Go Explore The World
Overseas Learning Experiences for Science Students

#Overseas learning experiences
#Embrace new cultures
#Colour your life

The University of Hong Kong
Faculty of Science
Dear students,

I am very pleased that you are thinking of taking up an opportunity to study overseas. Going to other countries and experiencing different cultures and ways of studying is an immensely rewarding thing to do. You could say that is what I am doing right now as I have worked up until this point in the UK and am now in Hong Kong! I also conducted the fieldwork for my PhD in Kenya and have run a great many field courses in Africa and elsewhere. So I have seen for myself the transformation that working overseas can bring. It is true that there are challenges, but embrace them and enrich your study by experiencing another culture. Our university is committed to offering two overseas experiences to all of its students; these might be as varied as spending a year studying in a really large cosmopolitan city like London, or it may mean attending a field trip to a remote location in Africa, or somewhere within our region—like Taiwan. We have various schemes to help you achieve your aims overseas and an increasingly large range of partnerships with universities all over the world. I really do encourage you to take advantage of them. Have fun, enjoy yourself and learn.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Matthew Evans
Dean of Science
Encountering new parts of the world and gaining new perspectives across boundaries can be intriguing and inspiring. In line with the University’s strategic initiatives of nurturing global citizens, the Faculty of Science has enhanced the offering of a variety of overseas experiential learning activities for undergraduate students to broaden their horizons, with the target of achieving 100% undergraduate overseas learning experiences by 2022.

In 2015-16

>500 science students benefited

>120 partners from around 20 countries

>20 types of overseas learning activities

Our overseas learning activities require students to tackle real-life issues and problems by drawing on theoretical knowledge that they have learnt in their disciplines.
Taking a gap year to study at Yale was one of the best decisions I have ever made in my life. I am now more certain than ever of pursuing graduate studies in the States.

"Even after spending 3 months to process what I went through, it still seems an impossible task for me to summarise everything in a few words. Going to Yale has been everything I have ever dreamed of. I initially had some reservations about taking my year at Yale as a gap year instead of transferring any credits in, but retrospectively, I think that was the best decision I have ever made. I was able to explore courses in the classics, music, psychology, physics, and history, all at an elite liberal arts institution. More than that, I was able to forge strong friendships with people from different countries and all walks of life. Not only did I learn about an entirely different culture, but also I felt that I got to know myself better, and that is perhaps what I really find meaningful in this programme."

NG John Joson Quimpo
• BSc student (double major in Chemistry & Biological Sciences)
• Participant of Yale Visiting International Student Programme (Y-VISP) in USA
Joson also joined the Pembroke-King’s Programme 2016, spending two months at University of Cambridge in UK after his studies at Yale.

Immersing Oneself in Intellectual Exchanges

Y-VISP is an honours programme at Yale where top undergraduates from partner institutions from Mexico, Brazil, Japan, Singapore, and Hong Kong are invited to live and study at Yale for an entire academic year. During their study, students become fully integrated members of the Yale community, participating in extracurricular activities, living in residential colleges, and receiving advice and support from college deans and peer advisers. It offers students the opportunity to explore subjects beyond their chosen fields of concentration as well as to participate and immerse oneself in intellectual discussions in and outside the classroom.
Exchange study is full of fun! It is just one of the most unforgettable experiences I have ever had.

LI Shuangping
- BSc student (major in Mathematics)
- Participant of Exchange Studies at University of California, Berkeley, USA

“I had a great time in UC Berkeley. They have wonderful academic supports to students. There are a great number of Mathematics professors here who are experts in different fields, and they offer great courses that are both fulfilling and interesting. I also took a few graduate courses there and I learnt a lot from them. Besides study, I had a lot of fun travelling around during the exchange period. I paid visits to San Francisco many times, visiting the Fisherman's Wharf, Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz.”

