



BERICHT

(Bitte spätestens 2 Monate nach Beendigung Ihres Auslandsaufenthalts vollständig übermitteln).

1. Gastuniversität (Land/Stadt/Uni) CHINA, SHANGHAI, FUDAN UNIVERSITY

2. Studienjahr Wintersemester 20__ Sommersemester 2017

Aufenthaltsdauer (Tag, Monat, Jahr) von 17.02.2017 bis 30.06.2017

3. Studienrichtung(en) COMMUNICATION SCIENCE Matrikel. Nr. [REDACTED]

Bakkalaureatstudium Diplomstudium Lehramtsstudium Magister-/Masterstudium

E-Mail Adresse (optional) [REDACTED]

4. Stipendium bewilligt für <u>4</u> Monate	bew. Stipendienbetrag <u>400</u> €
weitere Stipendien <u>/</u> €	bew. Reisekostenzuschuss <u>400</u> €
Bezugsquelle <u>/</u>	Gesamtsumme Stipendien <u>2,000</u> €

5. Wohnmöglichkeit (betr. bitte ankreuzen): Studentenheim Privat

6. Kosten Unterkunft <u>500</u> €	Reisekosten <u>1,000</u> €
Lebenshaltungskosten <u>800</u> €	Visakosten <u>/</u> €
Studienkosten <u><100</u> €	Versicherungskosten <u>/</u> €
(Bsp. Studiengebühr, Bibliotheksgebühren, Kursmaterial)	Gesamtkosten (Auslandsaufenthalt) <u>approx. 6,600</u> €

Verfassen eines persönlichen Erfahrungsberichtes über Ihren Studienaufenthalt

Anhaltspunkte: Gastuniversität, Kurse, Prüfungen, Mitstudierende, Unterkunft etc.

(Bitte verwenden Sie ein extra Beiblatt: mind. 1 Seite; **Überschrift des Berichtes: Ihre Matrikelnummer, Name der Gastuniversität und des Gastlandes, Ihre Studienrichtung sowie der Zeitraum des Aufenthaltes.**)

Abgabe des Leistungsnachweises der ausländischen Institution (Transcript) sowie des Anrechnungsbescheides (Formulär: Antrag-Anerkennung-Studienerfolgsachweis)

Ja, ich bin damit einverstanden, dass dieses Formular zusammen mit meinem Bericht für Mitstudierende auf der Webseite zur Ansicht zur Verfügung steht (falls zutreffend, bitte ankreuzen).

Non-EU Exchange: Study Abroad Report

Summer term 2017

@Fudan University, Shanghai, China

I had a wonderful time at Fudan University. As a young person who spent her first 18 years in China followed by 8 years in Europe, the exchange experience at Fudan is like returning home. I never thought I would one day sit in a university classroom in China, discussing “sensitive” political issues facing this country.

There is freedom of expression (though still limited compared with European standard) in the school of international relations and public affairs (SIRPA) partially due to the fact Fudan has double-degree curriculum with Science Po, the leading political science institute in Paris. Because of the presence of many international students, sensitive issues can be discussed freely in the class. Of course, the massive censorship is a big headache for exchange students. VPN is a must if you want access to your gmail, facebook, twitter, and even instagram. WeChat is the most commonly used social networking app in China and some course materials are distributed via WeChat (which can be inconvenient for foreign students). But it is easy to register a new account with either email or phone number. With WeChat, not only can you chat with your friends, but also book a taxi, buy a concert ticket, pay your utility bills, and shop online (they did not pay me to advertise haha).

University - events and public lectures

The orientation week is normally held one week before the semester starts. In my case, I arrived one week ahead of the new semester because I lived off-campus. The exact study period is from late February to late June 2017. During the orientation session, Lucy from the International Office introduced all necessary issues you need to know. She is in charge of the managing incoming exchange students issues at Fudan. She is very attentive and her office is located in the Majinming Building (also called the Nordic Center). You will have a buddy who is a local volunteer, usually majoring in the same subject like you, to assist you with all the checking-in problems (if any). My buddy Jim is a very promising young man, he got an offer from Princeton and he is now studying political science at Princeton. He gave me a lot of advice regarding course selection.

Fudan university is a prestigious university founded in the 20th century. Its Arts and Humanity department is the strongest, so as social science. There is a counseling center for exchange students in case you want some professional hands to take care of you. Many public lectures are available to all students and posters can be found on the ground floor in the Guanghua Building (the signature twin building). However, many of them are in Chinese language, especially the ones hosted by History department. But most public lectures and events are in English in the Wenke Building where department of politics and sociology are located. The school of economics has its own building near the Wenke building, and they ran their programs in English. Most faculty members

are Chinese, but in SIRPA and School of Economics, half of them received their PhDs abroad. They have good connections with top schools in the US and in Europe. They regularly invited well-known professors to give lectures at campus and all students are welcome to attend.

