Program: Hokkaido University Exchange, Academic Year

Sheng’s Major: Art History

Academic Life: During my study abroad experience in Japan I took various classes that revolved around Japan’s culture, history, and lifestyle. Therefore, I was able to easily find my way in adapting to the new lifestyle as I learned more about Japan’s culture. There were very few American students in the program and many students from all over the world. The students were diverse, and even Japanese students were included in some of the classes, but all were taught in English. I learned so much just by hearing the voices of other people from around the world during discussions and my horizons have really broadened.

Housing: I lived in a female dormitory that was about twenty minutes away on foot from campus, and although it was fairly far away from campus, it was very close to a grocery market with good prices. Plus, my room contained a balcony with a nice view.

One Memorable Experience: I was assigned a Japanese Graduate student as a tutor who aided me with my studies, and while she mainly helped me with my Japanese assignments and readings, I enjoyed the time when we spoke casually both in Japanese and English.

One Tip for Someone Considering Study Abroad: If you plan on studying abroad for a long period of time I recommend learning about your country’s lifestyle and etiquette. Not only may you receive strange looks for doing something wrong or different, but you may also want to know what kind of lifestyle you will be expecting once you arrive at your designated country.

“I am no longer afraid to get out of my comfort zone and take on new challenges.”