



IT University Travel Report

Dear Student, this is a template – the aim is to inspire other students who may wish to follow in your footsteps. You are free to give your report the shape you want and to go beyond the questions, as long as you cover the information asked for below. You are also very welcome to include pictures and contact information – but you need not. Remember that the report will be made available on the intranet.

Host University: Inha Univeristy, South Korea

Study Programme at IT University: Global Business Informatics

Exchange Agreement or Study Abroad: Exchange

Courses studied abroad:

- Financial Management
- Int. Politics of Northeast Asia
- Logistics Management
- It & Patent
- Int. Marketing

Exchange Period: semester autumn 2019

If you wish to give advice to other students regarding your travels, please state your contact info here: gudu@itu.dk

Your stay abroad:

What was it like to study at [the university] (including choice of courses, academic level, social life at campus)?

It was easy going to study at the University. The Academic level in my respective courses were not at the highest level. It's a bit confusing in the beginning to register, but you need not to worry as there will be a period to change/add/drop courses from your schedule. All my professors had a high English proficiency, but I heard of several cases in the science departments, where the English was almost nonexistent. This is where the add/drop course period is very useful. Socially there is a lot of exchange students, and friendly native students that want to help you out and show you around. The University put a lot of effort into their buddy program, so everybody has someone to ask for help or information. Even though my buddy didn't speak English, and I only saw him once, I became friends with many of the other exchange students' buddies.

What was your initial motivation for going abroad and did your stay meet your expectations?

My initial motivation for going on exchange, was definitely to experience a different culture and try to live it. Though Koreans can be shy, and the majority have difficulty communicating in English, I experienced great many curious people and received many new acquaintances and friends. I got to experience Korea through trips around the country, as I only had courses in the beginning of the week, so the weekends were long. I would definitely recommend students to **NOT** go to Inha University, if they can choose Hanyang University – solely based on geographical location. It takes like 1,5 hours to get to center of Seoul from Inha, which is so much more interesting than Incheon (city in which Inha University is located).

Please describe what you got out of your stay, both personally and academically, and how do you expect it to contribute to your further studies?

I really appreciated the courses like Int. Marketing and Int. Politics, in which culture played a big role of the curriculum. The great learning during my trip, was to how significant and different culture can be in business and social life from country to country. I will through my further studies, pay greater attention to history and inherent cultural aspects. The life vision and personal motivation proved to me, to be very different in Korea compared to Denmark and other places I know. This is especially important when conducting research and during studies, to pay attention to different circumstances and understand the differences in people.

Arranging your stay:**Please give a short description of the process of arranging your stay:**

I choose off-campus housing, which was very easy to add while applying for exchange. Though when I arrived at the campus, I was shown to my apartment by an office assistant. The lack of prior information was awful, in terms that I was not prepared for all the stuff I had to buy for my apartment. This counted everything for the toilet, kitchen and bed. In addition, the poor office assistant (who was also a full time student) was the only way to communicate with the land lord. I had to many problems with my apartment, which took forever to fix. This part I will rate 0 out of 5. If you have trouble with your apartment on arrival, complain as early as possible or else they won't care to fix your apartment.

What resources did you find helpful in planning your stay and which people did you use (if any)?

ITU's International Partnership Manager and the International office of Inha University.

How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?

Answered above.

Expenses and Financing:**Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad**

Housing has to be paid upfront (4 months) – 12.000kr

Everything else is pretty cheap. You can cook yourself, or go out and eat a meal between 20-60kr. They offer extremely cheap insurance at the university, but I bought my own from home as I was travelling a lot extra.

Did you apply for scholarships and would you recommend any ones in particular?

GKS Scholarship is very easy to apply for (ask your exchange coordinator). I received almost 15.000kr from the Korean Government. They only demand that you apply for a Korean related course, I chose Int. Politics of Northeast Asia. They also require a certain GPA. The only thing to be aware of is that the Korean bank account you receive to get the funds, will be checked at the end of your stay as proof to the government. I was not aware of that and think it's intrusive as I didn't expect them to look into my private data of financial management.