



**A Summative Report of Maejo University Exchange Program
Maejo University to Comparative Politics and Government in
Fo Guang University (FGU)**

By

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Student ID: 6305101381

Bachelor of Political Science Program , Political Science Major

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Fo Guang University

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The chairman of this course
(Dr.Non Naprathansuk)

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Abstract

This report describes enrollment in บ ศ 499: Study Abroad. Training or Participate in the student exchange program between Maejo University and Fo Guang University, divided into 5 chapters: Chapter 1 shows Introduction about interest in cooperative training this time, Objectives and Expected Results ; Chapter 2 presents basic information about Fo Guang University; Chapter 3 outlines the objectives of cooperative training; Chapter 4 discusses each subject and Various activities performed during the Internships training; Chapter 5 is about recommendations to the curriculum and to the next generation of students. In this internship, the objective is for students to learn life skills, adapt to those around you, apply the knowledge learned to real work and gain real experience from using a third language as well as learn new cultures during a period of 3 months, upon completion of work and results must be summarized.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The Cooperative Education Cooperative Education Training I chose to study was ๒๗ 499 Oversea Study or Training or Internship at Fo Guang University in Taiwan. Taiwan is an ideal place for international students who want to study English and Chinese which allows for a better connection with classical Chinese culture. In the last semester of my 4th year of study, I was required to do an internship of at least 90 days.

The purpose of this training was to develop English and Chinese communication skills and learn about Taiwan's unique culture, traditions, and opinions of people in society. It was a difficult decision to choose to train in cooperative education abroad. Living there was quite a challenge because of the pressure, new challenges, and adjusting to the new places that I would soon encounter. However, I received pieces of advice and courage from my advisors, Dr.Non Napratthansuk, and Miss. Nareewan Klinrat, in making this decision.

I seized every opportunity that came my way, dared to face fear, and learned new things as I am a person who is always improving myself.

1.2 Objective

- 2.1) Comparative Government and Politics
- 2.2) Chinese Learning Class

1.3 Objectives of my internship this time

- 3.1) To improve my English and Chinese skills in communicating with other people.
- 3.2) To learn Taiwan's unique culture, such as traditions, ways of life.
- 3.3) To learn about living abroad and solving immediate problems.

1.4 Period

The program started on November 14, 2023 and lasted until February 15, 2024, After that I complete my internship. Then, I returned to Maejo University Thailand and reported the results.

1.5 Expected results

- 5.1) I can Competence in basic English and Chinese communication.
- 5.2) I gain a broader experience and perspective in my life.
- 5.3) I learn Taiwanese culture, lifestyle and live well with those around me.

CHAPTER II

GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1 History of Taiwan

Taiwan officially known as the Republic of China is a country that is an archipelago in the East Asian region currently consisting of five large islands: Jin Men (金門), Taiwan, Penghu (澎湖), Matsu (馬祖), and Wuqiu (烏坵), as well as a number of smaller islands. All areas are collectively called "Taiwan area" (臺灣地區)

Taiwan's main island has an area of 35,808 square kilometers (13,826 sq mi). Mountains cover the eastern two-thirds of the island and densely urbanized plains to the west. Western Taiwan borders Mainland China The east and northeast border Japan and the south borders with the Philippines. Taipei is the capital. New Taipei is a newly established administrative region. Taipei is the area with the highest population density in the present Other major cities include Kaohsiung, Taichung, Tainan, and Taoyuan. With a population of 23.5 million, Taiwan is one of the most densely populated countries in the world.

The island of Taiwan was originally home to indigenous people. and there were Chinese people from the mainland who came to live there as well, until the Villans and Spaniards arrived in the era of exploration in the 17th century and established houses that became large settlements. Later, in 1662, the Ming Dynasty in the mainland was replaced by the Qing Dynasty, Zheng Chenggong (鄭成功), a warlord. Ming gathered forces and fled to Taiwan and went on the offensive and chased the foreigners out completely. He, therefore, established the Dongning Kingdom (東寧) on the island too However in 1683, the Qing Dynasty suppressed the Dongning Empire and successfully occupied Taiwan. Taiwan, thus, became a province of China. However, the conflict between China and Japan caused Japan to acquire Taiwan in 1895 before losing Taiwan back to China after World War II During that time, there was a change of government in China. The Kuomintang (國民黨) gained control but soon lost to The Chinese Communist Party (共產黨) fled to Taiwan and established the Republic of China on a separate island. As for the Chinese Communist side that was victorious, it was established. People's Republic of China on the mainland, however, China still considers Taiwan a province of its own. Taiwan itself has not been internationally recognized as an independent country until now

