

Auslandssemester:	WiSe 2022/2023
Universität:	Chinese Culture University (中國文化大學)
Student:	Matthias Cord Berg

## Erfahrungsbericht: Auslandssemester an der Chinese Culture University in Taipei

### My experience at Ccu

Hello, my name is Matthias, I'm 25 years old, studying philosophy and Sinology at Heidelberg University and got the opportunity for an exchange year to study at CCU.

Despite some difficulties finding a quarantine hotel at last minute, I safely arrived at the Chinese Culture University campus in October and was received and introduced cordially to the University sights and activities by the very kind and helpful staff before classes began.

Most surprising and to the exchange students excitement was to find out about and explore the huge choices and variety of affordable and tasty restaurants around Campus, which increased everyday enjoyment and social life between classes by a lot.

Apart from that everyday necessities like washing machines and grocery-stores etc are all easily and widely available, which facilitates for a comfortable experience living on campus overall.

### Classes and Student Activities

The classes I took and choose from the university curriculum, are all taught by very friendly and competent professors, who always had an open ear to questions and are eager to help us with any language difficulties. Throughout all of my classmates from the Chinese courses I could sense weekly improvements in their Chinese levels.

Apart from the regular offered Chinese courses, I also participated in courses of the department of political science and and the french department. Most helpful for improving my Chinese did I indeed found to be the French-Chinese translation course of the French department, which strongly encouraged speakers of both languages to work together in teams, to increase communication and teamwork among the French and Taiwanese students.

Among the most helpful student activities was also the weekly reoccurring "salon francais" also organized by the French department, which made Taiwanese French-students sit together with students from France to exchange language, in which I also had the opportunity to partake, as I spent some time living in France and speaking the language during my childhood.

Salon francais:



Nature

My personal favorite part of Chinese Culture University is most notably its location in the mountains of Yangmingshan Nationalpark. It's proximity to beautiful, waterfalls, hot springs, scenic views and hiking trails where an invitation for me and friends to go out on a hike whenever the weather allowed for it. Even though it is often raining and cold during winter, we were able to make some unforgettable memories when it was not and came to deeply appreciate the beautiful nature around Campus.



### Dormitory

Living in the dormitory was also an overall good experience, as I shared good friendship and camaraderie with my two roommates. The only thing we had to learn to live with was the absence of heating during winter, which made it necessary to put on a lot of blankets and clothes during night. A small cooking section at the entrance even allowed for some more social interaction with other students from the same dormitory.

All in all I am very thankful for the invitation and opportunity I got to study at CCU, as I made and still make an array of good experiences while studying and learning Chinese.