Exchange Report Fudan University Spring Semester, 2008

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Introduction

Initially known as "Fudan Public School", Fudan University was founded in the year 1905. Fudan consists of seventeen schools, (which comprise sixty-six departments) and four independent departments: Physics, Chemistry, Macromolecular Science, and Environmental Science and Engineering. It is ranked the top 5 university in China.

Visa Requirement

If you are HK resident, you do not need to apply for visa. And Hong Kong ID card or HKSAP passport will enable you to apply for Return Home Permit.

Semester period

The semester last for 4 months, from late February to early July. There will not be any orientation. However, there will be staff showing you where to buy articles for daily use. I arrived in Shanghai on 21st February and the semester actually stared on 25th of the same month. Exam finished earlier this year because of the Olympics. I returned Hong Kong on 26th June.

Weather

It is extremely cold during first arrived. During mid-night, the temperature falls to 1 or 2 degree Celsius. But during day time, it will be around 10. The daily range is quite large. The weather becomes hot and rainy in May. During June, it can be around 35 degree Celsius.

Accommodation

The University provided accommodation. Exchange students live with the post-graduation in the Northern Hostel. The price is very cheap which is only 800RMB for one semester. You will need to pay for the electricity and water bills. 6-8 students will live together in an apartment, with 2 students in a room. They will share a bath room and a living room. You will need to prepare for your own bed sheet, pillow, and mattress. They are all available at Wal-mart.

Orientation and Activities

There won't be any orientation for exchange students, but there will be activities held by the Exchange Students Committee. You can join the activities so you may have chances to make friends with other students from all over the world. I should say there are many universities having exchange programme with Fudan University than CUHK.

As travels around China are easy, you can have trips during your free time. Besides, Fudan will prepare a trip for HK and Taiwan students. It is free of charge. And the trip last for 4 days.

Expenditure

I have not kept track of my expenditure, so here is only an approximation:

Air Ticket	HKD\$ 2000
Daily expenses	HKD \$ 10000
Accommodation	HKD\$ 1000
Insurance	HKD\$ 2000
Travelling	HKD\$ 2950
Textbooks	HKD\$ 50
Total	HKD 18000

Things to bring

Laptop Socket Adaptors Digital Camera Medicine Stationery Cell phone Web Camera and mic ID card and Home Return Permit

Final Thought and reminder

Shanghai is one of the most developed cities in China. It is also regarded as the keen competitor of Hong Kong in the near future. Therefore, it is very interesting to explore this city. As many of us may have chances to work in China when we graduate,

you may have to learn the culture difference. It is funny because Hong Kong is a part of China. But there is culture difference between Shanghai and Hong Kong.

I should say the campus of Fudan is fantastic especially during winter and spring. There are many trees and flowers around the campus and hostel. A bike is not necessary in Fudan because you can walk to the classrooms within 20 minutes.

The life will not as easy as that of Hong Kong but you can learn to be independent. And you have opportunities to make new friends from different counties. This is a valuable experience.