



國立臺灣科技大學海外研習心得

Name : Daniel

Department : Architecture

Student ID : M10713804

Semester :

2019/ Fall



Host country & university :

Netherlands, TU Eindhoven



Language : Dutch



Exchange period :

2019/09/02 ~ 2020/02/03

The report shall contain the following sections
(at least 2000 words):

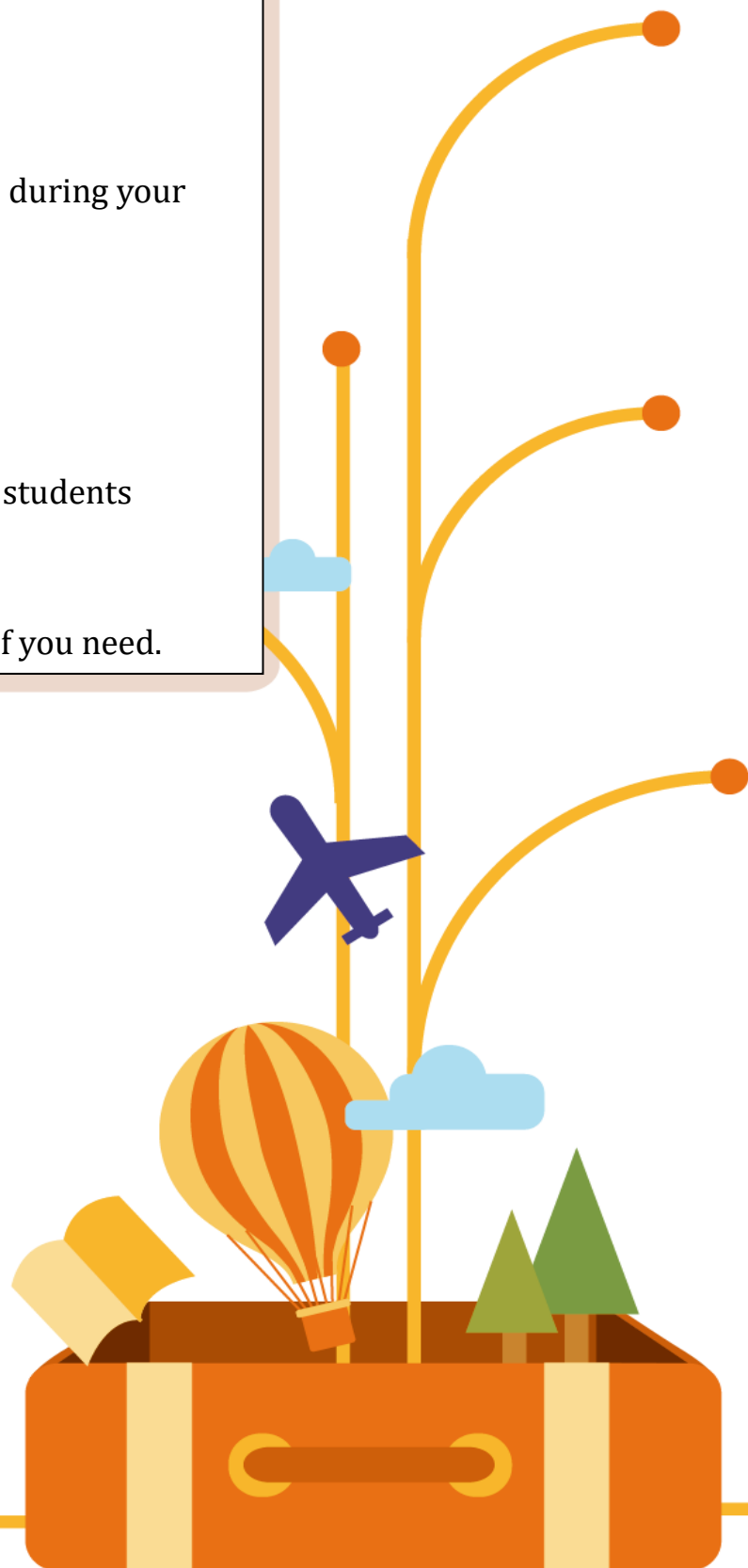
Part A (At least 1500 Words)

1. Preparation before departure
2. Courses take at host universities
3. Difficulties and solutions you have during your exchange stay

Part B (200~500 Words)

4. Experiences learned and sharing
5. Suggestions to potential exchange students
6. Picture * 12

✧ You are free to add more page if you need.