The Faculty strongly encourages undergraduate students to go on international exchange studies that allow them to study at universities overseas for a semester or a year. The University has exchange agreements with over 300 world-class universities in Asia, Australia, New Zealand, North America, and Europe.
Working in a research environment in France made me realise how different communities and cultures can inspire one to think differently.

Mashiat RABBANI
- BSc student (major in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, minor in Genetics and Genomics)
- Participant of Undergraduate Research Fellowship Programme at Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) in Marseille, France

“Every science student who dreams of becoming an academic in the future wants to make changes and solve the challenges that are present in different spheres of life. However, most of us are lost in the pages of our books and jargons of the scientific community till we finally get to have our first taste of what research is truly like. In all honesty, the experience is not always pleasant because we get to realise how it takes more than an inquisitive mind and good grades to excel in research. Nevertheless, it shows us the part of the world where knowledge is being created. We start encountering and befriending colleagues who have minds which exude sheer brilliance. We work under supervisors who inspire us to have visions. We realise for the first time that there is so much more we need to know. We feel stressed, we work hard, we think, we get motivated and at the end of the day — all these emotions add up to make us realise that we have a purpose.”

Hear from our student

Project title: “Evaluating Nucleoside Analogs as Potential Anti-Cancer Drugs”

The Undergraduate Research Fellowship Programme (URFP) is a scheme that allows undergraduate students to work under distinguished academics from all over the world. Each student works in a research project that suits their interest. Mashiat’s work was based in Marseille, France under Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS). The research work centered around the evaluation of novel compounds that could serve as potential anti-cancer drugs.
I enjoyed the time working on research and having academic discussion with my colleagues. All these are only possible with the support of the ORF scheme.

WONG Hin Fung Thomas
- BSc student (double major in Chemistry and Biochemistry)
- Participant of Overseas Research Fellowship at Department of Chemistry, University of California, Irvine, USA

Opening the Door to Medicinal Chemistry

About the research project

Project title: “Synthesis of Complex, Polycyclic Structures via Himbert Cycloadditions”

Synthesis of molecule with ring structures is often a challenge in medicinal chemistry. The research group that Thomas joined in University of California, Irvine, focuses on Himbert Cycloaddition, a reaction that was discovered yet underused for decades, to generate polycyclic structures. Thomas’s role there was to assist the team in synthesising the molecule which they nicknamed as “Himbertzine”, a molecule that has potential to be developed into a useful drug for Alzheimer’s patients in the future.

Irvine, California is a sunny city and home to diverse culture. It is not just a pleasant place to relax, but also a hub for academic research. In this summer, I joined the cheerful Vanderwal Group and collaborated with researchers who are highly proficient and enthusiastic with chemistry. With their help, I worked on chemical reactions, purification and analysis of molecules, and gained great satisfaction to make textbook knowledge fall into place with my own hands.

Progressing through various experiments, there had been ups and downs. My nice coworkers supported me, both technically and mentally, throughout the challenging project. They demonstrated the importance of insightful perseverance and pursuit of excellence, which inspired me and strengthened my determination to pursue research as my career path. After 12 weeks of efforts, I am proud of making a great leap in mind, in addition to acquiring advanced experimental skills.

Hear from our student

“Synthetic route of “Himbertzine”

California, USA
Doing dinosaur research under the guidance of world-famous palaeontologist was a memorable experience to me.

MA Wai Sum Fion
BSc student (double major in Geology and Ecology & Biodiversity)
Participant of Overseas Research Fellowship at The Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Mainland China

"Conducting my summer research project in the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology (IVPP) in Beijing was a rewarding experience for me. I had the opportunity to study some of the most important dinosaur specimens from China and learn to take publication-quality photos of them. Besides, I constructed 3D models of the specimens using photogrammetry software. I also visited the Longhao Institute of Geology and Paleontology in Inner Mongolia to look at fossils from the Gobi Desert. During the research trip, I was trained to work independently and manage my time well. As a visiting student, I made friends with the postgraduate students and researchers in the institute. They have given me a lot of insightful advice which would definitely help improve my research project. Overall, my experience in Beijing was fun and eye-opening. It has motivated me to continue my research career in palaeontology in the future."

