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## Money

As mentioned, the luggage delay incurred extra cost for arranging new clothing/bedding/stationaries. Fortunately, I managed to get some compensation from the airline. Furthermore, having an international credit card for emergency is always advised.

For the sake of saving money, I have cooked a lot in the dorm. Indeed, you can enjoy free supply of pizza, burgers, drinks, etc. every day from on-campus events if you want.

## Goodbye

Saying goodbye has always been difficult for me. Many dinners have been arranged with friends before leaving and we promised to visit one another someday. Everyone got sentimental as expected.



## Home Sweet Home

After my return, I decided to take more credits in the following semester as I believed I could manage a heavier workload after an enriching semester. I realized I could have a better control over my own life instead of being manipulated by various tasks which might be of lower priorities. I value my relationships with family and friends much more than before.

Looking back, going to US for exchange is a decision that I would never regret. I got the chance to study in a top-notch university with a group of very talented young minds, know people coming from all over the world, and experience the life in USA.

## Sharing

Think thoroughly what you want from the exchange study at least a semester/year before you set off for the adventure. Be more goal-oriented.

## Overall Rating

My rating: 8 ! (where 5 is the highest rating)

## Building Up My Life Attitude through Exchange in Georg-Simon-Ohm Hochschule Nuremberg

*CHOW Wai Hei*

*BEngECE, Yr3*

### Just Arrived

When I arrived in Nuremberg, my buddy picked me up from the airport to my hostel. My buddy gave me a Nuremberg map and I went to Mexico for a trip. I started to explore this city by myself.

I checked the map, and walked along the streets to the city center. My first impression of Nuremberg was really fresh and comfortable. And the people were really nice. They were willing to guide me the way to the city center, even I could not understand German. During a walk in the city center, I bought a lot of food and drinks in supermarket. In Germany, there is no shop opened on Sunday, including all supermarkets and restaurants!

### Orientation

It has been my first time to enroll in exchange study and met up so many other exchange students from all over the world. During the orientation day, the staff from International Office guided us to fill in some forms, such as arranging the health insurance in Germany. The following schedule of a wide variety of activities as informed to us excited me!!

After the orientation day, I met some foreign students and had lunch together in McDonald's. It was the first picture I took with my friends.

### My Place

I love my residence very much! There are a lot of facilities, fitness room, music room, laundry, printing room, table tennis room, etc. One of the most important facilities in St.Peter is the Spacepub – a pub for every student to drink and gather. It is open on every Thursday night. I never felt lonely in St.Peter, as most of the exchange students were living there. I lived



in a single room with shared bathroom and kitchen. There were 6 people in total, including me.

### **My First Class**

My first class started on the day after orientation day. It was German intensive course. The level I chose was A1, so I studied with most Asian exchange students, in addition to some European and American students. The learning style was quite different from CityU. There were a lot of interaction in class through doing short drama from cases in textbook, doing discussion and playing games in groups.

Very often in the last 15 minutes, we moved from the classroom into a garden. We formed a big circle and talked to each other in Deutsch. Although we were from different countries, we did not have any obstacle when communicating to each other, attributed to the course German A1.

### **People I Met**

After a month of German intensive course, I started to study my major courses. Most were local students taking the course, only with a few foreign students same as me. All the courses I took were conducted in English.

I made my close local friends from lectures, as well as neighbors living on the same floor of residence. We met and chatted every day, and went to fitness, and drank beer in the Spacepub together. The most interesting thing I found on my local friends was their eating habit. They never ate rice or noodles, and seldom cooked. They only took sandwiches and potatoes for dinner every day. Also they did not wear slippers but only socks instead.

### **Out of Classroom**



*The first stammtisch*



*Football Day with friends*



*Ice-skating Day*

### **Goodbye**

Undoubtedly, it was quite a sad moment to say goodbye to everything in Nuremberg. Though I only stayed for six months, I like Nuremberg so much. I met a lot of friends in this city. I had a lot of memories in every part in this city. I had a great change in myself because of this city. My six-month exchange study was the greatest time in my life.

The most rewarding part must be the friendship built in these six months. I was happy that I could not only communicate with friends in English, but also chatted with them in German! I am sure that our friendship could last forever!

### **Home Sweet Home**

When I arrived at Hong Kong International Airport and saw my parents and friends, I felt very warm. From the exchange experience, I have built up a better self-confidence. Also, I have become more independent – now, I prepare my own breakfast, and have a better time management.

### **Sharing**

I would say I was not a brave and decisive boy. I needed much consideration before I gave a try in something I was not quite ready for failures. I had little confidence and seldom found a sense of success. But everything seemed to have changed after the exchange study. I realized that I need to try things out in order not to regret. Failures are nothing. Just be brave, and tell yourself you can do it. The idiom below is my motto now.

### **Overall Rating**

5 (the highest in the rating scale)

**IF YOU WANT  
SOMETHING YOU'VE  
NEVER HAD,  
THEN YOU'VE  
GOT TO DO  
SOMETHING YOU'VE  
NEVER DONE.**