During the 1980s and early 1990s, Taiwan's politics flourished into a democracy with multiple political parties and universal elections. In the mid-20th century, Taiwan's economy grew rapidly and industrial development was called the "Public Revolution" period. Taiwan's miracle Taiwan thus became developed countries Both are known as one of Four Tigers of Asia. There is an advanced industry. Its major contributions come from the production of steel, machinery, electronics, and chemicals. Its economy is the 19th largest in the world and the 15th largest in the world by gross domestic product (GDP). High-tech industries Taiwan also plays an important role in the global economy.

As a result, Taiwan became a member of World Trade Organization and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. In addition, freedom of the press economic freedom, public health education and human development index in Taiwan it is also highly rated.

2.1.1) Area

The Republic of China (Taiwan) is located in the western Pacific Ocean off the coast of mainland China. It consists of the main island called Taiwan and many smaller surrounding islands. With a total area of approximately 36,000 square kilometers. It is approximately 10 percent larger than Malaysia.

2.1.2) Terrain

It is rough and full of rocks. It consists of mountains up to 2/3 of the entire island. If measured from the border area, it is 390 kilometers long, 140 kilometers wide, and has a line of latitude running through the middle of the country.

2.1.3) Ethnicity

Many Han Chinese immigrated to the mainland in the first half of the 16th century, most of them from China's southeastern coast. and currently account for 98 percent of the total population. There are also 14 indigenous tribes in the country.

2.1.4) Religion

The national religion is Buddhism and Taoism including Confucianism

2.1.5) Population

A total of 23.2 million people immigrated in the 1660s as members of the Chinese army led by Goxingka of the Ming Dynasty that cut off the Dutch army. Then there was immigration again after World War II with the transition of the Guomintang government. there has been a large immigration of workers from Indonesia, including foreign students who come to study.

2.1.6) Climate

From December to March the weather is cool, cloudy and there is little rainfall. Temperatures are higher in April. The weather is very hot in May. And there is rain from May to August. Sometimes there may be a storm. And from July to September there may be typhoons. In mid-September there is general rain. Warm temperatures and high humidity are a sign that winter is approaching. Because Taiwan is located in the latitude zone. The temperature in the mountainous areas is therefore cool.

2.1.7) Transportation

1.) Train type

a.) high speed train

Taiwan's high-speed rail runs between Taipei Station and Zuoying Station, with a distance of 345 kilometers. Today, passengers can travel back and forth between Taipei and Kaohsiung. within one day The 12 high-speed railway stations stretching along Taiwan's "Western Corridor" include Nangang, Taipei, Banqiao, Taoyuan, Hsinchu, Miaoli, Taichung, Zhanghua, Yunlin, Chiayi, Tainan and Zuoying stations.

b.) Taiwan Railway

Traditional trains operated by the Republic of China (Taiwan) Railway serve routes in smaller cities on both the western and eastern coasts. The ticket price depends on the distance and type of train. Shijiang Express is the fastest train and has the most expensive tickets. The railway also operates the Pingxi Line, a scenic railway close to Taipei, and the Chili route in the middle of the country.

c.) Express train route

If you come to travel in Taipei or Kaohsiung, you can use the express train route. Taipei has 89 stations, most of which are on the subway. Map symbols and ticket machines are available in Chinese and English. Tickets are plastic coins that can be reused many times. If you must stay in Taipei for a period of time, it is recommended that you purchase an Easy Card. It can be used to pay for buses and electric trains in the Republic of China (Taiwan)

2.) Bus type

Fares are calculated on a per-trip basis, NT\$15 per trip. Student fare: NT\$12 per trip. The bus runs until 11:00 p.m. When getting on the bus, you should prepare enough coins because there will be no coin change service on the bus or you can use the Easy Card on the bus.