About the research project

Project title: "The Beak of the Giant Chinese Dinosaur Gigantoraptor erlianensis (Theropoda: Oviraptorosauria)"

This project involved the first detailed description and analysis of an important fossil specimen — the beaked jaw of the giant Chinese dinosaur Gigantoraptor. This specimen was discovered in 2006 and is noted for its unusual size and anatomical characteristics. By describing the mandible and comparing it with other oviraptorosaur specimens, the anatomy and biomechanics of Gigantoraptor can be clarified. This may also provide new insights into the diet of Gigantoraptor — which has long been a mystery.

Beijing, Mainland China

Visiting the Geological Museum of China in Beijing

Fossils Tell Everything – Learning the Past from Paleontology

Constructing 3D model of Gigantoraptor’s mandible

MA Wai Sum Fion
- BSc student (double major in Geology and Ecology & Biodiversity)
- Participant of Overseas Research Fellowship at The Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Mainland China
“Looking into genome evolution, the genome complexity of organisms interestingly scales up with a stronger correlation to non-coding RNA instead of protein-coding genes. Working in a research group in University of California at Berkeley, I am very grateful that I was given a chance to work closely with knowledgeable professor and PhD students to explore how a particular family of non-coding element in the genome was evolved to play a crucial role in pluripotency maintenance. It exposed me to many frontier research methodologies and consolidated my determination to be a scientist in the future. Investigating something that has not been fully understood also allows you to truly appreciate the beauty of science and nature.”

**Hear from our student**

ZHANG Zhiqian  
- BSc student (major in Biochemistry)  
- Participant of Overseas Research Fellowship at Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of California, Berkeley, USA

**About the research project**

Project title: "Investigating the Role of HERVH in Pluripotency Maintenance of Human Embryonic Stem Cells"

Retrotransposons, a class of repetitive mobile elements evolved from ancient viral infection, constitutes up to 40% of the human genome. Though it was once thought as junk DNA in the genome with no apparent function, recent research suggests that they might be domesticated for various regulatory functions. One class of long non-coding RNA derived from retrotransposons, HERVH, has been shown to be necessary for pluripotency maintenance in human embryonic stem cells. In this research project, Zhiqian was trying to investigate the functional importance of HERVH in pluripotency maintenance and dissect the underlying mechanistic details.

"ORF provides me with a great chance to work in a world-class research environment."

"California, USA"
This research experience makes me realise that nothing in the research field is surely expected, but hard work and perseverance may lead us to gems hidden in the sand.
ORF scheme did not only provide me a chance to improve my academic study and sharpen my research skills, but also allowed me to make new friends, experience new things, and see a bigger world.

“This summer in UK was way beyond my expectation. It was a fun and enriching experience to actually do the chemical reactions that I learnt from the textbook. Unlike doing teaching labs where students are likely to succeed if following the instructions, real research does have a lot of setbacks and bottlenecks. After discussing with my supervisors the difficulties I encountered, consulting academic papers, and asking for help from senior students, I had those thrilling moments: ‘Yes, it works!’ I think this is the essence of scientific research, and exactly what makes it so fascinating — keep trying and exploring. And thanks to the great help from my supervisors, as well as senior students, I have learnt a lot during the process.

In addition to the practice and study in the lab, I travelled around UK a little bit. The British summer was beautiful, and I was enchanted by the picturesque landscape and the rich culture and history.”

