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## **Experience in Taiwan**

Studying overseas can be a phenomenal opportunity for an international exposure, learning new language and culture, travel, employment opportunities, helpful knowledge on areas of interests and research activities. In addition, a total new ambiance and environment as a real challenge for foreign students. Even if a student knows a lot about a country where he or she is going to live, there is a probability that one can be treated with some difference. One can feel homesick, be lost or alienated sometimes even in food and culture. Furthermore, studying in a different language can be a daunting obstacle that many students will not be able to overcome. Also, making good friends does take time and it can be more difficult in a country that you are not very used to.

Finances may become the principal issue. Living abroad is expensive as well as the education. It is often difficult for students and their parents to afford abroad education. Scholarships are not easy as abc and they are restricted in numbers. Some sort of expertise and outstanding academic skills are required for scholarships and not all students can get them. Receiving a scholarship here in Nanhua University through the Ministry of Education in Taiwan entitled Taiwan Experience Education Program (TEEP) through the help of Professor Hong Yao-Ming had given me the opportunity to pursue my dream. Now, I am quite determined to finish my Masters Degree here in Nanhua University because of that dream and for the people who had helped and believed in me.

### **COURSE IN THE FIRST SEMESTER**

In our first semester, we had learned a lot especially in our first five subjects such as Soil and water conservation, Green energy, Climate change, Sustainable agriculture and Research method and thesis writing. Having a degree in Agriculture is not enough to study those new lessons taught to us by our professors. It may be difficult and challenging at times, but we still learn a lot of new things out of it. Doing different types of experiments had helped us gain knowledge not just by books and internet but by doing what we had learned also. In short, applying the lessons in actual way our Professor had told us to do so.

Even if we are in different areas of specialties like Engineering, Electrical Engineer, Food Technologist, Forestry Science and Agriculture we still learned a lot of new things from our lessons and experiences all throughout our first semester in Nanhua University.



## CONFERENCE

In our first semester also, we had been given the opportunity to experience our first international conference . Last October, 2018 we had been part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Sustainable Development and Green Technology in Taichung. During this conference, we learned a lot of new things from different international speakers. This opportunity had helped us gain more knowledge in different areas of sustainability and had helped us widened our knowledge about it also. Overall, I felt I was able to obtain some good insight into a couple of different topics.



## TOUR IN TAIWAN

In our first six months of stay here in Taiwan, we had visited a lot of places also. Even in our busy schedule, Professor Hong still make ways to tour us in different places here in Taiwan. Along with our other international and local classmates, we had experienced and learned a lot of things also. It is not just a simple local tour but we also learn something in every place that we visit. We had visited companies, farms, beaches, and even mountain parts of Taiwan also. During this tour also that I had learned that we, Filipinos and the aboriginal Taiwanese people are very closely related to each other.



## INTERNSHIP

As our internship, Professor Hong had helped us to work in a flower farm in Changhua. Even if I learned a lot of things in related to planting, I still learned a lot of new things as part of the Taiwan technology that cannot be found in our country. There are a lot of practices that was taught to us also that I can use in helping people back in our country. At first, I thought that having a little background in Chinese would be very difficult for me during this internship but I had learned also to communicate. It may not be as good but I had improved a little because of the internship program also.





## CONCLUSION

As a conclusion to this report, Taiwan Experience Education Program is a very helpful program especially for us, international students. We had been given a lot of opportunities beyond our expectations and we had learned a lot of new things outside our field of specialties. This program had helped us develop more knowledge and skills that we can use when we go back in our country and can also provide us better opportunity in the future. Being an international student here in Taiwan had given us a lot experiences during our first six months. All of us might be outside our comfort zone, but because of this program, it had helped us pursue our dream and helped us meet new people and learn new and better knowledge of understanding. I would like to express my gratitude to our Professor Hong Yao Ming and to the Ministry of Education here in Taiwan for this wonderful opportunity.