

STUDENT MOBILITY SCHEME REPORT



This form should be completed by **EVERYONE** participating in the SMS program and returned to the ACUCA Secretariat..

Name: YEH,HSIN-WEN



E-mail Address:
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Home University: Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages

Host University you studied at the SMS Program: Central Philippines University

Study Period : 21 d/ 10 m/ 2009 y/ to 22 d/ 03 m/ 2010 y/

How did you hear about the ACUCA Student Mobility Scheme?

▪ Your University's International Office ▪ Website ▪ From Fellow Student ▪ Others (Please Specify)

I heard it from my school's International Office

What did you study and what kind of activities did you take part in while abroad? I took 18 units while I was in Central Philippine University, the subjects included Communication Management, Communication Development, Production, World Literature, Creative Writing and Speech. I went to some events like Dinagyang Festival, Jaro Fiesta, CPU International Day, and Christmas parties. Also, I traveled to some places in the country.

Was it difficult adjusting to life abroad, and if so what were some of the difficulties?

The only difficulty for me was the hot weather in the Philippines. Everything was fine except the heat there.

What was the most positive experience that you had at your host institution?

The warm welcome from Ma'am Jessica Chin, the teacher in charge of international students, was the best thing for me in CPU. From the first day to the last day, she was like my family in the Philippines.

What advice would you give to fellow students at ACUCA universities who are thinking of taking part in the student Mobility Scheme?

Don't be hesitated, go and try everything in the country. It will be a great experience in a lifetime.

Have you been changed in any way by the experience, and if so how?

My friends say that I become more independent. I think I know what do I want in the last year of college clearly after I got back from the Philippines.

How do you feel about other Asian cultures now?

The Philippines is a country mixed with both western and eastern cultures, this is a very interesting thing. Having the experience in the Philippines, now I respect the other Asian cultures more.

Below please attach a **more descriptive account** (300-400 words) of your experience with the SMS for possible publication to allow others to find out about the ACUCA SMS Program. Include such information as the type of study you did as well as the cultural experiences you had, and any other things you would consider interesting. Photos are welcome.



Many people are not aware that Taiwanese people go to the Philippines for exchange. But for me, the experience in the Philippines is definitely an unforgettable one of a life time.

Not many Filipinos could know I'm a foreigner if I didn't tell them. They thought I was a Filipino, and talked to me in their dialects. It was quite interesting to see them surprised when I told them "I'm from Taiwan." But they were all friendly to me. "Hello, my friend!" is the most common way to show their warm welcome to a newcomer. From the first day to the last day, the times I heard this from the cute Filipinos was uncountable. Teachers, classmates, street vendors, campus guards, etc., they were very nice to me. These people made the exchange experience unforgettable.

Before I went there I knew I'd have to make up for many missed units after I came back to Taiwan. I could take only 18 units in CPU, because I was in the third year. I had a hard time schooling there at first. It took me about two or three weeks to get used to the Filipino accent from the teachers and classmates. And I found it very difficult when they discussed in their dialect, Ilonggo. As for the subjects I took, World Literature and Communication Management were the most difficult subjects for me. I spent lots of time on studying these two. However, I didn't struggle for a long time, because the teachers and my classmates helped me a lot.

I traveled to some places in the country, Metro Manila and other small towns and islands. I visited my Filipino aunt's family in Manila, my aunt's sister and her family were very nice to me. When I was in Manila, I went to China Town, malls, and Mall of Asia. Mall of Asia is huge! I couldn't finish the whole mall because it's too huge. I visited my classmate, Bimbim's hometown too. Her family was very nice to me. I experienced the local Filipino life. There are many other places I've been and activities I joined there that I can't include them all in this report. But there's one thing for sure that I had a wonderful time in the Philippines and Central Philippine University. If there's anyone is interested in applying ACUCA SMS program, I'd say "Yes, go for it!" Last but not least, thanks, ACUCA.



The last day of the semester with MassCom Classmates and Ma'am



ACUCA (Association of Christian Universities and Colleges in Asia)

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Herly.



Christmas with Ma'am Jessica and the foreign students.



With aunt Brenda and her family in Mall of Asia in Manila.



In Bimbim's hometown with friends and Bimbim's grandmother.