

國立東華大學國際交換學生心得及問卷
National Dong Hwa University International Outbound Exchange Student Report

個人資訊 Personal Info.			
姓名 Name	Tania Monica Potu	學號 Student ID	611032223
所屬系所 Home Department	Master of Business Administration		
電子信箱(供未來有興趣的同學與你們聯繫，非必要) Contact Email (Optional)	611032223@gms.ndhu.edu.tw		
前往國家 Exchange Country	France		
前往學校 Host University	Université Paris-Est Créteil (UPEC)		
交換系所 Host Department	IAE Paris-Est School of Management		
交換交流期間 Exchange Period	自 From 2023 年 year / 09 月 month 至 To 2023 年 year / 12 月 month		
交換學校申請資訊 Application Info.			
申請時間 Application Period	Until May 31 for fall semester (first semester)		
獲錄取通知時間 Acceptance Letter	31/05/2023		
申請所需資料清單 Required Documents	Passport, Motivation letter, mission proposal, study plan		
簽證資訊 Visa Info.			
簽證費用 Visa Fee	NTD8000 + €50 + €50		
申請/核發簽證單位 Visa Issuing Office	Taipei		
申請文件 Required Documents	CV, invitation letter by UPEC, student certificate, proof of sufficient financial resources, proof of accommodation, photo ID, passport, Confirmation d'acceptation form by Campus France, flight ticket, ARC, Quittance de paiement de frais de dossier, and French Republic Long-Stay Visa Application Form.		
申請時程 Application Timeline	Around 1 month.		
課程資訊 Course Info.			
選課方式 Course Selection Method	<input type="checkbox"/> 線上選課 Online System <input type="checkbox"/> 紙本選課 Paperwork <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 其他 Others: filling Google Form and see the schedule through Microsoft teams		
選修學分數限制(上限/下限)	6 courses maximum.		

Limit of Credits (Max/Min)	2 courses minimum (make sure it counts in credits).
是否可以跨系選課 Any major restriction for course selection?	<input type="checkbox"/> 是 Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 否 No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 其他 Others: it is highly suggested if we take in the same level, for example courses in Master 1, or courses in Bachelor 3, do not mix the courses from multiple levels.
課程難易度 Course Level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 困難 Hard <input type="checkbox"/> 普通 Normal <input type="checkbox"/> 容易 Easy

住宿資訊 Accommodation Info.

住宿選項 (可複選) Accommodation Options (multiple)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 學校宿舍 Campus Dormitory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 學校配合之校外租屋公司 Off-campus Housing Agency in Cooperation with Host University <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 學 校提供之校外租屋資訊 Off-campus Housing Information Provided by Host University
您選擇的住宿方式 Your Accommodation Choice	<input type="checkbox"/> 學校宿舍 Campus Dormitory <input type="checkbox"/> 自行租屋 Off-campus Housing 或其他住宿資訊來源 Other housing sources: <input type="checkbox"/> 學校 University <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 朋友 Friends <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 網路-網址 Internet-Link :

相關費用 Relevant Costs

住宿費用(新台幣) Accommodation Cost(NTD)	€600/month
機票費用(新台幣) Airplane Cost(NTD)	NTD 26,400 + €553
生活費用(新台幣) Living Cost(NTD)	€600/month
其他費用(新台幣) Other Cost(NTD)	€200/month

個人心得分享 Personal Report (1500-2000 字)

Having an opportunity to do an exchange student program is a blessing for me. Every step that I have passed by seems like a miracle. I still cannot believe when I am chosen as a student candidate to go to Paris, having a fabulous friend from NDHU to go together with, enjoying Creteil in specific and European Union countries as a whole, followed by numerous experiences which I cannot pay by money. Truth to be told, I am very grateful to possess these 4-month moments in another continent.