3.) Car type

a.) Taxi

Legal taxis are yellow, which are available in major cities. Only a few drivers can speak English. Therefore, you should prepare your destination route in Chinese. Otherwise, you may have to travel a long way from the airport.

2.1.8) Banknotes and coins

Use the currency Taiwan Dollar (NTD or NT). The rate is 1 Taiwan Dollar

1 NTD	5 NTD	10 NTD	10 NTD
			
10 NTD	10 NTD	10 NTD	50 NTD
			
50 NTD	100 NTD	100 NTD	200 NTD
			
500 NTD	1,000 NTD	2,000 NTD	
			

Figures 1 : Taiwan Banknotes and coins

Taiwan Banknotes. Retrived Mar 1, 2023,
from <https://www.tecthailand.com>

2.1.9) Education

- Taiwan's education system starts with 2 years of preschool, 12 years of compulsory education, divided into 6 years of primary education, grades 1 to 6, and another 3 years of middle school.
- After completing compulsory middle school, Students may take the entrance exam Continue at a higher level of education, such as high school, for another 3 years or go to vocational school for another 3 years.
- University level is 4 years. Those who cannot finish university level in 4 years must continue for another 2 years. Graduate level includes master's degree from 1 to 4 years and doctorate degree from 2 to 7 years.

2.2 Fo Guang University



Figures 2 : Fo Guang University

Fo Guang University. Retrived Mar 3, 2023,
from <https://website.fgu.edu.tw/en/about/knowledge>

Fo Guang University was founded by Venerable Master Hsing Yun, the founder of Fo Guang Shan. It is the first university in the Lanyang area, Yilan county, in Taiwan. It is situated on the mountain in Linmei village, Jiaozi township, in Yilan county. The campus is about 430 meters above sea level, with a breathtaking view of both the Lanyan Plain and Turtle Island in the Pacific Ocean. The campus is surrounded by the beauty of its exquisite natural setting, infusing it with spiritual energy and inspiration. Its classrooms are furnished in quaint simplicity. Small classes allow for a low of teacher/student ratio as enhancing good learning environment.

Fo Guang University first broke ground in 1993 and in seven years, the school was established on the mountain in Linmei village, and was already able to begin recruiting students in 2000, under its former name, Fo Guang Humanities and Social Science College. Students first began to enroll in the university's undergraduate programs in 2002 and formed small classes of thirty to forty students in each department. The school was renamed "Fo Guang University" in August, 2006.

Currently there are five colleges: Humanities, Social Sciences and Management, Creativity and Technology, Lohas and Industries, and Buddhist Studies. Fifteen departments are under these five colleges according to each of their subjects. With the exception of the Department of Health and Creative Vegetarian Cuisine, all departments offer a Master's degree. In addition, the departments of Chinese Literature and Application and Buddhist Studies offer PhD degree programs.

The motto of Fo Guang University, based on the teachings of Venerable Master Hsing Yun are: Righteousness (Yi), Uprightness (Zheng), Way (Dao), and Kindness/Compassion (Ci). Righteousness (Yi) refers to the internalization and transformation of intellectual knowledge to practical knowledge, enabling the individual to think critically and make independent judgements. Uprightness is the conscious awareness of high standards of upright conduct, and the capacity to know how to be motivated to act rightly. Way is being inspired by true reality, in addition to becoming learned by broadening one's knowledge. Kindness/Compassion refer to caring for and serving others and society with gratitude, joy, and equanimity.

There are five universities founded by Fo Guang Shan:

- Fo Guang University in Yilan county, Taiwan;
- Nan Hua University in Jiayi county, Taiwan;
- The University of the West, in the United States;
- Nan Tian University, in Australia;
- Guan Ming University, in the Philippines.

These universities have become a consortium. The five universities share educational resources, and frequently engage in academic exchanges. Fo Guang University values students who are able to explore themselves and have a global vision. The University signs academic exchange agreements with fifty well-reputed universities around the world. Students are encouraged to participate in short-term academic exchanges, do oversea volunteer work, or study abroad. The University has signed a "2+2" program with the University of the West, in the United States, in which students who are enrolled at Fo Guang University spend two years on its main campus, and then two years at the University of the West in the U.S., following which they are granted diplomas by both universities.

