

Reason to be Part of NTUT

Most of the students facing the same issue “easy to decide which course to do, it is however harder to decide where to go”. To be frank, when I’ve decided to pursue further study in Taiwan, NTUT wasn’t in my pocket list. With my undergraduate degree, I believe that I have the sufficient competitiveness and qualification to be one of the students in Taiwan’s Top 5 universities. I’ve applied all the Top 5 universities, just like everybody else does.

The crucial reason I chose NTUT is the staff’s attitude towards students: promptly reply email from relevant department especially for a new comer with a lot of question marks about living style, study environment, accommodation, study costs, culture custom and etc. pop into our head. For me, attitude of staff given to student is extremely important because we are far away from home, the one thing we can do when problem arise is to email them and seek for assistance. I am not a daddy’s girl, by the way. Just an example from my previous experience, when dealing with the application of ARC card (Alien Resident Certification), I have many uncertainties and doubts on the document and information needed. Tension increasing when there is expiry date applied on you to do something or penalty will be imposed on you. Do believe me one thing: official website in Taiwan doesn’t help you a lot when you have the problem to check on it. Yet, the experienced staff in NTUT replied my email on the same working day with all the details.

The Study Environment and Life (NTUT Graduate Institute of Intellectual Property)

Some might say “nah, your university is small and no swimming pool likes others”. Although NTUT is small, but understand that NTUT located on the prime site in Taipei, yet I have my own graduate student study room right beside to department office. As study room is close to department office, a few steps distance, I think? Thus, any academic related issue facing, I will run to Miss Hsieh, the only department assistant, without any hesitation and ask for help, “the pretty Hsieh, may I ask you a question regarding.....” She is, indeed, a big sister to all of us, at least for seniors I knew and my classmates.

I fancy myself an introverted extrovert especially when adapting to a new environment. I can be introverted when facing to stranger, but I can be extrovert when someone is taking the initiative to talk to me. I have a group of nice classmates over here. They are really helpful and friendly to me. They bring me explore the city around; they bring me for foods; they even bring me to experience their life as local Taiwanese. We have no plan to go anywhere most of the time, but we have one “always ready” preparation to go anywhere when there is someone sending the

invitation. They definitely turning back my clock to times of 20 years old and be young once again, to be footloose and fancy-free. We even had field trip to Dan-shuei with our class professor, an easy-going professor which will join all the events suggested by our class-representative. Field trip in university especially to graduate student, it sounds like a kindergarten activity, yet it is really fun to have a short trip with friends. We also had Christmas gift exchange event, this is how we mixed study with pleasure. A quick off-topic, our class-representative is a walking google map who familiar to Taipei. This is the reason why our cohesion is formed.

The biggest barrier I encountered in NTUT is the language. This problem became a minor issue when my classmates were helping me pass thru the problem hand in hand. They will explain to me in brief mandarin when the grammar or sentence used in the article is too complicated.

The Person (Professors)

I always say “The best thing I have ever met in Taiwan is I am fortunate enough to have my advising professor, Prof. Louis Chen”. He is a great teacher and mentor, I have learned a great deal from him. He taught me a lot, especially in critical thinking. The main reason for going to university is to get an academic qualification, but personally, I think that the social side of things and developing as a person are equally important. Some might unable to cope with the way he training student. He is not a spoon-feeding professor. He likes to throw a question for student and let all to prepare an answer for him. There is rarely a correct answer from him as he will accept any answer with reasonable explanation. This is the best way to train and laying the foundation of student for lifetime of independent thinking. For me, he is also a life guru where he will ask my future plan and advice given to me based on his rich life experiences. I do appreciate every task he has given to me although I always addressed the task given as “hardest rock”. Task given seems untouched-able and far beyond my reach, but when order given by professor, I will still think a way to access the possibility. I like a phrase from professor which “Let’s play the game.” The game is hard, but the game is interesting.

NTUT ticked all my boxes. I have noticed a considerable amount of changes during my brief venture into another chapter of my life in NTUT that have created a lot of thoughts about personal development for myself. If you ask me if I would regret I am not graduated from Top 5 universities of Taiwan, I will definitely answer you firmly that “I am proud to be part of NTUT and it is here I met a great professor and my classmates as a family”.

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