Back then, when I flashbacked to the preparing phase to go to Paris, it was a very memorable also stressful moment. I was running out of time to do this and that. Starting from extending my passport because the requirement is "The passport must be valid for at least 3 months beyond the date on which you intend to leave the Schengen territory, or, in the case of multiple journeys, the date on which you intend to leave after the last stay.", then unfortunately my passport would be expired on 2 months after. Sadly said, I need to run to Taipei and finished every document, including going to interview at Taipei 101 for France Student Visa. At that moment I almost gave up because I had bought the ticket, but I

did not hold the Schengen Visa. Moreover, I have not had any accommodation to stay in Paris. Long story short, with the help from friends, UPEC, and my parents' prayers, finally everything goes so smoothly. All is finished on time.

When arriving in Paris, at Charles de Gaulle Airport, Valerie and I were welcomed by strong wind. We felt that everything would be different from now on compared to when we were in Taiwan. It is proven by people, weather, even the study management. It is a shocked culture for me, when I see how Parisian looks like, most of them look very serious and unfriendly. Sometimes, I felt like their faces were very fierce. It made me feel hesitant to ask, however, when I had a courage to ask, they are very friendly and willing to help even though they cannot speak English well. It breaks my thought that Parisian only want to listen if you speak French. Not as same as in Taiwan, which is shared more Asian culture, Paris has the strong west culture. In comparison, the welcoming party of universities in Paris is having the nightlife. The school will arrange a party held in a bar or boat which take the ambience of night club (DJ, music, lights, drinks, and so on).

Talking about the weather in Paris, it may change in a minute. As a comparison, in Taiwan, I always rely on the weather forecast if I want to go out, deciding whether I should bring an umbrella or not. Nonetheless, here, in Paris, I cannot depend on this forecast at all. For instance, this morning I noticed either through weather forecast application or naked eyes that the sky is crystal-clear and sunshine brightly in my area. Conversely, fifteen minutes later, it suddenly cloudy and rainy. It is beyond my prediction all the time, even the prediction seems untruthful. Moreover, bringing an umbrella to Europe is kind of useless since it could not function properly.

Moving to the time for people to study in Paris, it is quite different from Taiwan. Students will study not only when it comes to exam week or when they have many assignments. In fact, they are always in the library enthusiastically to learn new knowledge in their day-to-day life. Sometimes, the university library cannot occupy all the students who want to learn at the moment, henceforth learners will go to free public library instead. I, myself, experienced this situation when it was Sunday afternoon and I needed to study together with my friends, but we did not have any place to go. At the end, we visited one of the public libraries in the city center. It was filled with many visitors of all ages, including kids, youngsters, adults, even old ages. They went there with grouping, family, even alone. There is a plethora of activities which they run, starting from chatting, studying, surfing the net, reading books, writing notes, doing assignments, even playing games. Interestingly, I saw a puzzle that everyone may participate in to finish it. My friends and I tried it, but nothing could match.

The ambience of Paris classrooms is different to Taiwan. In Taiwan all the tables and chairs are designed individually, on contrary, in Paris, those are designed to be placed by three or more students. The desk is a wood top table with a rectangular shaped without the border to separate one to another student. Then, there is no air conditioner either in class or student accommodation. They only have heaters which will be turned on in the winter period. Furthermore, students are limited to using lifts, instead we need to take stairs even for the fourth floor and so on. Consequently, they adopt sustainable living by saving energy. Next, in class, it is prohibited to use mobile phone. So, students are very

suggested to utilize either laptop or tablet to gain information. As far as I observed, most students prefer using tablet (computer-based) to write a note instead of using book (paper-based). The main reason is they do not need to bring many books inside of their bags. Unexpectedly, the culture of Paris specifically in and Europe in general is students are requested to finish the projects in class, so there will be no homework at home. It is very challenging for me at first because I need to manage my time to finish everything in class, including discussing, making presentation, and writing a report in a short time. After the second attempt, I felt like I enjoyed everything and there was no hamper to finish all on time in class.