Initially, the University offered only MA and PhD graduate degrees. But recruitment for undergraduate programs began soon thereafter. Fo Guang University has thus become a pioneer in Taiwan for moving from graduate to undergraduate study, rather than the reverse. The reason behind this shift was to enable undergraduate students in various academic disciplines to envision their future graduate studies and

establish a healthy relationship between teachers and students. Those students who later proceed to graduate study will thus be trained well in their academic discipline in their undergraduate years.

Although Fo Guang University is young, it is deeply concerned to provide education aligned with historical tradition. Thus, it has a strong, experienced faculty, who are not only deeply engaged in research and thus able to both inspire their students, intellectual pursuits, but who are well qualified to cultivate in them the capacity to live their lives in a way of well-educated in accordance with high standards of conduct.

Fo Guang University is focused on concern for humanity, the main theme and driving spirit of education in the Chinese tradition. It promotes and places great value on the humanitarian underpinnings of Chinese education as well as integrating itself into the entire developing trends of university education globally. While aligning itself with the structures of contemporary universities around the world, Fo Guang University also reflects the traditional Chinese academy of the Song (960–1279) and the Ming (1368–1644) dynasties. In other words, Fo Guang University is a residential university following the traditions of the Chinese academy, but with many of the characteristics of contemporary universities in other parts of the world. Thus, Fo Guang University reflects and upholds the practices of the traditional Chinese academy in the contemporary world.

2.2.1) Motto

The motto of "Yi Zheng Dao Ci" - - Righteousness, Justice, Morality and Mercy

Translating into useful knowledge through internal cognition, with the ability to think and judge independently (Yi);

Know what is right things (doing right things) and how to do it (doing things right) (Zheng);

Pursue the truth and absorb knowledge (Dao);

At the same time, with the heart of gratitude and joy, care for the society, and serve the society (Ci).

2.2.2) President

Jow-Fei Ho, Ph.D.

2.2.3) Fo Guang University's purpose

Adhering to the motto of "Yi Zheng Dao Ci", Fo Guang University has cultivated knowledgeable and talented students who have both good "morality, quality and taste" under the concept of "whole-person education, warm campus and lifelong learning".

2.2.4) Educational goal

- Implement life care, treat others with sincerity, be professional and happy, and enhance the relationship between the group and the self.

- Improve the quality of life, and strive to cultivate morality and pursue a good life.
- Pursue career development, emphasize the cultivation of professional competence, and attach importance to the sustainable development.

2.2.5) Basic literacy

- A harmonious attitude and a concept of harmony with nature.
- Caring for the belief of society and the people who serve it.
- The concept of lifelong learning and the perseverance of deep learning.
- IT and language literacy

2.2.6) Core competence

- Communication and coordination skills
- Planning and organizational skills
- Independent thinking and judgment
- Professional and problem solving skills

CHAPTER III

EDUCATION PROGRAM AND ACTIVITY

3.1 Education Program

I studied at the Department of Public Affairs at Fo Guang University. The content is similar to what I studied in Political Science in Thailand. I study together with students in Taiwan. All classes are taught in Chinese, but you can use English to ask the instructor. The instructor will explain for you to better understanding.

The faculty I have studied in has 2 programs: (1) Administrative Management Program (2) International Relations and Activities Program. interdisciplinary integration The University's expectation of students is to be professional managers with a spirit of public service and an international vision. The Administrative Management curriculum includes a variety of courses including Public Administration, public policy, General Basic Law Course, human resource management organizational behavior and management of non-profit organizations.

In my semester there are 2 subjects that I have to study:

Comparative Government and Politics Study every Monday 08.10 – 11.10 A.M.

Chinese Learning Class Study every Tuesday 05.00 – 08.00 P.M. and every Saturday
08.10 – 11.10 A.M.

I only took two subjects because this year's exchange program students came to study at Fo Guang University in the middle of the semester. We applied for four subjects, but we were able to study only one subject. The subjects that we have to studied are Comparative Government and Politics. The Chinese language class was the elective course in order to improve my communication skills. in Chinese Being able to use Chinese in everyday life, we also requested permission from the professor to do an internship at the hotel supervised by Fo Guang University. Various activities that we have participated in will explain next.