Hear from our student

DAI Wei Crystal
BSc student (major in Chemistry)
Participant of Overseas Research Fellowship at School of Chemistry, Newcastle University, UK

About the research project


Negishi reaction is a nickel- or palladium-catalysed cross-coupling reaction which forms new carbon-carbon bond between organozinc compounds and organic halides. It allows the preparation of unsymmetrical biaryls in good yields and has applications in the synthesis of nature products and pharmaceuticals, for example, drugs for asthma treatment. However, the traditional organozinc compounds used are usually air- and water-sensitive; this largely limits the employment of the reaction in industrial synthesis. Therefore, the aim of this project was to use the more air- and water-stable organozinc compounds — zinc pivalate — to do the Negishi reactions; and then to test it on a list of substrates. And hopefully, this will also make the reaction more efficient, more substrate-tolerant and improve its application in industrial synthesis.
If I had another chance to join this programme, I would definitely grab the chance to see those lovely sea creatures again.

Vancouver is a beautiful city with a unique environment. Since I was taking the Marine Life Science course, I spent most of the time going to field trips. These field trips helped me to learn more about the marine lives in British Columbia, such as the biodiversity in the intertidal in the inter-costal areas and how salmon hatchery works in British Columbia. I can now compare the differences between marine ecosystem in Hong Kong and British Columbia after taking the course, which is very useful to my future study.

Apart from the field trips and lessons, I got a chance to meet many experts from different fields. A sharing from a HKU alumnus who is now teaching in the University of British Columbia (UBC) was particularly inspiring, where I learnt many paths I can choose to go in the future as a HKU science graduate. Getting to know these people was a valuable experience.

Overall, the UBC summer is very enjoyable and rewarding. The overseas learning experience did not only benefit me from the academic perspective, but also inspired me in many other different ways.
This is a wonderful programme for Astronomy students to get hands-on experience to operate a research telescope.

Chan Ho Cheung

BSc student (major in Physics; double minor in Astronomy and Chemistry)

Participant of Summer School in Observational Astronomy at National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan

About the activity

This summer school took place in National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan. The course was an introduction to modern observational techniques of astronomy with a focus on optical and high-energy astronomy. It introduced the scope and principles of observational astronomy including atmospheric effects on observations, Charge-coupled devices (CCD) and imaging, etc. It provided students with practical sessions at Observation at Lulin Observatory of Taiwan, where students had to plan their own observation, choose their target and calibrate the data.

We had the chance to carry out observations at the top of Taiwan — the Lulin Optical Observatory located at an altitude of 2,862m. There we learnt how to operate a telescope of 1-metre diameter ourselves, take images of a scientific target that we chose, and construct the star’s light curve to learn its properties. The overnight observation was an unforgettable experience.

In short, the programme was an intensive yet very enjoyable one.
The Summer School offered me a precious opportunity to learn cutting edge mathematics from working researchers and how they can be applied.

SO Chi Chiu
- BSc student (double major in Mathematics and Philosophy; double minor in Physics and Music)
- Participant of Summer School in Mathematics at Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary

“The summer school was a very nice and enjoyable experience for me, in which I learnt a lot of things — both mathematical and non-mathematical. It showed me the application of mathematics in solving a variety of problems in real life, for example, how mathematics can help improve the quality of satellite images. Also, it provided me with a chance to make friends from other countries and universities who love mathematics as well. The summer school offered me a precious chance to learn the mathematical tradition of Hungary in discrete mathematics, and last but not least, the cultural aspect of Hungary and its beautiful landscapes.”

About the activity
The summer school “Discrete Algorithms and applications” was held in Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary. It covered interesting topics of Mathematics in different aspects, ranging from “mathematical analysis of satellite images” that explained how our satellites in outer space take clear pictures with mathematics to “mathematical models of epidemic propagation” that predicted the trend of different epidemics which, for example, has been applied to Hong Kong in 2003 for SARS.
Great minds think alike! I made a lot of new friends who are physics confidants at the summer school and this is really rewarding.

TENG Xinzhi
- BSc student (major in Physics)
- Participant of Nishina School for Nuclear Physics at RIKEN Nishina Center (RNC) in Japan

About the activity

The 2-week programme was designed to introduce nuclear physics to undergraduate students and enhance international research collaboration in the field in Asia. After a series of lectures, basic experimental and accelerator trainings, participants were asked to perform real-beam experiment using the RIKEN accelerators and detectors, starting from its planning, data-taking and followed by analysis and discussion. Student presentation was held on the last day of the School as a conclusion.

