

MY STUDENT EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

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HONG KONG

SUMMER TERM 2021-2022

Studying at the University of Hradec Králové is a precious experience that brings unforgettable memories to me. The University has a buddy system and hosts several activities for exchange students; my buddy, for example, was very friendly and helpful. Also, I got a lot of chances to meet other exchange students from different countries, and we became friends and shared our cultures with each other.

At school, I studied courses that were different from my major in Hong Kong but they were truly interesting, and the professors were nice. For example, in “Just War”, I learnt how and when wars can be justified, which is something new for me. Also, in “Introduction to Ethics”, I learnt to analyze issues such as abortion and euthanasia from different philosophical perspectives. During the lessons, there were discussions in which we could speak freely about our views and opinions. Besides, I learnt many basics of Czech language in the Czech course and used them in my daily life.

During the exchange period, I have achieved the objectives that I set for myself, that is to challenge and improve myself. First, I became more independent. Before I went on this exchange, I did not know how to cook at all. The only “cooking” that I was capable of is of “cooking” instant noodles. When I was in Hradec Králové, I learnt to cook for myself in order to save money and be healthier.



Apart from school life, the geographical location of the Czech Republic allowed me to travel to other countries easily, which broadened my horizons. I liked visiting museums and historical sites, such as the Museum of Communism in Prague and the Auschwitz concentration camp in Krakow.



Also, I went solo travelling for the first time. In the past, I was not willing to travel alone, since I was afraid of getting lost or other kinds of accidents that may happen. However, I found that solo travelling was not as boring as I expected. Instead, it was fun, and I learnt to solve problems even when I was all by myself. Second, I stepped out of my comfort zone to be more outgoing. I was usually a bit shy, but I was eager to make new friends. Going to parties allowed me to meet new friends; we played card games together and chatted about our daily lives.

Going on exchange in Hradec Králové is a life-changing experience. I enjoyed my time here, and I will definitely recommend other students to do so.