

Yonsei University, South Korea, Business, September – December 2015 fall semester.

Preparation for Exchange

My preparation for exchange was probably easier than others who were planning to go to South Korea. The reason being is because I used to be a Korean Citizenship before I attained my Canadian Citizenship. The works that you have to prepare all I had to do was take my Canadian citizenship document and register for an alien registration card at the foreign embassy in Korea and I was set for my visas. Hearing from other students that I met abroad, some of them had a real hard time applying for their visas, but it was not anything undoable.

I left to Korea a little bit earlier than everyone else, partially because I have family there and also because I wanted to travel around the country. I left Canada in early June, whereas the semester started in early September. When I was packing I was really inconsiderate and only packed summer clothes. When you pack, especially if you are going for the fall semester, you should consider that winter in Korea gets extremely cold. Make sure you pack a nice, warm jacket for the winter. The summer gets really hot too. It reaches almost up to 40 degrees Celsius and it is really humid, so be prepared for that as well.

South Korea has amazing places to go and visit. Through my research I figured out that the transit system in Korea is really effective and you can get pretty much anywhere through public transportation.

Financially I had no big worries because I had family there. I took 500\$ worth of Won and a visa card for back up. Compared to Vancouver everything is generally cheaper, especially the food. You would find yourself eating out most of the time. My favorite part of Korea, dining wise, was the unlimited Korean BBQ places that you can find very easily almost anywhere around the campus. I spent about \$700 Canadian dollars monthly while I was there, but it really depends on your spending, and if you wish to travel around a lot you might want to consider extra budget. A lot of exchange students also travel to nearby countries such as Japan, Vietnam, Philippines and etc.

During Exchange

Since I got there earlier than everyone else, I had time for myself to travel around and spend time with my family who lives in Korea. My experience would probably be a little different from most of the other exchange students who left Canada near September. Before school started, there was an orientation for all the exchange students and through the orientation I met a lot of

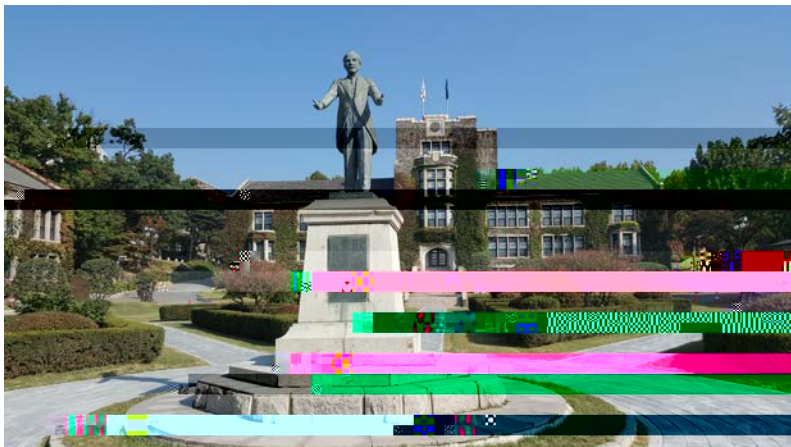
non from SFU. Don't be nervous for your exchange experience because at the orientation they will tell you a lot of things you need to know about Korea, so you can make a smoother transition.