Hear from our student

“The most rewarding experience for me at RIKEN is meeting with a group of physics confidants who are determined to dedicate themselves in the field. We are friends as well as competitors. Together we discuss physics, inspire each other and look forward to the future. From them, I have gained the confidence that as long as we have passion in physics and work hard enough on it, we can definitely contribute to it someday. We have the same dream of becoming a great physicist and we will strive to pursue research in the field.

From the hands-on experiment, I realise that conducting experiment is actually the best way to learn — for every single detail in the experiment, there is physics behind. By justifying what we need to do in the experiment by ourselves, we can gain knowledge and skills beyond the textbook. At that moment, we are all real researchers.”
This tour would surely become one of my best experiences in my University life.
It was indeed a wonderful experience to know some masterminds in your research field. I was greatly inspired by the teachers and researchers there.

"The summer school was held in the wonderful city of Berlin, with first week in Technical University of Berlin (TU Berlin) and the second one in Humboldt University of Berlin (HU Berlin) that situated in a quite different but lively neighborhood.

It was definitely an eye-opening experience for me as it is rather rare to imagine, for example, a student in the math department walk into an X-ray or MRI lab to collaborate with radiologist to solve problems together, but this is exactly what the research group led by professor Modersitzki has been doing and he was there in the summer school sharing his expertise with us. Also, other courses are amazing and one could hardly have such experience in any other place.

Each year Berlin Mathematical School organises summer school with varying topics in pure and applied mathematics. If you find their topics fascinating, grab the chance to meet their masters and colleagues in the fields."

**Hear from our student**

"The summer school was held in the wonderful city of Berlin, with first week in Technical University of Berlin (TU Berlin) and the second one in Humboldt University of Berlin (HU Berlin) that situated in a quite different but lively neighborhood.

It was definitely an eye-opening experience for me as it is rather rare to imagine, for example, a student in the math department walk into an X-ray or MRI lab to collaborate with radiologist to solve problems together, but this is exactly what the research group led by professor Modersitzki has been doing and he was there in the summer school sharing his expertise with us. Also, other courses are amazing and one could hardly have such experience in any other place.

Each year Berlin Mathematical School organises summer school with varying topics in pure and applied mathematics. If you find their topics fascinating, grab the chance to meet their masters and colleagues in the fields."

**QIU Di**

- BSc student (major in Mathematics)
- Participant of Mathematical and Numerical Methods in Image Processing at Berlin Mathematical School in Germany

**About the activity**

The summer school at the Berlin Mathematical School provides students with an intensive training in mathematical image processing by internationally renowned scientists in the field every summer. Students from every corner of the globe, with diverse backgrounds in tomography, MRI engineering, applied mathematics etc., come together to study ideas and techniques that would be beneficial and inspiring to their future research.

**Berlin, Germany**
Going to Tsitsikamma was surely an amazing opportunity to apply my knowledge on intertidal ecology and have a cultural exchange with the very friendly local professors and students from South Africa.

WONG Kwan Ho Alvin
BSc student (major in Ecology & Biodiversity)
Participant of Marine Ecology Excursion in Tsitsikamma, South Africa

"It was such a bless that I could visit Tsitsikamma, South Africa during my time as a student at HKU. I could never forget the stunning shoreline and organisms there. Local professors and students there were very amazing and nice people.

