

東京大学 海外留学・国際交流プログラム報告書(3ヶ月以上1年未満用)

The University of Tokyo Study Abroad/Student Exchange Program Report Form (for programs from one semester to a year)

記入日/Date: 2024/1/24

■ID: A23179

■参加プログラム/Program: USTEP

■プログラム情報/Program info.: <https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/adm/go-global/ja/program-list-USTEP.html>

■派遣先大学/Host university: Seoul National University

■留学期間/Program period (yyyy/mm/dd): 2023/9/1 ~ 2023/12/21

■東京大学での所属学部・研究科等/Faculty/Graduate School at UTokyo: Faculty of Law

■学年(留学開始時)/Year at the time of study abroad: BA4

■留学を決めるまでの経緯/How and why did you decide to study abroad?:

My motivation for studying abroad in Korea was to strengthen my grip and stimulate my inquisitiveness on the history as well as the modern economic environment of Korea, and its linkage to Japan. My other goal was to brush up on my Korean proficiency by taking courses fully taught in Korean and engaging in academic dialogues with excellent students at SNU.

留学の時期について/About the timing of the study abroad period

■留学前の本学での修学状況/Academic status BEFORE the program:

2023年/Academic year / B4年/University year / S2学期まで履修/Completed semester

■留学中の学籍/Academic Status during the studying abroad/program:

Study Abroad

■留学後の本学での修学状況/Academic status ON RETURN:

2024年/Academic year / B5年/University year / S1学期から履修開始/Semester

■留学にあたってこの時期を選んだ理由/Reason for choosing this period to study abroad:

I decided the A semester of B4 was the ideal timing for a single semester exchange program as I had completed all the mandatory courses from my home faculty by the S semester and also developed confidence in my Korean proficiency, enough to apply for courses taught fully in Korean.

学習・研究について/About study and research

■留学先で履修した授業科目と単位数の詳細/Subjects taken and credits earned:

Korean Economic History /3
Understanding Decision-Making process in US Politics /3
Financial Statement Analyses and Firm Valuation /3
Workshop in International Commerce 2 /3

■留学中の学習・研究の概要/Overview of the study/research during study abroad:

Korean Economic History: The lecture was based on numeric facts as well as introductions of distinguished

precedent studies of the field, some inevitably linked with modern day politics and legal disputes, like the forced mobilization of Koreans under the rule of Imperial Japan, yet professor Hong, a research fellow at the KINU (Korea Institute for National Unification) always gave credit to advocates of more than one theory for such disputed issues and always focused on better understanding the economic aspects of the era. He was always prepared for questions aligned to the course. Understanding Decision-Making process in US Politics: A discussion based class on modern day US politics fully taught in Korean. However the reading materials are mostly in English, and students are also allowed to submit midterm and finals in English. Every week, each group prepared a topic aligned to the course reading material along with their original insight, which they were to share in class. Professor Lee, an expert of the field from PSIR (college of Political Science and International Relations) then gave feedbacks to discussions. Topics brought up by students during the semester included filibusters in the Senate, super PACs, Supreme Court decisions, the sudden resignation of speaker McCarthy from the House of Representatives, etc. A majority of students showed impressive debating skills both in Korean and English. Financial Analysis and Firm Valuation: Professor Hwang from the college of management had cited numerous newspaper clips discussing the Korean economic environment upon explaining each notion, which added persuasiveness to his lecture. He made sure his students well reviewed the course material with a weekly quizzes held at the beginning of each session. The lecture was firmly aimed to foster the skill sets which students need in order to become an excellent financial analyst, a business consultant or a corporate lawyer. The professor also put considerable emphasis upon explaining the unique characteristics of the Korean economy and the financing environment, namely its exposure to the Chinese market, the high leverage ratio of firms, or the "Korea discount" phenomenon in the field of credit rating. Workshop in International Commerce 2: Professor Oh of GSIS (Graduate School of International Studies), a former lecturer at KAIST provided a well constructed course on advanced-level corporate finance, fostering the skillsets needed to understand corporate actions such as IPOs, stock repurchases, firm acquisitions as well as methods upon which analysts evaluate enterprise values of firms, namely the DCF method. A basic understanding of either corporate finance or corporate law, regardless of language is highly recommended upon taking the course as the course is best designed for students already familiar with the field.

