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people in the international office.

- Make more friends there and practice the spoken English often. Don't miss this good chance.

## My Exchange Experience at University of Washington, USA

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*University of Washington, Seattle, is a public research university. It is located at Seattle, a city where software development is thriving, leading to its high international rank in the discipline of Computer Science which is no. 7.*

### My Pre-departure Checklist

Most of my preparation started after receiving the acceptance letter from the host institution which includes:

- Book the plane ticket
- Apply for visa
- Apply for home stay (because the residential hall opened only within the study period, students need to find other places to live if they get there earlier)
- Apply for student housing
- Register for courses

### Just Arrived

- After 19 hours of flight with one transfer at South Korea, I finally landed on Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac).
- Though one of my baggages was lost, my host parents were there waiting for me, and the baggage was sent to our home later at night.

### My Host Family

- I stayed with my host parents for two weeks, one week before the quarter and one week after the quarter.
- During the quarter, I went to have dinner with them every Saturday.

### My Place

- I was staying in Terry Hall.
- Though it is the most crowded residential hall on campus, there is a convenience store and a large canteen on the ground floor.

### My First Class

- UW is very large, a lot of students walking around finding the classroom for their first class.
- Most of my classes were held at the electronic engineering building.

### Out of Classroom

- Before the quarter started, my host parents drove me around. They even drove me for 4 hours to a snow mountain because I told them I have never seen snow before. They are very nice.
- I went to Vancouver with the Singapore friend, it's only 4 hours from Seattle.
- I joined the FIUTS event (a UW department) to Portland
- I booked a round trip ticket which arrive in Seattle and leave in New York, both with one transfer in Seoul. I need to find my way to New York by train!! I had been to Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Grand Canyon, San Francisco, Chicago, Washington D.C., Orlando, Philadelphia, Boston, New York and Seoul!

### Sharing

- Studying abroad is really a great chance for me to explore myself. You never know you can do something if you never try.
- It's my first time traveling to another country, first time living in dormitory, first time traveling alone. When I recall all these memory, I still can't believe I did so, came safe and sound and with a lot of friends, friends all over the world.

