

Lost in Shanghai



Shanghai Jiao Tong University

2017 Spring
Allan Chen
Year 3
BBA in Finance and Accounting

Part 1: Activity Log

February 2017

I arrived in Shanghai on Feb.18th. The host university provided a bus taking us from the airport to the Minhang Campus, the largest campus among its 5 campuses. I met many other exchange students and some old friends studying there during the first few days.

There are two main campuses, Xuhui Campus and Minhang Campus. The former one is located in the heart of Shanghai, Xuhui District, where you can easy access to tons of shopping malls and other interesting parts of this lovely city, while the latter one is located in the suburb which is far away from the downtown and takes you one hour by train to get to. In the beginning, I was assigned to a dorm located in Minhang Campus, though I am a student of Antai Economics and Management College in Xuhui Campus. It was really inconvenient to live in the Minhang Campus. Therefore, after one week, I started to look for a flat in the downtown. Luckily, I found one which was 5 mins walk from the Xuhui Campus eventually.

After that, I lived in this rented flat for the whole exchange period.

Besides, I went to Hangzhou City and visited the West Lake after settling down.

March 2017

March was not a busy month as it was just the beginning of the semester.

I got to know many new friends in this month. In the meantime, I explored many places of Shanghai. There are many other cities around Shanghai which are very interest and easily to access to. I went to Suzhou with my friend and stayed there for one weekend.

Last but not the east, as I did not take many courses, it was a great time to do an internship. Fortunately, I got an offer from a FinTech firm and my busy exchange journey started.

April 2017

April was a little bit busy because of the midterm exams. Mainland students tended to be very hardworking that I had to study hard to catch up. At the same time, my internship took up almost all my spare time, thus no travel plan in April.

May 2017

The internship was about to end, and I took a leave to Qingdao and Weihai of Shangdong province. I stayed there for almost one week. Qingdao is a lovely city with beautiful sceneries and friendly people.

I also attended a youth forum held in Beijing, during which I met a lot of people and was inspired by their passion.

June 2017

The unforgettable exchange was going to end. I took 3 final exams and 2 group projects. After some farewells, I went back home for the next journey.

Part 2: General Exchange Information

Visa Application

For HK ID and Mainland ID holders, no visa is required.

Courses Registration

The course enrollment system was not well-established and always got into crash. But the administration offices of each faculty were quite helpful that they could almost ensure you be enrolled in any course you like.

Accommodations

Free accommodation was provided by SJTU. Usually, exchange students will be assigned to the undergraduate dorms located in Minhang Campus, while few business students are luckily to be assigned to dorms located in Xuhui Campus. Every room consists of four bed spaces and one washroom. Unfortunately, you may need to adapt to the squat

toilet, which is the mainstream for most mainland universities. By the way, you have to pay for shower using your student card and the shower time is strictly constrained: the shower room opens from 3:00pm to 11:59pm only.

We did not need to pay the accommodation fee since it was sponsored by the university.

Food

There are 6 canteens in Minhang Campus and 1 canteen in Xuhui Campus, providing a large variety of foods. Actually you don't need to eat at canteens for every meal as there are numerous restaurants serving foods from different provinces and countries. Besides, o2o economy is flourishing in Mainland. You can always open food-ordering apps like “饿了么” , “美团外卖” , “百度外卖” , etc. Usually it takes half an hour from your payment to the receiving of the food.

Climate

It was super cold in the first few months after I arrived Shanghai. But it got better in April. Shanghai in April is in her most beautiful time. Comfortable temperature, fascinating scenes, delicious foods...life could not be better. And it is also a wonderful time to travel.

Communication

Most courses are taught in Mandarin, but you can always register English courses, especially business courses.

Transportation

Subway is the most convenient and economic way to transport within Shanghai. And taxi is not expensive compared to that in Hong Kong. O2O car-calling apps can also help to escape from the peak hour of Shanghai. Download “滴滴出行 “and” 嘀嗒拼车 ” , you won't be regret.

In addition, shuttle bus offered by SJTU is also convenient when transporting between different campuses.

High speed trains can take you to any corner in Mainland with an affordable price and a comfortable environment.

Courses Taken in SJTU

Course Code	Course Title	Teaching Language	Transferability	Equivalent Course in UST
AC331	中级财务会计	English	Yes	ACCT 3020: Financial Accounting II
BU463	风险管理	Mandarin	No	N/A
FI313	国际金融 (A类)	English	Yes	FINA 4403: International Finance
FI323	商业银行经营管理	English	Yes	FINA 4503: Banking and Financial Intermediation

Part 3: Items to Bring

- Camera
- Photos in passport size
- Offer letter from SJTU
- Clothes (for both winter and summer)
- Adaptors
- Credit and debit cards
- Cash
- Medicines
- Laptop and phone

Part 4: Useful Phone Applications

- 淘宝

- 饿了么
- 滴滴打车
- 大众点评
- 微信
- 百度地图
- 微博
- 支付宝
- 知乎
- 嘀嗒拼车
- 应届生: will be quite helpful if you want to get an internship in Mainland

If you have any questions about exchange to SJTU, please get my contact from SBM Exchange Team. Have a wonderful exchange to Shanghai!