

Report of exchange to EPFL

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1. About the program

It is the exchange programs between the University of Tokyo and Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne(EPFL). I participated in the Section of Mechanical Engineering for one semester.

2. Application procedure

There is a list of exchange schools on OICE website in the University of Tokyo. After deciding the university, the staff in the Office of International Cooperation and Exchange in the University of Tokyo are very nice and they can help students if there are some questions with further application. The application materials such as application form, study plan, transcript, TOEFL score have to be prepared and submitted to EPFL.

3. Life in EPFL

The school is located in French-speaking area of Switzerland, so a command of some French would make the life easier there. Also most lectures are provided by French, with others use English. In addition, things are expensive there, which it about 1.5 times as in Japan. The scholarship can cover the dormitory fee and transportation fee. It is more expensive to eat outside school. And it is very safe in Switzerland, so there is no need to worry if you return home late from school. It has to be noticed that the Swiss government requires everyone to get their insurance, traveling insurance from a Japanese insurance company is not recognized in Switzerland. For those who like to work out in the gym, there is one provides for students in EPFL and UNIL. It is located near the river and has a very good view.

4. Study in EPFL

Firstly, EPFL provides French classes in the summer vacations for foreign students. The first week is for auditions in case that students want to make a change on their choices of the classes. The professors in EPFL are very experienced and have got very high achievement in their own area, you will not be regretted attending their lectures. Also the TAs are very helpful if there are any questions.

5. Conclusions

Through homework every week and presentations in the lectures, my knowledge has also approved. I got an A1 Level certificate in the French course. And I also understood the situation of Asian society better after choosing the course Going East. And this is the first time for me to attend an economic class at which I have learnt some economic models.

In addition, this valuable experience can help me achieve new perspectives on things by studying with people from diverse backgrounds. I have learnt a lot of merits from others, like persistence and courage. I have also become more confident when facing a challenge. I am quite convinced that this studying experience will benefit my future professional development.



Entrance of EPFL



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