

SEP Report

1. Student Information

Faculty/Major	FASS/Economics
Host University	Sun Yat-Sen University
NUS Semester and Year of Exchange (eg. AY12/13 Semester 1)	AY2012/13 Semester 2

2. Study at Host University

Please provide information on the academics at your host university:

- Studying or learning culture at your host university. How were classes conducted?
- What did you like most or dislike most about the academics at your host University?
- Advice on module registration and module mapping

Classes were conducted once a week in lectures. Most of the classes were conducted in Chinese, although there were some in English. However, some courses may claim as being conducted in English, but during the lessons only the powerpoint slides were in English but lesson was conducted in Chinese by the lecturers.

Academics were largely friendly and amiable. They are knowledgeable in their fields and provide relevant examples to apply the concepts taught during classes.

Module registration has to be done by giving a form to the lecturers and obtain their signatures. As this can only be done on the first 2 weeks for exchange students, it is advisable to attend more classes during the first week to determine what are the modules of interest, before obtaining the signatures and thus registering for the modules by the 2nd week.

Please list the courses that you took during SEP.

Host University			NUS Equivalent		
Module code	Course title	ECTS Credit	Module code	Course title	Modular credit
	Financial Engineering	3	EC3333	Financial Economics I	4
	International Investment Analysis	3	EC2374	Economy of Modern China I	4
	Customer Relationship Management	2	AX1731	Customer Relationship Management	3
	Social Security	3	FIN3119	Risk and Insurance	4

2. Accommodation

What kind of accommodation did you stay in during your exchange (eg. on campus / off campus)?
Would you recommend this accommodation to future outgoing students?

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Do you have any other suggestions?

Was allocated to a doubles room when we reached. It was a good experience as I shared a room with a Japanese who was there to learn Chinese as part of his exchange. Through him, I was introduced to several other friends who were from different countries such as Korea, Indonesia and Columbia amongst others. It is advisable to stay in a doubles room rather than a single room so as to diversify the social circle and get to know more people.

3. Activities during SEP

Were there any activities organized by school/student group/external organizations at your host university which you would like to recommend to other students?

In the weeks there may be trips to historical places or landmarks by the host university. It is strongly advised to attend such sessions as it is not just about understanding the significance and values of the places and landmarks, but at the same time it is a good opportunity to network with many other foreigners as many foreigners go to the university to learn Chinese, and attending such excursions will allow one to get to know these foreigners and understand their culture.

4. Cost of Living

Please provide an estimation of how much money you spent during your SEP?

Please list travel expenses separately.

Accommodation: RMB 1650/mth
Utilities: RMB 70/mth(depending on usage)
Food: RMB 500/mth
Travel: RMB 100/mth
Telecommunications: RMB 66/mth

5. Challenges

Did you face any challenging issues during your SEP stint? How did you overcome it/them?

When we first reached, administrative matters prove to be a challenge as much of the administration has to be done manually and there were many queues for different registrations. Instructions passed down were also confusing as there were different timelines to be met. It is fortunate that we managed to get to know one of the student helpers who was friendly and guided us through the process and accompanying us throughout the process. It is important to make contact with the people you see there and not make assumptions about how things are carried out, for this will only lead to more confusions and administrative holdups as a result.

6. Overall SEP Experience

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Please write one paragraph about your exchange experience and attach some photos that represent your exchange experience.

This exchange has been an enriching as well as cultural journey for me. Initially thinking that I will be making lots of Chinese friends since I am doing an exchange in Guangzhou, it turned out that I made more friends with people from other countries and different nationalities instead. I shared a doubles room with a Japanese roommate who was there on an exchange to learn the Chinese language, and as most of the students living in my block were overseas students who were there to study Chinese and not taking modules from the main campus, I got to know a lot of different friends through him since they were classmates. As such, I made friends with students who were from Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Columbian. Taking on a role as a peer tutor to my friends, my understanding of the Chinese language was being put to the test as there were many times where my roommate would ask me the different between certain terms and phrases with similar meanings but are distinguishable by the circumstances which they were used in, and such things which came to us naturally due to our exposure since young set me thinking a lot of the uses of such phrases. During the holidays, we will travel to places together such as Shenzhen to experience the Window of the World which consists of well-known landmark of many countries such as the Paris Tower and even Singapore's Merlion. I also travelled to historical sites such as Terracotta Warriors Museum in Xi'an, and scaling the famed Mount Hua, the Great Wall of China in Beijing and even Zhangjiajie where the movie Avatar was filmed. I am grateful for the opportunity to be able to embark on this exchange journey and it has provided me fresh perspectives towards the different way of lives of people from different cultures.



International students sharing session at Sun Yat-Sen University East Campus

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Terracotta Warriors in the Terracotta Warriors Museum, Xi'an

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Posing with the Paris tower in Window of the World, Shenzhen



Zhangjiajie, where filming of Avatar took place

7. Suggestions for future outgoing students

Please share any other suggestions for future outgoing students.

International Relations Office (IRO)

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Embrace the opportunities to know people with an open mind. Never be too proud to get to make acquaintances with other people. Exchange provides the best out-of-classroom experience that one can possibly hope for in terms of understanding people who speak different languages and cultures from us. It is always important to make as many friends as possible because when one is out of his/her comfort zone, it is the friends we make who are there by our side and support us physically and emotionally.

8. Report Submission

Please submit your report (including photos*) at <https://share.nus.edu.sg/goabroad/Lists/SEPReport/AllItems.aspx>. Please note that you can only upload one document. As such, please zip your report and photos into one file and name the file in this format 'Host University_FullName_Matric No' (eg. WasedaUniversity_Tan Mei Ling_A1234567B).

*Photo submission:

- 1 image of you with host university landmarks in the background
- 2 images of you with your exchange friends or local students
- Submit the photos in JPEG format. Good quality photos between 2MB and 5MB are preferred.
- Please name all photos in this format 'Host University_FullName_MatricNo_Caption' (eg. WasedaUniversity_Tan Mei Ling_A1234567B_Visit to Mt Fuji with exchange friends).

Kindly note that we may share your report on the NUS/IRO website and relevant information at SEP information sessions and/or in publicity collaterals.