3.1.1 Comparative Government and Politics



Figures 3 : Photos with the teacher and friends in Chinese Learning class

We studied politics and government in comparison to first-year students at university. They said that higher classes would prevent us from understanding the content in class. We also applied for other subjects, but since we joined in the middle of the semester, only Teacher Lin accepted us into her class. The class studied the political system and international trade of all countries related to Taiwan. The teacher divided students to form groups and present the country that they have come to lecture in front of the class to their friends. Once the lecture was finished, questions would be asked within the class between the presenter and the teacher as well as classmates. I noticed that the atmosphere in the room was very good. Classmates were not shy about asking questions. After the students finished their presentations, the teacher explained all the content and had the classmates ask their questions again, including asking questions for friends in the room to answer. Everyone is very intent on studying. There is always a break between lessons. Inside the room is quiet, not chaotic or noisy. As for the tables, they are all placed far apart, not grouped or clustered like in Thailand. We also got some exercises to do. If we are in doubt, we can ask the teacher between lessons. In teaching and learning, all Chinese language will be used. At first, it was quite difficult to adjust, but because we adjusted and received help from friends, I was able to adapt to the classes here.

3.1.2 Chinese Learning Class



Figures 4 : Photos with the teacher and friends in Chinese Learning class

In Basic Chinese Class, that teacher is organized a to help students communicate better, the teacher is very kind. Teaching from the basics of pronunciation, including various conversations that we should know. This class uses English to teach. Class times are ideal: Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. It allows us to schedule our lives better. It was a small class with four Thais and two Indonesian exchange students. I was proud of myself for trying to learn the culture and language here. because I have to admit that if it was not a city that supported foreigners like Taipei People here hardly spoke English to us. They always spoke Chinese to us whether we understand it or not. This class made me better at communicating in Chinese.

3.1.3 Internship as a Housekeeper at the hotel



Figures 5 : Internship at hotel

I had an internship as a housekeeper at a hotel in Fo Guang University. There will be 2 housekeepers at the hotel. My friend and I went to practice by entering the hotel at 8:00 A.M. The head housekeeper divided us into 2 groups. The first group is cleaning the rooms. It has the following duties: clearing out trash in the disposal room, put away all the blankets and bedsheets, vacuum the room, sweep the balcony, and put away the foot towel. When Group 1 has cleaned the room, Group 2 has the following duties: replenish the room with items such as water bottles, tea, coffee, tissues, bring all the towels into the bathroom, make the bed, mop the room, and place towels. Check orderliness in the room We will start work from morning until noon. Then take a break for lunch for 1 hour, then start working again at 1:00 P.M., continue for another 2 hours, then return to your accommodation.

Working at the hotel is quite stressful because the head housekeeper needs someone to help them with their work, work agilely, quickly, step by step. When working, you must do your best. When it was time to rest, they also rested fully. We can take a nap or go out and buy lunch to eat. The head housekeeper is kind. When we have questions, we can ask the hotel staff who are taking care of us for advice.

3.2 Activity

3.2.1 The teacher took us for a walk to explore the place.



Figures 6 : Fo Guang Shan Lanyang Temple

During the first week of coming to Taiwan Teacher Chen took us to visit various places within the university. Let us learn about the history of the university and its founding.

3.2.2 Hike the Caoling Old Trail



Figures 7 : Caoling Old Trail

We hiked Caoling Old Trail, a town near where we live. It took less than an hour to get on the train and we were at our destination. My friends and I thought it would be a fun activity to try with our foreign friends here. We walked a total of 13 kilometers, which made us realize that Taiwanese people love their health very much. On holidays, the elderly as well as young people and even children come to hike up the mountain as a family activity on holidays for people here.



Figures 8 : Train Station



Figures 9 : walk up the mountain

3.2.3 activities at the high school



Figures 10 : sing songs together



Figures 11 : Thai people's dancing activities

Fo Guang University had organized activities for exchange students with high school students to showcase their talents together. There were singing in harmony, Choosing dance songs for school activities in high school. I became closer to foreign friends because of this activity and also got to know the younger students who study here. Children at high school are very assertive Even though they seemed shy at first, when they were tasked with showing off their skills such as lion dancing, cover dancing, comedy, singing, etc., they did it very well. I enjoyed the activities here and was glad to spend time with them.