■ 留学先での 1 学期あたりの履修科目数と履修単位数/Number of subjects registered per semester and credits earned per semester :

4 to 6 科目/Subjects / 11 to 20 単位/credits 以上

■ 1 週間あたりの学習・研究に費やした時間/Hours spent for study/research per week :

11 - 15 hrs/hours

■ 学習・研究以外の活動で取り組んだもの/Activities you took part in other than study/research :

Sports

■ 学習・研究以外の活動で取り組んだものの内容、または取り組まなかった理由/Details of the activities you chose, or the reason why you did not take part in any activity other than study/research :

I joined "snuinton", the badminton club of SNU which gathered at the school gymnasiums every 4 days a week for approximately 3 hours of playing doubles. The level of participants varied from beginner level to advanced level, which made it comfortable for me to join the club even after a 2-year blank from the sport.

■ 週末や長期休暇の過ごし方/How did you spend the weekends and vacations? :

I spent time traveling in and out of Seoul (Jeju, Busan, Paju), studying at school facilities, or working out at a gym on campus. I also spent time meeting up with new and old friends who resided in Seoul. I must mention visiting various museums related to Korean history which intrigued me into delving into relevant studies. The museums include the Seoul Museum of History, the Bank of Korea Money Museum, the Museum of Japanese Colonial History in Korea, The National Museum of Forced Mobilization under Japanese Occupation (Busan), The War Memorial of Korea, and the National Museum of Korea, all of which offered free admission.

派遣先大学の環境について/About environment at the host institution

■設備/Facilities :

Most buildings were quite new compared to UTokyo. The main library offered plenty of comfortable seats to study quietly, but the seat reservation system was a bit complicated. There were several cafeterias for students to have lunch or dinner at. My favorite was the one in Gwanaksa (the graduate students' dorm area) since they offered breakfast, lunch, and dinner all below 60,000KRW. The same Wifi "eduroam" was available in all areas of the campus and the connection was smooth.

■サポート体制/Support for students :

The OIA (Office of International Affairs) of SNU regularly sent us emails and announcements on any support they could offer the international students, including the well-known "SNU Buddy" program; a program where Korean and international students team up to engage in extracurricular cultural activities like hiking and tae-kwon-do throughout the semester. They also hosted a regular coffee session for international students to attend to relax and meet new friends.

プログラム期間中の生活について/About life during the program

■宿泊先の種類/Type of accommodation :

Rented apartments, etc.

■宿泊先の様子、どのように見つけたか/Environment around the accommodation and how did you find it :

I found my accommodation ("Naejari One-room-tel" A single-person room with a shared kitchen and laundry) through an agency named ソウル部屋ナビ which signed a contract with the accommodation on my behalf before my arrival. I have contacted an agency since it was difficult for me to sign a contract myself without a bank account or an ARC (Alien Registration Card).

■気候、大学周辺の様子、交通機関、食事等/Climate, environment around the institution, transportation, food, etc. :

My accommodation was located between SNU and SNU Station. Walkable to some areas of the campus but not all (since the campus is quite huge). A slightly cooler summer compared to Tokyo, although as humid as Tokyo. Harshly cold winters especially after December, a daytime with a temperature below 0 degrees Celsius was quite common. My most common commuting method was on buses. The metro is also available for traveling further distances within Seoul. Both buses and metros could be paid for by a transportation card named T-Money cards which you could purchase and charge at convenience stores. Food on campus was pretty reasonable (4000-7000KRW per meal) but dining prices in Seoul as a whole seemed a bit higher than that of Tokyo (Most meals are likely to cost at least 10,000KRW). Also, be aware

of the Korean standards of hot/spicy food. Some dishes are hot without claiming so, while food classified as "hot" in Korea would taste like "Extremely Hot" as in Japan.

■ お金の管理方法、現地の通貨事情/Management of money and situation about local economy :

I paid for everything with my Visa debit card I issued in Japan. Ideally, I would have opened a Korean bank account but they did not offer bank accounts to students staying for just one semester. When I needed cash, I withdrew cash from ATMs with the sign "Global ATM" with my Japanese debit card. The service fee was high (Around 4,500KRW for each withdrawal), but I had no choice. The disadvantages of not owning a Korean Bank Account or a credit card linked to it are;1. Remittance to Korean bank account holders could only be done by actually visiting banks2. You cannot pay for food delivery services since they only accept Korean cards So, my advice for you is to open a Korean bank account at the Woori Bank at SNU if you are eligible, and if you are not, be sure you own an active Visa debit card or a credit card that you can withdraw cash from.

