

Taipei, Taiwan

Sambat Kim



Program: Summer School: National Taiwan University, 2017

Major: International Studies

Earning the Language Immersion Badge:



Study Abroad has always been one of my dreams before I graduate from the University of Utah, especially because the Learning Abroad office offers many programs. Traveling is part of an education that you don't get in class, where you learn a new language, meet new people and connect with different cultures. During my

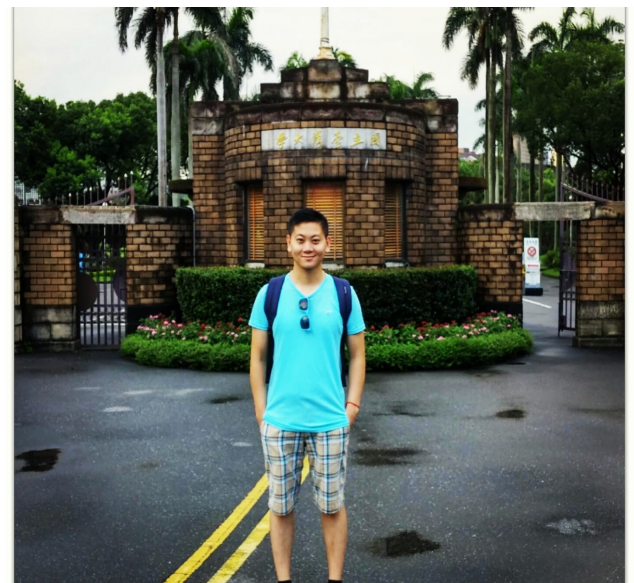
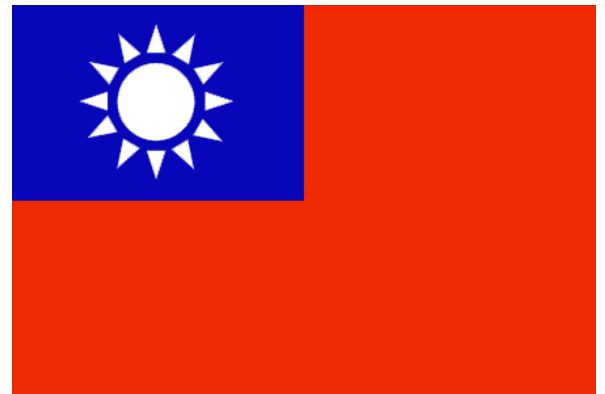
first year in college, I met two international students from Taiwan at the International Students Orientation where I volunteered. We became good friends. They shared their culture and language with me and I was inspired by their stories and wanted to experience it myself. It gave me the passion to study abroad in Taiwan with their delicious food and fascinating culture. I also wanted to learn Chinese traditional characters in Taiwan where most institutions in the U.S only teach Chinese simplified characters. While learning Chinese, we need to understand the history and meaning of each Chinese character, which we can tell through traditional characters. During my time in Taiwan for four weeks, I was able to learn Chinese traditional characters very quickly, practiced with locals, and met amazing people from the United States, Canada, Europe, China, and other countries. This learning abroad experience will help me to fulfill my dream to work for the U.S Embassy in Asia Pacific in the future.

Transferable Skills:



Being an International Studies major gave me the opportunity to gain international experience. Study in Taiwan has given me diverse views locally and globally. Since I returned home, I volunteered at the University of Utah Learning Abroad Expo to share my experiences with other students, and how this trip has changed my life in

many ways. I plan to take a CHIN 3510 Business Chinese course in the spring semester 2018 to continue the language. I will also continue to talk to other students on campus to encourage them to take the advantage while they are undergraduate students to learn abroad.



“Growing up as an Asian American, I spoke English and Cambodian at home. I realized that language is very fascinating, especially when our world is becoming more globalized. Learning Abroad gave me the international business, education, and cross-cultural communication experiences which will help me in the future.”