The excursion struck a perfect academic-travel balance: we learnt a lot about intertidal ecology — and we surely had some great fun! We attended lectures in the morning, raised as many constructive questions as possible, then we acted out to conduct our surveys. The freedom we were given to design our own experiment also helped us learn to be more efficient. Hiking, walking along the rocky shores — and snorkeling in crystal clear sea water — were our ways to not only enjoy nature, but also explore it, and understand how complicated energy flow can be throughout the insanely complex food web across forests, streams and seashores."
Despite having frequently heard about hot springs and earthquakes in Taiwan from the media, this was the first time I was able to closely investigate the story behind them. As Taiwan lies in a special location — along the boundaries of two active plates, many unique rock features which are absent in Hong Kong can be found there. This experience was exciting, especially when we had the chance to look closely at a representing rock feature that I had only read about it in books yet had never seen before. This field trip has undeniably given me a valuable opportunity to integrate what I have learnt in lectures, enhancing my understanding of different geological processes. It also allowed me to learn through interactions with nature, to feel the genuine power and the beauty of our dynamic planet Earth, and provided me with knowledge beyond books.

Joining the field study to Taiwan was like unveiling the incredibly mesmerising face of our neighbouring island. It was just amazing!

This overseas study experience was a 6-day geological field trip centred on the east coast of Taiwan, where the Philippine Sea Plate and Eurasia Plate converge. Aiming at understanding the geological evolution of Taiwan via hands-on experiences, the team visited geological sites in Kenting, Jialeshui, Ruisui, Yehliu, Taroko Gorge etc. to closely investigate the special geological structures formed along the convergent plate boundaries, such as melanges, turbidites, serpentinites and folds.
This interdisciplinary course provided me with a treasurable experience in learning about oyster farming, its business and its importance in sustainability, which is not what a typical ecology course offers.

HIOL Lok Yee Gami
- BSc student (double major in Molecular Biology & Biotechnology and Ecology & Biodiversity)
- Participant of field trip entitled “Learning Oyster Aquaculture Techniques and Business in Penang, Malaysia”

“Oysters produced from Lau Fau Shan were historically renowned as prized shellfish, but the business declined gradually after reports of pollutants and shrinking labour. Understanding the practices of other countries would be beneficial in restoring the fame of Hong Kong oyster industry. Twenty of us got this precious chance to study oyster farming in Penang, Malaysia.

During those 8 days, I had hands-on experience on oyster aquaculture through knowledge and cultural exchange with Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and Mr. Alan Wong, the founder of the first hatchery there. Interactions with facilitators enhanced knowledge exchange, allowing us to generate constructive and creative suggestions on how to apply similar work in local context — our group presented the idea of establishing an Oyster Museum in Hong Kong! Hatchery, culturing raft and depuration system visits showed us equipment and techniques required for cultivating oyster larvae and phytoplankton, an essential source of nutrients for oysters.

Getting a distinction in this course is exciting, but more importantly, this course inspired me. I wish to be able to participate in Hong Kong’s sustainable oyster aquaculture development in the future and am ready to build a museum specifically for oysters!”

Penang, Malaysia

About the field trip
This field trip is an interdisciplinary endeavour to enhance students’ knowledge in applied larval biology techniques and advanced coastal aquaculture production systems, enabling them to design, construct, operate and maintain oyster aquaculture facilities for food production and restoration of the wild population. During the 2-week intensive course, students were exposed to a few aquaculture facilities in Hong Kong and were taken to Penang of Malaysia to learn practical skills of oyster farming from both practitioners and experts of Universiti Sains Malaysia.
One of the things you learn when you go overseas is how much these people in countries overseas really enjoy life.

—Chris Paul, a notable player in NBA history

**About the internship**

This overseas study experience was a 2-month internship in UCB S.A., which is a multinational biopharmaceutical company headquartered in Brussels, Belgium. By working in a leading company in the industry of biopharmaceutics, it provided interns with the opportunities of understanding the development of biopharmaceutical products and how scientific research worked. After working hours, interns were able to plan their own holidays or free time, either to experience the daily lives of a European, or grab the chance to travel countries nearby.