Part A (At least 1500 Words)

Preparation, Courses and Difficulties you faced

Report:

My name is Daniel, I am a 2nd year architecture master student in NTUST, and I am from Indonesia. Recently I participated in a student exchange program in the department of the Built Environment, Architecture, Building and Planning (ABP) program, at Eindhoven University of Technology (TU Eindhoven), Eindhoven, Netherlands on my third semester.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to receive a full scholarship from NTUST this past one and a half year. My master study here in Taiwan is my first experience studying abroad. I got a lot of new experience, experienced new culture, and gained new knowledge during my first and second semester in NTUST. I improved my English as well as learning Chinese as I communicate in class and in the laboratory. From this experience, I got the courage and desire to challenge myself to participate in the student exchange program. There are few international students from NTUST want to take this opportunity, as for us living in Taiwan is already a big challenge, but I felt a big curiosity and desire to learn more about new cultures and also new architectural knowledge in a country farther away from Taiwan from my home country.

The other reason I took this exchange program is because my research in NTUST is about housing and how people live in it with their different preference and culture. That is why I was curious to learn about how western people interact with their houses and how western housing different from our Asian housing, and the Netherlands has that long history of its western housing. I choose TU Eindhoven as my exchange host university because TU/e has a focused study on urban and housing. TU Eindhoven's Architecture, Building and Planning (ABP) program has three tracks to choose, AUDE – Architectural Urban Design and Engineering; USRE – Urban Systems and Real Estate; SED – Structural Engineering and Design; and BPS – Building Physics and Systems. These wide track option provide a complete understanding of housing from different angles of architecture and urbanism.



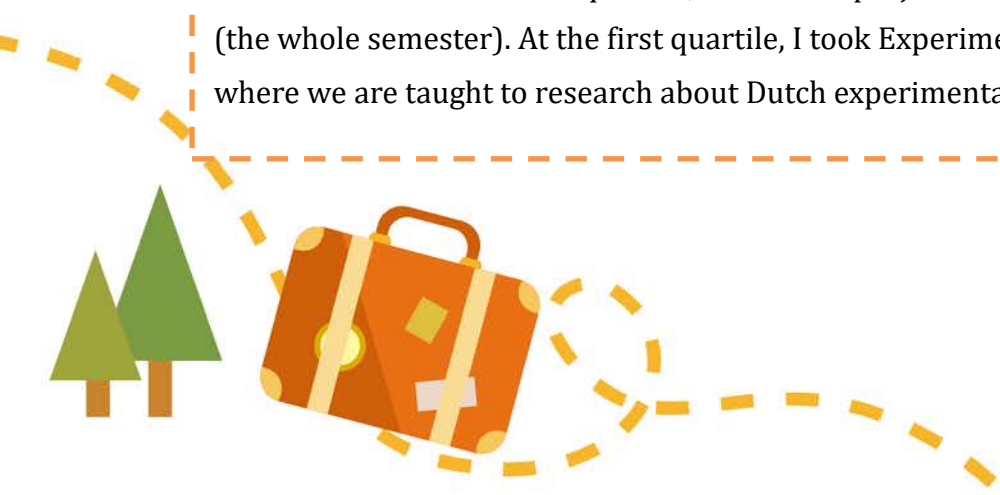


Report:

Before my exchange study in the Netherlands, I had to apply to NTUST OIA's outbound exchange student program online form and submit my supporting documents, such as IELTS test certificate, transcript, study plan, and etcetera. This process took just about one month for the first selection process before NTUST forward the application to the host university. After that I applied for the visa, buy my return flight ticket, and choose the accommodation provided by TU Eindhoven's student housing agent partner. The visa application process was done by the TU Eindhoven, but there are many documents to prepare to obtain the Netherlands visa. Although the visa application process is not too difficult, but the after-arrival process in the Netherlands is a little bit complicated. I had to redo TBC test there and also had to submit a lot of legalized documents, which I didn't prepare before, so I need to send back my documents to Indonesia to be legalized and mailed back to the Netherlands. This happened because Dutch bureaucracy is a little bit detailed and complicated, even more complicated than other EU countries (from what I heard from other exchange friends).

A week before the semester started, there was an exchange introduction events for all TU Eindhoven's international exchange student and Erasmus exchange student. I went there with two of my new flat mates, one from France and one from Portugal. The information session was made to be fun and not too formal. After the session, all of the exchange student went to the city center together to a pub crawn event. I got a lot of new friends from all over the world and talked a lot about each other's culture and home university.

