience of scholars expressed their opinions actively and interacted with the speakers or other experts in the audience.

They shared the real situation in China, Taiwan, Brazil and Germany as well as the new findings. The discussions were very exciting and many of them let me increase knowledgeable.

For example, Professor Dr. Georg Gesk mentioned how to use the criminal procedure of transnational structure to bring those cross-border offenders to justice.

Professor Dr. Arndt Sinn mentioned how law can used to illuminate Darknet, and making illegal trade and the underground economy impossible to hide.

Professor Dr. Liu Mei from China mentioned that many communication softwares are reluctant to provide the source code to the government for investigation. They withdraw from the market in order to safeguard the privacy of users. However, in the criminal investigation, we must balance the protection of the legal benefits of personality and the protection of social public interests.

Professor Dr. Chang Li-Ching from Taiwan mentions that we should be protected children and adolescents from sexual exploitation by changing the legal definition of criminal organizations.

There are many wonderful discussions. I believe this seminar will be of great help to the security of the country and society.



Picture 2. A photo of the seminar participants

### **Third, living in Osnabrück**

It's so vivid that I would never forget my life in Osnabrück. When I think back to the life of this period, I still feel as if I can smell the clear air, I can hear the pedestrians chatting, and the sweet birdsong outside the dormitory. I take bus line 91 or 92 to school almost every day, or take the other line to other places.

I want to express my gratitude to Julia of the International Office. When I came to school on 02 May, she took me to every units of Law collage, library and introduced me to the features of Osnabrück City. Where there is a market, where to buy what I need, which store has a better quality of goods, where there are snacks, what website can buy cheaper air tickets, she explained in detail for me.

She was very passionate and she made me feel familiar to the Osnabrück immediately, I am thankful for what she did for me.



Picture 3. Path near the campus

#### **Fourth, tourism:**

Since I came to Europe, of course I have to take the opportunity to travel, so I plan a few weekend breaks to travel to other cities in Germany, Netherland, Austria and Italy.

This is not easy to arrange the itinerary with cheaper airfares and accommodation. This is a test to my planning ability. I tried starting with a day trip and later arranged trips that needed accommodation. I am grateful to many of users on the internet for sharing their travel experience, they let me know how to plan my trip and what I need to notice to avoid the frauds and dangers that I might encounter in different countries.

I went to the lively crowded bar street that is after the exhibition in Düsseldorf. I visited the Herrenhäuser Gärten in Hanover.

I went to Zaanse Schans where has Windmill and went to Giethoorn in Netherland. Zaanse Schans and Giethoorn are very unique and beautiful. Any pictures taken are beautiful. However, because of their beauty, I suggest that visitors should go to Zaanse Schans first and then go to Giethoorn.

I also went to the most beautiful lake - the Austrian town of Hallstatt, as well as the legendary music city of Vienna.

I went to Rome to see the magnificent ancient buildings - the Colosseum, the gorgeous Trevi Fountain, the ancient city of Pompeii and the crater of Mount Vesuvius.

Europe is really charming. Every country and every city is in different beauty. The immediate view often makes me feel unreal, like in a dream, I can't help myself to stop



my step and reluctant to leave.

No wonder everyone in Taiwan hopes to have the opportunity to travel to Europe during their lifetime. I also hope I can have the opportunity to go to Europe again.



Picture 4. A corner of Giethoorn

## Five, diet

Most of my breakfast is yogurt, bread or cereal, school's cafeteria offer lunch, I had dinner in the restaurant, however, encouraged by Professor Gesk, I tried to cook for myself.

Taiwan is famous for its rich and varied cuisine. By contrast, Germany has less choice of food and is more expensive.

I had never been to a kitchen before, but I also bought a delicate pot to start my cooking life.

When I came to kitchen in the first time, I was really have no idea what to cook. Then I met other students there and I learned from them. I learned to plan a week's menu first, and started to check what my menu needs, and went to the supermarket to buy. Finally, cooking became an interesting thing that I was happy and looking forward to cook every day! This is also a great growth in life.



Picture 5. Enjoy lunch in the school cafeteria



Picture 6. Dinner, cooked by myself

### **Sixth, special thanks**

Everything went smoothly during the exchange period because I got a lot of help from many people.

1. I want to say thank you to Professor Gesk, he is the host of CIRCLE and a Distinguished Professor at Osnabrück University. He is also a Distinguished Professor

at Nation University of Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

01 May is the national holiday in Germany, Professor Gesk not only picked me up from the train station platform , he led me to the dorm to check in, he confirm the bus stop for me, and help me to find out a store to buy foods (almost all stores are closed on 01 May ).

Professor Gesk let my heart calm down on the first day, I am grateful for everything he did for me!!

2. I would like to say thank you to the assistant of prof. Gesk, who helped me to find a short-term student residence. This is not easy. Usually, dormitories require a minimum of six months of contract.

3. I'd like to say thank you to the teaching assistant of Prof. Gesk— YiMeng Feng , he encouraged me so I decided to cross my comfort zone to be an exchange student. He reminded me the details of life & studies, he also let me familiar with Osnabrück city in the last month.

4. I'd like to give the special thanks to Julia of the International Office again. Julia has given me great deal of help during these three months. In the process there are many documents to prepare, Julia handled them carefully. Without her help, I could not have proceeded with all applications so smoothly.

5. I want to say thank you to my parents and my boyfriend, they encouraged me to seize this opportunity, and they support me and help me to handle everything in Taiwan, so I can be carefree.

### **Seven, conclusion**

I am very grateful to the ERASMUS+ project, which provided the opportunity to exchange in Europe and provided scholarships for students. Students all over the world had already exchange to Europe in these years.

Through this program, students who have a dream of studying abroad could experience the short time study abroad and wil more confident about the future.

I want to say thank you again to Professor Sinn, who is the leader of Erasmus+ project in Osnabrück University for promoting this project, so that Taiwanese students have the opportunity to become exchange students in Osnabrück University.

This program has enriched my experience of life and broadened my international perspective. I sincerely hope that more students in Taiwan, including myself, will have the opportunity to participate in this project in the future.