Program: Korea University Exchange, Fall

Alicia’s Majors: International Business and Operations Technology Management

Academic Life: I took business classes at KU, which I felt were very comparable to UW classes. The format was a large lecture for an hour and 15 minutes. There were no discussion sections. In some classes I was the only foreign student and in others the class was made up almost entirely of international students. All of my classes were taught in English by Korean professors. Grades were based mostly on exams and group projects. Most of my classes did not have daily homework, just readings.

Alicia’s Advice to Someone Considering South Korea: I think of all the South Korea programs, Korea University is definitely a great choice. KU has a buddy assistant program that pairs you with a native Korean student to help you, as well as a group of other international students and Korean buddies that are easy to bond with. They also take you on many day trips inside (and outside) of Seoul. I think it’s one of the best ways to meet local students and practice language skills. A few of us from my buddy group actually formed an English-Korean language exchange which was one of my favorite experiences of the program, getting to meet with them once a week to teach each other while doing fun activities like getting dinner or going to karaoke.

Study Abroad and Future Career Aspirations: As an International Business major, having lived abroad will definitely show future employers that I am adaptable and know how to not only survive, but to thrive in another country. Also since Korea is such a vibrant and growing economy, having experience and connections there will give me an advantage.

Alicia’s Advice for Students Considering Studying Abroad: Just do it. I admit it can be a really daunting and scary choice, but you will never regret the special memories and the lessons learned. And honestly, if not now, when?

“Abroad, you learn to take every opportunity that is handed to you, you try new things every day, and you learn that “winging it” is totally ok.”