University - classes

I was enrolled as a master-level exchange students, affiliated to the school of international relations and public affairs (SIRPA). I took two courses at the department, namely *Global Governance* and *Contemporary Chinese Diplomacy*. The courses are organized as once a week. The duration of each class depends on the credits it carries. For instance, Global governance is a 2-credit course, so it has two hours per week. It is normally in the format of a 45 minutes lecture, followed by one hour discussion. The course is jointly organized by Fudan, Keio University of Japan, and Yonsei University of South Korea. At the end of the term, students from all three universities have the opportunity to gather together for a workshop. This year the workshop took place in Japan. As for the Diplomacy course, it carries 3-credit hence 3 hours per week. It usually started with the lecturer's recap on this week's reading, followed by students presentations on the topic, then discussion with the whole class. Most classmates are from the Fudan-Science Po double-master program, and joined by PhD students too. So it is more demanding than other courses in terms of the weekly reading lists. I earned 9 credits in total, which equals to 18 ECTs. It is normal to take three to six courses per semester, depending on your plan.

As a matter of fact, exchange students are allowed to take whatever classes they like. I study communication science in Vienna, but I choose to study politics at Fudan because School of Journalism is more practice-based, whereas I am more familiar with political communication theories. Apart from the courses taken at SIRPA, I chose a course from Department of History and another course from School of Management. Those two courses are conducted in Chinese. The workload is manageable. The MBA class is normally scheduled on weekends though and solely intended for Chinese students. It is a pity that English-taught mater-level classes are quite limited. However, there are plenty of English-taught undergraduate-level classes available to international students.

The grading scheme is as followed: you got A for excellence, B for good, C for satisfactory, D for pass, E for fail. The assessment can take the form of exam or research paper. Lecturers usually will inform you during the first class. The first two weeks are "tasting menus", meaning you can attend all your interested courses and drop the ones you don't like until a given date. Which, if I remember correctly, is two months from the first week.

Location

The campus is a bit far away from the city center (but to be fair, Shanghai is so huge, and each district has its own commercial center so there are plenty of shopping and dining options near campus). It takes roughly two hours from Pudong International Airport to campus, and

approximately one and half hour from Hongqiao International airport to campus. Public transport is convenient but it can be really busy and crowded during peak hours. Luckily I lived nearby campus, so I could walk to the school in 20 mins. There are many share-bikes on the street (MoBike and OFO) so you can commute from the metro to your destination.

Residence

I lived off-campus because Fudan only offers foreign students on-campus housing, which is at least ten times cheaper than my rent. It costs only a few hundred RMB (less than 100 euros) per semester if one lives on campus. I paid 800 euros per month. Therefore, for students holding non-Chinese passports, I would highly recommend to stay in the international student dorm, which, is hygienic and spacious according to my fellow students.

There are several canteens in the main campus. Chinese universities are known for their gigantic size. The campus is like a mini city where you can find banks, groceries, canteens, printshop, laundry, and supermarkets. You can dine in the canteen at a relatively low price. Just deposit some money in your student card. It can be used as a debt card within campus.

Life

The campus life is full of joy, so as private life. A young city with myriads of high rise buildings, Shanghai is even more modern than New York. One aspect that surprised me to a great extent is the prevalence of mobile payment. You can virtually go out without your handbag. Your smart phone is your credit card, your debit card, your museum card, your transport card, and your ID card (because in China your phone number is linked to your passport or ID). All department stores and almost all vendors on the street accept e-payment such as WeChat pay or Alipay. Use of cash in Shanghai is very rare.

I am a person who adores classical music, so the thing I missed Vienna very much is the all-year-long operas, concerts, and ballets. Shanghai surely has a lot of cool events going on, but more modern-leaned. If you like Chinese gardens, you should pay a visit to Suzhou, which is only one hour by train from Shanghai.

The other thing I feel I need to mention here is that all shops open till 8 or 9pm everyday, especially on weekends. Unlike Europe where you have to buy all the groceries before weekends, in China, you can just chill and relax. There are so many restaurants opening till late night everyday and takeaway food is common too. But it may require some Chinese language skills if you wish to order takeaways via telephone.

For me, a native Chinese speaker, things are much more easier. If you don't speak the language, the language center has free courses should you feel like to learn. I made a few good friends here, hopefully you can enjoy your life in Shanghai too!