■ 治安、医療関係事情、心身の健康管理で気をつけたこと等、危機管理/Aspects of risk and safety management, local health care system, and any actions taken to maintain your health :

Fortunately, my health was never under serious risk during the program, but I do advise you to get an extra prescription for your medicines before you depart and also bring with you moisturizing creams since your skin might not immediately adjust to the humidity and the water quality of Korea (Not that they are poor in quality but any sudden change in air and water could possibly damage your skin).

留学前の準備・手続きについて/About preparations and procedures before studying abroad

■ 留学先への入学手続き/Procedures for enrollment required by the host institution :

I have submitted several documents regarding my academic performance at UTokyo as well as essays explaining that I am eligible for the opportunity. This includes elaborating on my Korean learning background, personal experiences that fostered my curiosity toward studying at a Korean university, and also my future academic/ professional prospects which could be built upon the experience of studying in Korea.

■ ビザの手続き/Procedures to obtain visas :

I have applied for my D2 student visa at the consulate office of Korea to Japan located in Azabu (Be aware that this is not the same location as the Embassy of Korea to Japan, although accessible on foot from the Embassy.) Prompt preparation of necessary documents as well as an online visit reservation to the consular office is highly recommended since they have limited opening hours while the waiting line is fairly long.

■ 医療関係の準備/Preparations or actions taken to maintain your health :

I have checked up with my dentist several times before departure since medication overseas could result in huge expenses. I have also visited my physician for additional prescriptions of medicines I take daily.

■ 保険関係の準備/Preparations/procedures for insurance :

I have subscribed for OSSMA and Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance as instructed by the Global Education Office of UTokyo. Both procedures were fully online and completion was swift.

■ 東京大学の所属学部・研究科(教育部)での手続き/Procedures required by faculties or graduate schools at UTokyo :

The Faculty of Law advised me to complete all required credits for graduation before studying abroad since UTokyo courses could not be registered during the study abroad period, including the winter semester and the concentration semester.

■ 語学関係の準備/Language preparation :

I have studied Korean in and out of college since freshman year (passed TOPIK Grade 6 in April 2021). In UTokyo I have taken two intermediate writing courses both offered in Komaba. Other than that, I spent an hour every week practicing Korean conversation with a local friend for 3 years since freshman year.

費用・奨学金に関すること/About expenses and scholarships to participate in studying abroad**■ 参加するために要した費用/Expenses of participation :**

航空費/Airfare	100,000 円/JPY
派遣先への支払い(授業料・施設利用料など)/Payment to host institution (tuition, facilities fee, etc.)	0 円/JPY
教科書代・書籍代/Textbook / Book	10,000 円/JPY
海外留学保険料(東京大学指定のもの)/Overseas travel insurance fee (designated by UTokyo)	8,480 円/JPY
保険・社会保障料(留学先で必要だったもの)/Insurance and/or social security (required by host institution/region/country)	0 円/JPY

■ その他、補足等/Additional comments :**■ 留学先での毎月の生活費/Monthly cost of living during the study abroad period :**

家賃/Rent	64,357 円/JPY
食費/Food	70,000 円/JPY
交通費/Transportation	7,000 円/JPY
娯楽費/Entertainment/Leisure	20,000 円/JPY

■ その他、補足等/Additional comments :**■ 留学のための奨学金の受給有無/Scholarships for study abroad :**

No, I did not receive any.

■ 奨学金の支給機関・団体名等/Name of the source of the scholarships :**■ 受給金額(月額)/Monthly stipend :****■ 受給金額についての補足等/Additional comments about the monthly stipend :****■ 奨学金をどのように見つけたか/How did you find the scholarships? :****今後の予定について/About your future plans**

■ 留学先で履修した授業科目のうち、単位認定申請をする(予定のもの)/The subjects for which you plan to (are planning to) transfer credit to UTokyo :

Korean Economic History /3
Understanding Decision-Making process in US Politics /3
Financial Statement Analyses and Firm Valuation /3
Workshop in International Commerce 2 /3
■ 留学前に取得済みの単位数/Number of credits earned at UTokyo BEFORE your study abroad :
143 単位/credit(s)
■ 留学先で取得し、単位認定申請を行う(予定の)単位数/Number of credits earned and (planned to be) transferred to UTokyo :
12 単位/credit(s)
■これから本学で取得予定の単位数/Number of (expected) credits to be earned on return :
18 単位/credit(s)
■卒業/修了予定/(Expected) year/month of graduation (yyyy/mm) :
2024/9