At TU Eindhoven, I took a total 20 ECTS credits, divided into three classes. Two of the classes is a regular class worth 5 ECTS each, and one of the class is a studio project class worth 10 ECTS. A semester in TU/e is divided into two quartiles, so the regular class has a duration of one quartile, and studio project class occupy for 2 quartile slots (the whole semester). At the first quartile, I took Experimental Housing Seminar class where we are taught to research about Dutch experimental housing project in the 70s.





Report:

On the same time, I took a studio project class with the same title, Experimental Housing studio. In this studio, we were expected to design a housing complex on a real site in The Hague. We went there from Eindhoven by train to survey the site. On the second quartile, I took Urban Trend and Strategies class. In this class I learned about housing development in the Netherlands as well as how Dutch cities evolved through times.

Classes and studios in TU/e for me is more difficult than in NTUST. At TU/e, we were encouraged to learn things through trying and finding by ourselves. Dutch student also a little bit competitive and more individual compared to Asian student. They strive really hard to achieved the perfect score, but at the same time, the scoring here is really heavy. Because of the semester are divided into two quartiles, the class schedule become denser and the assignment submission become very tight. But from this strict learning process, I was pushed to study harder and as the result, I learned a lot. Although Dutch students are a little bit individual, but they are welcoming and eager to help the exchange student to well adapt to their campus.

As I expected, Dutch way of living is different. Living in the Netherlands is not as convenient and practical as in Taipei. Restaurants and cafes are expensive and open just for a very short time. That's why I have to cook at home and even packed a meal for lunch in the campus. This is also a very Dutch culture to cook at home and bring your own lunch box everywhere. But because of this, I learned how to cook and also, I can have more healthy food with more affordable price. I can start a healthier life as well as saved a lot of money just because I cooked at home.

TU Eindhoven also has a very complete and big sport center, but the negative side is the student sport center is not free. We have to subscribe and renew our sport card and pay for it every month. But because it is also a supporting facility for TU/e students, we can get discount price for the monthly fee. I went there almost every day and have more friends there from Asia, Europe, as well as from America. Because of these new healthy habits (of cooking healthy foods and working out), I have gained



around seven kilograms there. I am skinny before I went there and I have tried to gain weight but always failed, but in the Netherlands, I can complete my last year resolution.

Taking the exchange program also give me opportunities to explore new places. I went on a backpacking tour around Europe by bus and trains on the holidays between the quartiles. I visit more than 20 cities in 10 countries in Europe such as Belgium, France, Germany, Austria, Swiss, Italy, and etcetera. This also become my greatest trip and greatest experience in my life. Traveling in a budget also allows me to meet other people on my trip. I even met my NTUST friends who took their exchange program too in Austria and Italy.

Lastly, this exchange program has been a very wonderful and useful experience for me. This exchange program provides me a wider horizon of the different colors of the world, experience different culture and way of life, as well as learning a lot of new soft skills. This exchange program also provided me with provisions to develop my thesis in NTUST this semester. The joyful of being able to meet new people from around the world as well as seeing by yourself new iconic places really outweigh the difficulties and challenges. I highly recommend the student exchange program even if you are an international student at NTUST, because trying to live in a new place never fails to make us more mature and learn more and more things. You won't regret your decision to take this priceless program.



Part B (200~500 Words)

Experiences, Suggestions and Picture * 12

Your feedback may be posted on OIA Facebook page in order to share your fruitful experience.



My user name

Monday at 11:00 AM



你，在想些什麼？

Feedback :

My exchange experience is a blast. Not only can I meet new friends from all over the world, I can also visit new places that were not in my mind I could visit during my study years. Choosing Europe as an exchange destination is a little bit hard because it has a huge culture difference compared to our Asian culture. Living in Europe seems to be expensive too, but if you know the trick, the living cost will not be much different from the living cost here in Taipei. Perhaps the biggest difference is just on the housing rent. Searching for the housing earlier will give a bigger chance to get more affordable housing.

Europe also offer a lot of cheap bus ticket and sometime flight ticket, so that you can explore more places other than the city you are taking the exchange program. Taking night buses for an eight to ten hours trip will save your money since you do not need to stay at hotel anymore. Busses and trains in EU are comfortable enough to sleep.



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你，在想些什麼？

Feedback :

Staying at youth hostel is also a money saver especially if you travel alone. In Europe, you can go to a lot of different countries too without additional visa around the Schengen countries. Do not forget to bring your student id too because a lot of museum in Europe has discount price or even free tickets for student.