There was an after-

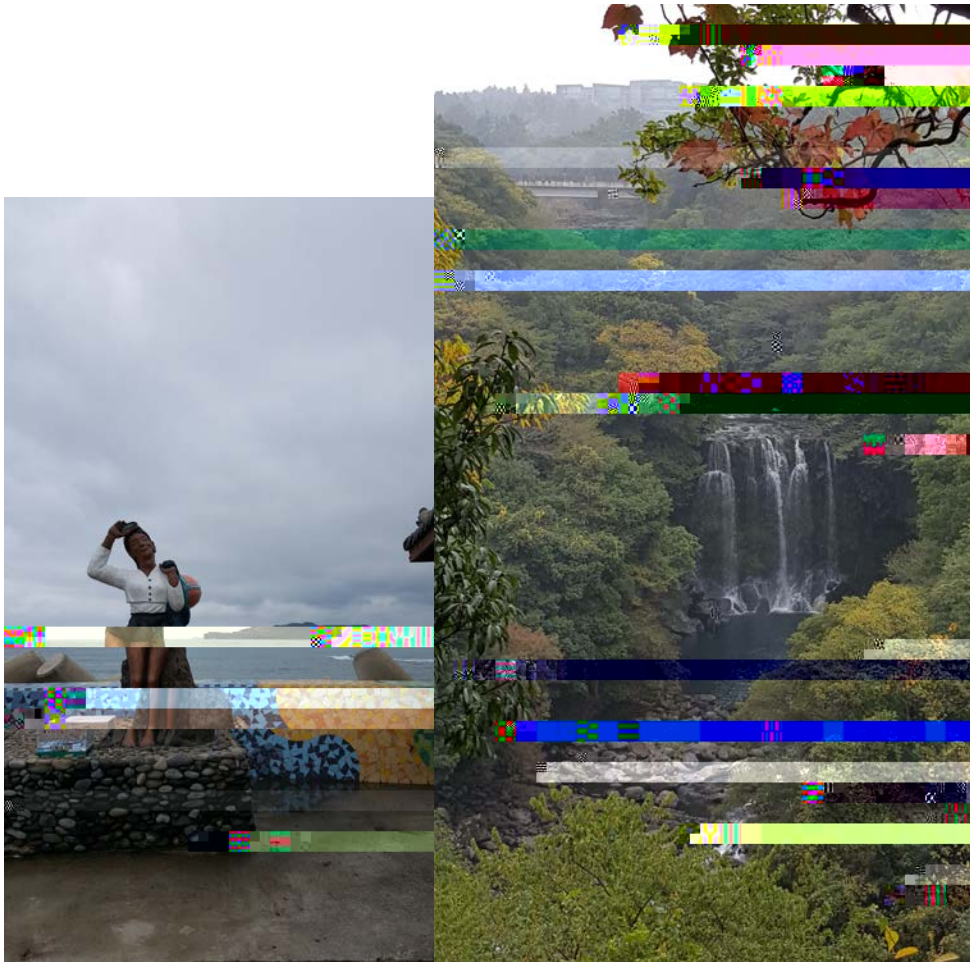
For me, because it was my home country I faced very little challenges. Korea is a very efficient country and I really enjoyed my experience at Yonsei. What I wish I had knew before I left was the enrollment system. It was a hassle to figure out the system and to enroll in to the courses I wanted to take . The seats fill up real quick because all the students at Yonsei register on the same day and only allow you to enroll at a specific day, unlike SFU where you can make changes continuously until a certain date . You should make sure you have everything planned out before you enroll.

Honestly, Korea was much more than I had expected. I met a lot o f new people, met great friends, and experienced a lot. My advice to anyone who are planning to go on exchange is to just really enjoy every moment of it. Enjoy the hardships you face and the good times you face. When you finish your exchange semester and look back to your experience, it will really be a memorable one which you will not regret .

Yonsei Campus



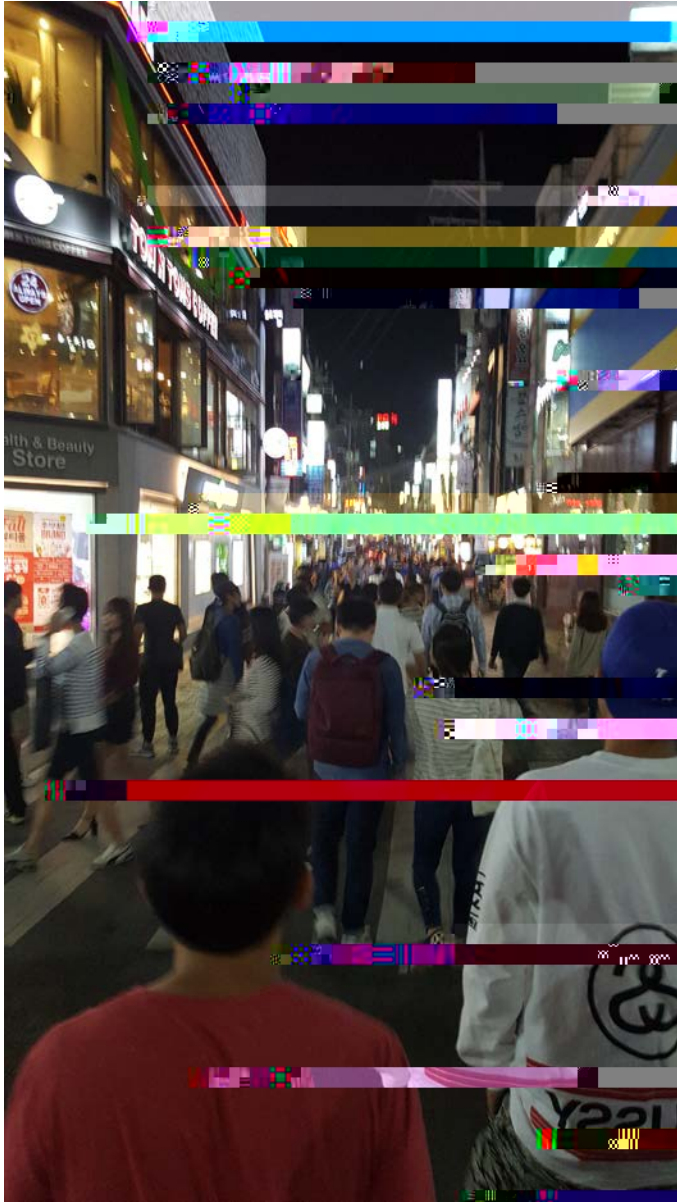
Jeju Island



Seol-ak San



Shinchon



Yon-ko Games (soccer game)