Figures 12 : Exchange students take pictures together

3.2.4 Bua Loy



Figures 13 : join together in activities

Bua Loi making activity is another activity that I got up early in the morning to come to the high school. This school is divided into many parts. Today's activities, the teachers here have selected students who can communicate in English to come and make Bua Loi with us. By having us all share only 1 person per 1 table, this activity is organized for only half a day. In the first two hours, we will make various floating lotus shapes as we want to make them. we can talk comfortably in this time. There were teachers walking around each table to look at each table. When the time is up, take all the lotus floats that we made and boil them. This activity made me learn to open a conversation with others first because the young people in my table spoke little. However, they were friendly. I am so glad that the university tries to find a lot of activities for us to do outside. I hope it will be a good memory for them as well.

3.2.5 Christmas activities



Figures 14 : Christmas activities

At Christmas Day We participated in the activity by helping the teacher set up the table. Prepare snacks Pick up pizza to eat together. There were singing activities, exchanging gifts, and practicing dancing.

3.2.6 help make seaweed at the temple.



Figures 15 : make seaweed at the Shan Lanyang Temple

We went to help make seaweed at the temple. I was given the task of cutting the seaweed to the right size. As for the friends, they are responsible for applying the powder to the seaweed and blowing it dry. Then, fry until cooked and put in a container.

3.2.7 clean the temple to welcome Chinese New Year.



Figures 16 : clean the Shan Lanyang Temple

Before Chinese New Year arrived, we came to help clean the temple. The duties we were assigned were as follows: cleaning the fan, sweeping the floor, mopping the floor, wiping the glass, arranging vases, and bringing things to the storage room.

3.2.8 Help cook at the temple

I came to help in the temple kitchen. I performed the following duties: picking vegetables, cleaning vegetables, and washing dishes.

3.2.9 Teacher Chen sends us back to Thailand.



Figures 17 : Party before returning to Thailand

Teacher Chen brought the exchange students to eat before we returned to Thailand. By talking very friendly about future goals. In addition, he recommended various matters and discuss about our experiences living here for 3 months

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

4.1 Academic lessons

In terms of social diversity or culture, the island of Taiwan was originally home to indigenous people which were Chinese people from the mainland who came to live together until the Villanda and Spanish people arrived in the era of exploration in the 17th century and came to set up houses and become a large settlement. The western side borders with mainland China. The fact that the east and northeast border Japan, and the south borders the Philippines causes the island of Taiwan to receive influence from various countries, resulting in feelings or cultures different from China Today. China still considers Taiwan a province as Taiwan has not been recognized internationally as an independent country until now. Nonetheless, Taiwanese people are proud to be Taiwanese as well. The problem in China is the lack of mutual understanding and attempts to suppress other cultures as the state does not respect cultural diversity. This could benefit society more than it causes conflict if this is not the case. During the period I lived in Taiwan, China sent a survey aircraft into the airspace of Taiwan. Taiwan's security system is very good because every citizen with a mobile phone has received this warning message. For this reason, the unrest situation that arises from a lack of understanding of the value of social diversity (Plural Society) has led to the population living in Taiwan being made to understand that they are "different people" (The odds). Trying to seize Taiwan or annex Taiwan's territory into mainland China is a complete arrangement of relations. China wants to use the power mechanism of Prejudice and Discrimination through disgust and bias so that the identity of the island of Taiwan is suppressed. Being an exchange student at Fo Guang University in Taiwan allowed me to learn and understand the value of cultural diversity from the perspective of a Thai person who is not Taiwanese or Chinese.

4.2 Lessons in life

Living in Taiwan made me learn skills in using English and Chinese as we have to communicate with each other every day in the University and workplace, buy train tickets, board the train, buy food, check the weather conditions before leaving the dormitory, take care of ourself, and plan to spend enough money. Learning to listen more than to speak allowed me to adapt to others better.