I have one regret from my exchange experience, which is failing to take a language class. I was a little doubtful when it was time to register for the class, whether I should take a Dutch class or not. and when I was sure I wanted to take it; the class was already full. So do not hesitate to take the language class in where you take your exchange. By learning new language, you can meet more people and practice your new language ability at the same time.



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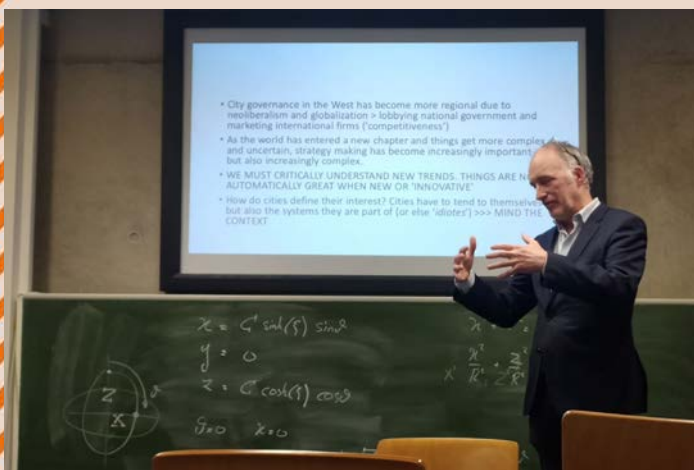
照片說明：

Me in front of
TU Eindhoven



照片說明：

In front of the Built
Environment's building



照片說明：

My favorite professor at
TU/e



照片說明：

During site visit
at The Hague



照片說明：

My studio tutors



照片說明：

Inside the woodworking
workshop



照片說明：

My bike at Eindhoven



照片說明：

My flatmate from France
and Portugal



照片說明：

Inside the student sport
center fitness area





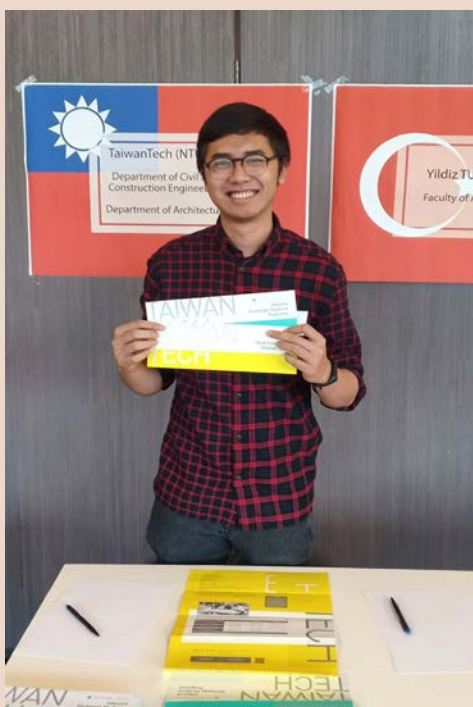
照片說明：

TU Eindhoven from above



照片說明：

My TU/e student id card



照片說明：

Me promoting NTUST at exchange fair



照片說明：

TU Eindhoven's library



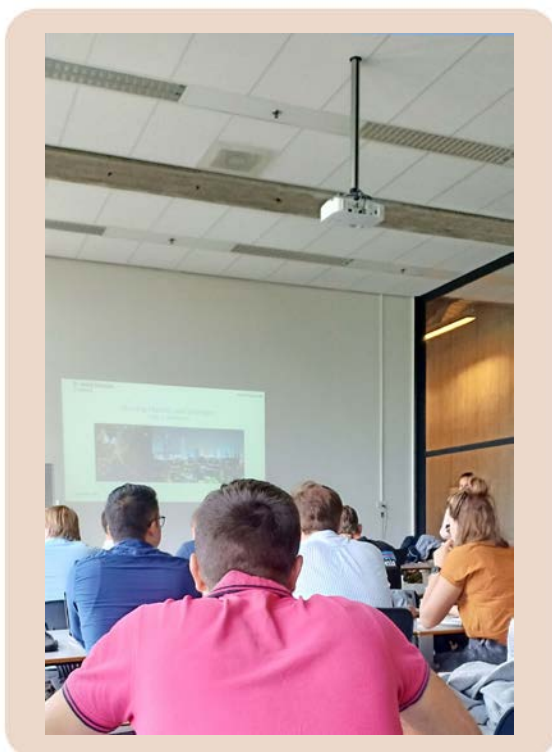
照片說明：

Studio situation during evaluation



照片說明：

Studio situation during tutorial



照片說明：

Class situation



照片說明：

My experimental housing models