
Exchange in KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden

LUK Isabel Pui Yin
BENG4-INFE, Yr 4

I am very honored to have a chance of being an exchange student at KTH Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Sweden in Semester A, 2016/17. I learnt much more than expected in my exchange.



Orientation

After I arrived in Stockholm, the capital of Sweden for my exchange on 21 August 2016, I took part in an extensive introduction programme provided by the hosting institution and the Student Union. I enjoyed it very much that the programme includes a traditional KTH welcome reception in the Stockholm City Hall, which is the site of the annual Nobel Prize celebrations; as well as social activities such as Kayak, and excursion to archipelago far from the town centre.



My Classes

The arrangements for semesters are slightly different from CityU. Each semester is divided into two study periods. Each period lasts for 7 weeks, just like Summer Semester at CityU, therefore each course has very vast workload and contents: one of the course I had taken needs students to have 16 lectures and 4 six-hour laboratory in 7 weeks. Furthermore, all the courses I attended are master level because most of the bachelor courses are taught in Swedish. The

knowledge I learnt from the classes is more advanced than those at CityU.

Out of classroom

I went travelling around Europe during these five months. The most unforgettable trip was the hike to Trolltunga. Trolltunga means “Troll’s Tongue”. It is a cliff rock jutting out about 700 meters above Lake Ringedalsvatnet in Norway. It was a 22 km round trip by walking through slippery slopes and rocks, stepping in mud puddles, and it took me a total of 11 hours. Although the route was challenging and exhausting, it is definitely worthwhile for me to have experienced it! Apart from travelling, I also joined two hackathon in Sweden and in Finland. The one in Finland is Europe’s largest hackathon. It is a place where I can meet the coolest developers and designers, letting go of my inhibitions and prompting me to create cool inspiring school projects related to Information Technology.

People I met

Although I chose a single room in student residence hall, I still had a chance to get to know my corridor-mates from around the world such as Africa, India, Germany, Mainland China, Italy and Slovenia as well as Sweden. We always had international food party like making pizza. Sometimes Slovenian girl made desserts for us. This was a fun experience to make friends in the kitchen.

In addition, I met people from Asia like Taiwan, Japan and Singapore as well as Hong Kong in school or during travelling, we talked about what we had experienced in European countries, exchanged our minds with each other. The funniest thing we did together was doing the Mannequin Challenge that people froze in motion while someone took a video of it.

In my last day in Sweden, I was so touched by my friends’ big hugs and they saw me off at the airport. At that moment, I started to miss my five-month exchange life.



Promotion

It was not just the semester I have exchanged that made me more mature, the different cultures, experiences, beliefs, love and others have added much value in my life. For those who are planning to do exchange soon: You will not regret doing this because the exchange life will be with you forever!