Studying here was not too stressful. The instructor allowed us to ask questions whenever we were curious without being ashamed to admit that we did not know. Many Taiwanese students asked the instructor about the lessons. Classmates honor friends who came out to present in front of the class by paying attention and listening. During class, teachers allowed students to go to the bathroom and rest between lessons. The atmosphere in the classroom was calm. I think this can be used as a model that can be adapted in universities in Thailand. In the future, this could be applied in our lives when working in organizations. There are still many things that we need to learn, including humility, and respect for others. Trying to learn new things can make us work more

efficiently and happily in the future. When working with people around us, we should always observe other people's feelings and observe their work habits. With that, we can adapt to our co-workers. We should also study the culture in which we would be working and what culture is mostly applied. We should not skip steps to be able to work well with others. When we make mistakes, we should admit them and improve ourselves to be better. People around us would be able to warn us when we make mistakes and this will not be a problem later on.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

Being an exchange student at Fo Guang University in Taiwan was very challenging for me. My goal in coming here was to learn, gain experience, and develop skills in using both English and Chinese. At first, I did not think I would learn much Chinese by coming here. Nevertheless, I learned how to survive in this Taiwan by adapting to the people here.

Since it is not a big city like Taipei, most of the population usually uses Chinese to communicate. Learning to understand Chinese was essential such as knowing the prices of products, so that cheating does not occur, and general responses in everyday life. As for the culture here, it is very similar to that in Thailand. They are culturally diverse (Pluralism/Multiculture) due to the west bordering mainland China, the east and northeast bordering Japan, and the south bordering the Philippines.

The Taiwanese live a simple life, are diligent, wake up early, are serious about their work, and are disciplined. I was very impressed with the way people here dispose of garbage. They separate their trash when the garbage truck comes out to pick up trash every day and wait in line to throw away their trash. While driving a car on the road, they are very law-abiding. They always park their cars in order and are always respectful to the people crossing the crosswalk. On holidays, they usually spend time with their families and do various activities such as hiking, going to tourist attractions, going on picnics, etc. By staying here for 3 months, I think I absorbed their way of life, admired them, and also want to learn more about them. The time I spent there coincided with the election period in Taiwan. They campaigned very seriously. Many people on the streets, marching for votes, dared to take a stand and say what they wanted in a way that did not cause others harm or trouble. I sincerely respect them and hope that my country will develop like theirs.

As an exchange student, I got to study, talk with friends from different backgrounds about attitudes in various aspects, exchange ideas, visit many tourist attractions, eat food that I had never eaten before, meet new people, and dare to greet others first as well as asking for help in difficult situations.

I would like to thank Maejo University for giving me the opportunity to meet them, giving me experiences that I could never have gotten in a classroom, and making me realize that the place I used to be in was just a small world. There are still many things I still need to learn and I hope that one day, I will be more useful to society with a better perspective than before.

5.2 Suggestion

5.2.1) Suggestion to the Internship and Curriculum Committee

1.) The Internship and Curriculum Committee should plan together with Fo Guang University a plan for studying for exchange students, providing subjects, teachers. Problems we encountered was discovering that we had transferred to Fo Guang University in the middle of the semester, so there was only one professor who accepted us into her class.

2.) The Internship and Curriculum Committee should let students study basic Chinese language. Basic English and culture in preparing before coming to exchange to make daily life more comfortable because in the city where we live, they rarely use English to communicate. Most of the time they communicate only in Chinese.

3 .) The Internship and Curriculum Committee should Organize activities for seniors who have been on exchange to give advice on life to the younger ones as a guideline for decision-making.

5.2.2 Suggestions for the next generation of students

1.) Students should consult the responsible professor to make an informed decision.

2.) Students should consult their seniors for advice on becoming an exchange student.

3.) Learn basic English and Chinese to make communication easier.

4.) Prepare documents and expenses before traveling.

5.) Set clear goals for being an exchange student.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX OF ALL TRAVEL IN TAIWAN

Shan Lanyang Temple



Christmas party



Exchange student scholarship ceremony



Concert at Fo Guang University



Juifen City



Houtong city



Wai ao Beach



Activity at high school



Taipei city



Overall photo in front of the dormitory

