

2016

Overseas Study Report

Place : Northwest Missouri State University

Duration : Aug, 24 (Wed) ~ Dec, 18 (Sun)

Niigata University of International and Information Studies
Faculty of International Culture
Student ID : c15080ts
Sota Tango

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1 Place and Duration

Place : Northwest Missouri State University(NWMSU) ESL Program

Duration : Aug, 24 (Wed) ~ Dec,17 (Sat)
(Arrival in Japan on Dec,18(Sun))

2 Supervisor & Instructors

Supervisor : Dr. Jeffery Foot , Director of International Affairs and ESL Program, NWMSU

Instructors : Mrs.Helen Konstantopolous, ESL Teacher
Mrs.Nancy Hardee, ESL Teacher

3 About NWMSU

(1)About NWMSU

NWMSU was originally established in 1905, it is a state-assisted, four-year regional university that also offers graduate degree program. Northwest offers 127 undergraduate programs and 40 graduate's programs. So even if students have not decided their major, they have a bunch of choices to set their goal. Northwest currently has around 7000 students. This size of campus offers great opportunities for students to succeed socially, as well as academically.

(2)About education in NWMSU

NWMSU students receive a laptop computer for each person to comfort their campus life. Also, NWMSU is a true advocate of Profession-Based Experience. NWMSU offers several opportunities for profession-based experience, like internships, the University farm for agriculture majors, on-campus radio and television stations and volunteer work. NWMSU will be the University of choice for a comprehensive, exceptional student experience.

4 Objectives of Overseas study

There are some objectives of Overseas study to NWMSU. Firstly, NUIS students were supposed to improve our TOEIC score certainly because it is more necessary in Japan

rather than in other countries. TOEIC improvements was only for NUIS students, so it seemed to compete with each students from NUIS. Secondly, our objective focused on understanding the diverse cultures, and English. NWMSU students are truly international, and they uses other languages, different accents even though they speak English. NUIS students were supposed to knowledge other languages and culture, figure out our reality, struggles among countries, and enthusiasm of international people.

5 Contents

Schedule in some detail are written in appendix.

5-1 Schedule of ESL program

Month	Week	Event
Aug	1	Orientation
Sep	2	Campus tour
	3	Bearcat Football
	4	Field Trip
	5	Volleyball game
Oct	6	
	7	
	8	SAC Late Night
	9	Cosmic Bowl
	10	Field Trip to KC
Nov	11	SAC Paint a Canvas
	12	Farewell Dinner
	13	Men's Basketball
	14	
Dec	15	International Coffee Hour
	16	Final examination
	17	Arrived

5-2 Details of ESL program

i) Class

In ESL class, NUIS students are divided to two classrooms based on the placement test. Furthermore, some international students take part in ESL program. There are four classes in common, Reading and Writing, Speaking and Listening, Grammar, and Culture class. NUIS students take NUIS program and TOEIC preparation class. On the other hand, ESL students take TOEFL class.

ii) Explanation

In Reading and Writing class, students work on reading textbook or newspaper and writing an article or essay two hours per a day through every Monday to Thursday. In Speaking and Listening class, they try to use English only while they are attending class and they work on textbook, listening some speeches, and making a speech an hour for a day each Monday to Thursday. In grammar class, students can learn basic English grammar as well as more polite or impolite expression an hour for a day like Speaking and Listening class.

iii) TOEIC preparation

TOEIC preparation class is only for NUIS students. They take part in class with raising their hands, as much as they work on paper by themselves for an hour on Tuesday and Thursday. ESL teacher gives them good opportunities to learn new words through a new words test weekly. And also, students face struggles to improve their TOEIC score, but teacher gives them to take time to overcome their weakness, especially Listening section.

iv) Activity buddy

ESL students offer to attend Activity Buddy(AB) program, that makes them communicate with American or other countries' people easily and knowledge or experience other cultures. Students need to see one or two students from another country, and attend or make an event at least once a week.

v) Conversation Partner

ESL students also offer to attend Conversation Partner(CP) program, that gives them a chance to talk with American people in English for improving their speaking skills. CP program offers students to meet with CP partners at least once a week. This program makes ESL students speak English easily, and experience real English rather than one in class.

vi) Events

NWMSU holds a lot of events every single day. Students can attend them for free or paying a few costs. Almost of events are free for students, except for football game. Students can learn a bunch of culture and diversity through attending them because many international students also attend many of them as well as American students.

vii) Examination

Students needs to take examinations for each classes, particularly there are two big exams in each semester. The first one is called midterm exam, the second one is called the final exam.

6 Impression

i) Learn English hard in the United States

Learning English in English-spoken country is totally different from not English-spoken country because people in English-spoken countries are speaking, listening and writing everyday everywhere. This must be the reason why people speak English improve their language skills surely. Every people in NWMSU are supposed to be exposed to the struggle in their communication because NWMSU is perfectly international. ESL students must learn English even if they are not good at it for survive in the country that is spoken English.

ii) improvements communication skills

Throughout students prefer to use English in communication and class, needless to say their English skills must be improved. In particular, they must get not hesitate to speak English. In other words, ESL program makes students confident to express in English. Moreover, they get proud of themselves to speak English and describe their opinions, or feelings.

7 Summary

To sum up, ESL program was wonderful experience and better opportunity to learn English than in Japan. However, students had to be active to improve their skills so it was important to have an enthusiasm to learn English and they completely kept to have

it through the semester they attend. Now this is the starting point, students definitely continue to study English and make it good ability for their future.

Acknowledgement

I would like to express my appreciation for Dr. Jeffery Foot, Mrs. Helen Konstantopoulos, Mrs. Nancy Hardee, and classmates in ESL class.

Consultation

NWMSU homepage

<http://www.nwmissouri.edu>

Appendix2 Some Events students attended

Field Trip
Date: September 17th
Contents <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ESL students went to Omaha Zoo in Nebraska• They also went to the shopping mall

Details of Event

All students had a trip to the outside of campus on September seventeenth. They had to take a drive for more than two hours but in the shuttle, they played some interesting games so they didn't get bored and took English class there. After long drive they arrived at Omaha Zoo, Nebraska. In the zoo, there were a lot of animals and visitors got so close to some of them. Students also went to the shopping mall in Nebraska. That was really larger than one in Japan, so most of all couldn't travel around. In the mall, students tried to buy some souvenirs by themselves, that was good opportunity to express abilities they learned.

Field Trip to Kansas City
Date: October 28th
Contents <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Going to The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art• Traveling around KC mall• Shopping

Details

ESL students and Proyecta students (students from Mexico) went to The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art as a field trip on October twenty eighth. They took a long drive as well as the first field trip, that was approximately more than two hours and half by shuttle. This time one of students felt so bad while he was in the shuttle. After long way, they got to the restaurant which is Asian buffet and enjoyed lunch and talking. After that the shuttle headed to the museum, and students enjoyed a lot of arts there. At the mall, every student enjoyed sightseeing of the view in Kansas City and had a great time there absolutely.

Graduation party

Date: December 16th
Contents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation ceremony for ESL students • having a party

Details and impressions

Students held their own graduation ceremony and party on the second last day for NUIS students. Students dressed up and received diplomas from Dr. Foot. After graduation ceremony they all had a party. Students enjoyed eating their traditional food, talking for the last time, and dancing on the floor. Actually, every meal was prepared by ESL students, so it was truly awesome for them and really memorable day ever.