

Min Ji Kwon

Extended Japanese Bachelor of Arts 3rd year

I went on an exchange to the International Christian University which is located in Mitaka, Japan. My Major is Japanese so it was a great chance for me to go to Japan and study. The courses I took at International Christian University were Japanese language. There is an Intensive course which is Monday to Friday for 8 hours per day, and just a Japanese course which was Monday to Friday 2 hours per day. I took the intensive course which I found challenging. The course is excellent for learning the language but not for learning the Japanese culture. However, you could travel around and find out and experience the Japanese culture yourself, and it's much more interesting finding out yourself. I also had a bit of a hard time enrolling in the courses, because at International Christian University, you cannot enrol your courses online but only on the university campus computers therefore I've always had to go to the library computer to enrol my courses, and the system was a bit tricky.

I lived in the University's dorm which was 1 minute walk to the class room. It was very convenient but it costed quite a bit. Unlike other universities, this university had 3 semesters which are Autumn, Winter and Spring, so I had to pay each semester for the accommodation and it was around 199,150Yen. I was very fortunate to get a placement in the dormitory because usually it's very hard to get a placement. I am very thankful that because I lived in a dorm I was able to make lots of Japanese friends and meet other exchange students from all around the world.

I experienced so many things from this exchange, I was able to meet lots of different people from around the world and make Japanese friends that I'll never forget. I also learnt a great deal about cultural differences by travelling to different places and learning the historical roots of Japan. By staying in this university it also boosted up my Japanese language skills.

I will never forget this exchange in my whole life. It's such a great experience that you would never want to miss.



(Shibuya) My first Taiyaki, it has a shape of fish and there is custard inside it.



International Christian University's Church, the church is located in the campus.



Left is my Japanese friend and I am on the right.



Shinagawa Aquarium



With friends