At first, I thought Europe shared the same culture as in the USA, which students and educators are friends. Surprisingly, in Paris, if we do not acknowledge the Professors in person, we cannot call them by name, and are supposed to use “Prof” phrase. The positive point of all teachers is they are eager to encourage learners to ask questions and open discussions in class. There is always an interaction in class. The teaching method is two-ways learning from teacher to student or vice versa. It is a good example for the Asian education system which point teacher as the spotlight, to create a new environment for encouraging students to be brave and have critical thinking in every topic. Another good example is about the scheduling where the fixed schedule is commencing in the beginning of semester, and it would not be shifted. The university and teachers are committed to sticking with the schedule they decided (adjusted with their mutual occupation). Almost all the educators are the managers of a company, so they will find vacant time to give a lecture in university. The benefit of this system is we may plot the vacation based on the “no class” schedule.

Compared to Taiwan, in Paris we have distinctive schedule every week. As an example, this week we have a CSR class in the morning, whilst next week we will not have any class, and three weeks after we will have 2 classes from morning to afternoon. Thus, as learners, we need to underline and make a note for our schedule from week to week. Subsequently, in four months (September-December), sometimes we just have 10 meetings for a course. Truth to be told, I doubted what we were going to learn in the 30 hours. Hence, I proved that 30 hours of lecturing is more than enough if we use it wisely and effectively to gain much new and deep knowledge.

Below, there are some untold stories about Paris that people may not know except when they travel to Paris:

- All in all, Paris is a dirty city. We can see a lot of trash, dry leaves, cigarette butts in the streets, pavements, public transportation (bus, metro). It is also supported by opened trash bins which are able for rats to get their food. Undeniably, not only the ground but also the air is very filthy. Since people are free to smoke everywhere without a special area of smoking.
- When you are hungry, do not ever go out to the tourist-trap restaurant, because you will end up queueing for more than one hour outside. Inside the restaurant, you will sit with others at one table or very nearby with another table as they do not have enough space to accommodate many guests.

- If you have an appointment with someone else, you need to spare much time for public transportation. As in Paris it is very common if the metro is delayed or stops in the middle of the way. After that all the passengers will get announcement using French either they need to wait or going out of the train.
- Apart from the dirty side, Paris is also an unsafe place. You may easily find beggars, the homeless, weirdos, drunkards, and thieves in all your journey. That is the reason why we need to pay attention to our belongings and surroundings. Also, it is jeopardized for a woman to go out in the late night.
- If you go to Paris, sometimes you cannot lean on sophisticated technology like Google maps or even the information written on Google because it is totally different from the actual fact.
- Paris is one of liberal cities in France. Almost every week some people will have a demonstration in city center to request freedom. Hence, it is better to keep updated with the news about which location will be impacted by the demo and try to avoid that way as usually it would become a traffic jam also the probability, they put a bomb because of the crowd.
- There are some ways for people to ask for money from others on the street or public transport. Usually, they ask for money while begging, or singing while playing music. Uniquely, you will see many beggars in Paris bringing their pets like cats or dogs. Furthermore, there are some people kneeling in the middle of way inside the metro platform. Moreover, they may bring musical instruments and sing either inside the train station or on the metro.
- When it comes to the public facilities for the disabilities, I may say that France government needs to put it into concern. The first reason is not every station has an elevator or lift to help people who need to move in the metro stations. On the bus, I think they do not have special treatment for those who use wheelchairs or strollers. The second consideration is no staff who is assigned to help disability people.

Notwithstanding, it is naïve to neglect that there are good points from Parisian as well. As an example, whenever you buy something in store or supermarket, the staff will greet you with “Bonjour” or hello and after we paid, they will say “Merci. Bonne journée” or “Thank you. Have a good day”. Every time folks want to say sorry or ask permission, they will say “Pardonne”. All in all, it can be concluded if Parisians or French people are polite. The most memorable moment in my life when I was in Paris was about seeing and experiencing helping others. Most people in Paris are happy to help one another. I also got an opportunity to help a blind person and lead the way for her until we were on the metro, really it was an ecstatic occurrence in my life since I can lend my hand and be useful to my surroundings.