

I've been living in Taiwan for almost 5 months, and I could say it has been an amazing experience that I will never forget. I was able to meet a lot of nice people, even though not all of them could speak English. They tried to speak to me with gestures or using Google Translate. I learned a lot from Taiwanese people. Their different culture and different environment made me realize that I must watch them and take the positive parts and not the negative ones. Many people say that Taiwan is already "Muslim friendly", and I will answer "Yes" for a city like Taipei, but other than that, it's still hard to live in Taiwan as a Muslim. But I really like Taiwanese people because they respect me as a Muslim. One story that I will never forget is that, during Ramadhan, when I tried to find foods for the Iftar, I found one store in Tamsui (the city that I lived in Taiwan) that only had a halal logo on their menus, so I went there, and then the waiters asked me if I am Muslim and fasting or not, and it made me feel moved because they gave me free drinks for my Iftar.

Talking about the university life that I attend at Tamkang University, for me, the way the lecturers teach there is not really different from classes at UMY. So, I can adapt to it easily. The lecturers were also nice to me, and I also met a lot of Indonesian people there, so I really enjoy every class that I attend there. From my experience at Tamkang University, I really feel everything is easy for us (exchange students). Their staff also helps us, especially Ms. Dolly, who helps me with everything there. Also, to the English buddy in the Tamkang University dormitory, thank you so much for helping me and making the fun activities in the dormitory.

Every month, Tamkang University has a different activity for their foreign students, like dragonboat festivals, where they give foreign students rice cake, Easter eggs, a cultural trip to Taoyuan, and many other activities in their dormitory. I joined some of their activities, like watching movies together, hiking, taking a cultural trip, and strolling through the night market. It was so fun because I met a lot of people from different countries. At TKU, they also provide Chinese classes at different levels. I take the basic class, and I attend Chinese class four times in a week. I found that Mandarin is very interesting for me because every stroke of the characters and the meaning are so beautiful.

I am also able to visit many destinations when I am in Taiwan, like the most beautiful and memorable destination that I ever visited there, Qintiengang grassland (擎天崗), which is so beautiful at sunset. I really want to come back to Taiwan if I have the chance again, maybe for my master's degree or just to visit there for a holiday. So far, I have really enjoyed every single moment that I spent there, and I have no regrets about choosing Taiwan for my study abroad.

Thank you, IRO, for this chance, and thank you, IPIEF staffs and lecturers, for giving full support to their student.