

# Taipei, Taiwan

## Maureen Petty



**Program:** National Taiwan University Exchange,  
Academic Year 2017-2018

**Majors:** International Studies and Chinese

### Earning the Language Immersion Badge:



Living and studying in Taiwan for ten months has given me the opportunity to be immersed in a Chinese speaking country where I could practice my language skills daily and improve my language skills at a much faster rate than I would in the United States. Being immersed in a society in which they speak the language you are studying is such an invaluable

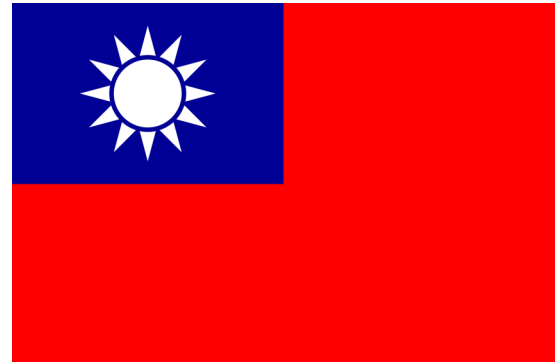
experience, and a must if you hope to gain fluency in the language. Besides improving my language skills, I was also able to learn a lot about the culture of Taiwan, which is a very important component to learning a language. Not only am I better at communicating using Chinese, but I am also able to understand and communicate with those who come from Taiwan as I can understand their culture and norms. By learning abroad in Taiwan and immersing myself into their language and culture, I am better able to understand the people and the language, which will ultimately help me in the professional world where I hope to use my Chinese language skills. Learning abroad has given me a once in a lifetime experience that has enhanced my overall student experience at the University of Utah.

### Transferable Skills:



In the future I hope to either go into international business or work for the government in national security. Chinese is a very important language for both of those jobs. By knowing Chinese and understanding the culture, I will be able to use Chinese in a professional setting, whether it is giving a business proposal to Chinese business partners or translating transcripts for the state

department. Learning abroad has also helped me in school, as I am better able to communicate and understand my Chinese classes here at the University of Utah. Learning abroad has also helped me become more open with the international students on campus, as I know what they are going through.



***“Learning abroad is an invaluable experience that I believe one must go through in order to become fluent in their language of choice. Not only does learning abroad help improve your language skills, but you will also learn about the local culture which is a very important component to learning a language.”***