“**This was the first time I experienced European life as an intern. I am so impressed that Belgium devotes a lot of resources into the development of biopharmaceutics. Whenever I walked past the company’s main entrance, the motto on the wall “inspired to be the first patient-centered biopharmaceutical company” always showed up and reminded me of the spirit. From nothing to a product available in the market, the process is so intriguing – each of us was just doing some small parts, but with the results obtained and conclusions drawn together, the impact of cell culturing on product development could be profound. Unlike tackling against flu or parasitic diseases, many of the diseases we were tackling here were gene related or even incurable, but everyone was still trying hard to change the world. I could feel the team’s belief “we are creating the future”. Indeed, the team cohesion in UCB is excellent and I hope this kind of company culture can be experienced in our society someday.”**

**Hear from our student**

CHENG Ngo Hin Sheldon
BSc student (double major in Molecular Biology & Biotechnology and Chinese Studies)
Participant of disciplinary internship in Belgium
A heartfelt advice to my fellow students: do not hesitate to apply!

Sharon WENG

BSc student (double major in Chemistry and Biological Sciences)

Participant of disciplinary internship in Copenhagen, Denmark

"As a budding biochemist, I have always wanted to gain experience in the biotechnology industry abroad. I knew from my studies and my research that Denmark has one of the most active biotechnology scenes in Europe, and that the biotechnology industry is an important part of the Danish economy; I was curious to witness how those things play out in this small country. So with a mixture of trepidation, curiosity and excitement, I embarked on a journey that later proved to be a positively eye-opening experience. Meeting new people and immersing myself in a new culture, language and work environment have been stimulating for both my professional and personal development. Furthermore, the programme provided me with the invaluable time to think about where my true career interests lie and to reflect upon my life thus far."
As a science lover, this is truly an eye-opening experience.

“Knowing very little about climate science before I joined the camp, I am very honoured to be given this chance to catch a glimpse into this field. I enjoy the experience very much as I was intellectually stimulated through lectures and discussions with professors and other elite Chinese-speaking science students. Unlike any classes, we were fighting for the microphone to ask questions and we could not fall asleep without an answer! Other than classes, we discussed about science and life with professors in every meal, hiked the beautiful evergreen forests of the Central Mountains, and learnt stargazing from a professor who formerly worked in NASA. We were also the first few hundreds of people to hear about an astonishing scientific breakthrough. As a science lover, this truly is an eye-opening experience.”

Hear from our student

Wu Ta-You Science Camp offers a week of academic and social interactions with professors and about 100 elite science students from Taiwan, Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau. Lectures and discussions are centered around a theme in life sciences or physical sciences. The camp that Dag joined was entitled “Climate Change: Earth Future and Human Fate”. At there, frontiers in climate science, energy policies, energy technology and public health from Taiwan and other countries gave lectures that inspired students’ understandings on climate-related research and scientific research per se. Teachers and students stayed in a resort in the Central Mountains Range of Taiwan for a week from late July to early August. The activity is organised by Wu Ta-You Foundation and Academia Sinica, which annually invites universities to nominate students for application to the camp.

Dag WONG
• BSc student (double major in Biochemistry and Food & Nutritional Science)
• Participant of Wu Ta-You Science Camp in Taiwan

About the programme

Wu Ta-You Science Camp offers a week of academic and social interactions with professors and about 100 elite science students from Taiwan, Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau. Lectures and discussions are centered around a theme in life sciences or physical sciences. The camp that Dag joined was entitled “Climate Change: Earth Future and Human Fate”. At there, frontiers in climate science, energy policies, energy technology and public health from Taiwan and other countries gave lectures that inspired students’ understandings on climate-related research and scientific research per se. Teachers and students stayed in a resort in the Central Mountains Range of Taiwan for a week from late July to early August. The activity is organised by Wu Ta-You Foundation and Academia Sinica, which annually invites universities to nominate students for application to the camp.
I am truly grateful for having this opportunity to work as an intern in DaTung School. It inspired me in different ways. It is definitely a life changing experience that I will never forget.
This tour would surely become one of my best experiences in my University life.