留学を振り返って/Reflection

■ 留学の意義、その他所感/Impact of the study abroad experience on yourself or your thoughts :
<p>I am satisfied to have developed stronger self-discipline on and off campus. This was possible partly because I had no peers coming from my home faculty nor working on the same program in Korea (A senior UTokyo Law major student taking business and politics courses fully taught in Korean at SNU) and the intensity of my academic pursuit completely depended on the standards I impose on myself, whilst in UTokyo I would always have numerous peers working on the same courses, which is helpful but also locking myself within a comfort zone at the same time. In Korea, I developed better self-discipline not only regarding academic effort but also regarding daily workouts and diet to keep myself in good shape physically and mentally. On the social level, I was fortunate to make friends with numerous individuals from SNU (some from other schools) with whom we exchanged our sincere thoughts and insights on academic issues as well as on our personal lives. The friendships and the ties I made with individuals in Korea are of great value to me because none of them were arranged or planned but were developed on a completely personal level which I believe could be one of the keys to long enduring relationships.</p>
■ 今後のキャリアに対する考え方や就職活動に与えた影響/Impact of the program on your thoughts for a career or job hunting :
<p>I am highly motivated to utilize my linguistic and communication skills in my future career as I have developed greater confidence in those skills during my time in Korea. I am continuously working on my linguistic capability along side with my main studies so that I one day be someone who represents the business environment of Japan in international settings. My career plan on a practical level is most likely to be focused on maximizing the interest of Japanese firms and stakeholders, but in a broader perspective, I seek to represent not just Japan but East Asia (Japan, the Koreas, and the Chinas) as a collective, since I believe our economy is intricately intertwined with each other through aspects of supply and demand, geopolitics and human resources. After spending 4 months immersing myself in Korean society and exposing myself to Korean ways of perceiving the modern world, I feel naturally connected to the people in Korea and hope that I can continuously bridge between the people of Japan and Korea even in difficult</p>

situations, as I believe we have the potential to become not only economic competitors but also an amicable brotherhood which learn from and count on each other at challenging times.

■ 留学による今後のキャリア・就職活動へのメリット・デメリット/Merit/Demerit of studying abroad on your future career/job hunting :

The merits are countless; developing better self-discipline, meeting fantastic lecturers and peers, deepening your understanding of the destination, and even acquiring a new personality/spirit by speaking the local language, and thinking like natives on a daily basis. In my case, I acquired a new "Korean-speaking side of" myself, a slightly more critical, sped-up, competitive, ironic yet outgoing and altruistic version compared to the original Japanese-speaking side of me, which I could probably take advantage of on occasions where I get the chance to work with Koreans in the future, as a peer or as a counterpart. Possible demerits could be temporarily slowing down the pace of studying your major at UTokyo due to consuming a great deal of time catching up with the local language and adjusting yourself to the new living environment, inevitably saving less time for actual academic work. This might be a demerit if your core competitive edge upon job-hunting is not related to your study abroad or the language you chose to learn there.

■ 留学中に行った就職活動/Job hunting activities during study abroad :

None

■ 進路・就職先(就職希望先)/Career/Occupation (planned) :

Private sector

Investment banking analyst in Tokyo

■ 今後留学を考えている学生へのメッセージ、アドバイス/Any messages or advice for future participants :

My experience in Seoul was truly incredible and I achieved far beyond what I initially expected. I couldn't be more grateful for the overflowing generosity offered by my lecturers and peers who helped me adjust to the academic and social environment at SNU, as well as friends who I met outside of campus. To all readers, I strongly recommend taking on the challenge of studying at SNU, Korea, or any city if you have the desire. If you are already planning to study abroad, do reach out to past participants including me, as we could offer you specific tips on academic enrollment and living environment. I am always welcome to offer support, as I myself owe so much to past participants who helped me find housing and register for courses and also inspired me. Do take on the challenge, do what scares you, and in the end, your experience will possibly be the most rewarding one throughout your education.

■ 準備段階や留学中に役に立ったウェブサイト、出版物/Websites or publications which were useful while preparing for or during your time overseas :

[Youtube]Dahee Channel (for learning daily Korean)