

Tsinghua University

Spring 2018



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Year3

Monthly Activity Log

March

Tsinghua University starts its spring semester in March, which is one month later than HKUST. The campus is very big. It is a must to ride a bicycle when you go from one place to another. I have bought a second hand bicycle because your bicycle may be stolen if it is a new one. Moreover, I was arranged to live in a local hall. There are two type of halls. One is for local students and the other one is for international students. The designs of the two type of halls are different. In local hall, there are no walls between each shower head, so we need to take a shower together. I felt very strange at first, but I get used to it gradually. Furthermore, there is a restricted time for taking a shower. It is from 5pm to 11pm. Moreover, it cuts off all electricity from 11pm to 6am, so there are no lights during 11pm to 6am. The living style is really different from Hong Kong, but it is a really special experience.

April

Actually, it is not that bad living in the local hall. I was living with three other students. We always went out and explored Beijing during weekends. We had girl talks at night. We Taobao together. We ... I didn't feel lonely staying at Tsinghua University with friends I met there. Mid-term started in mid-April. There were a lot to revise because they taught a lot in one lesson. They taught nearly one HKUST course in each lesson. Although the workload is a lot, the teacher there is very nice. They care for every student in class, which is very amazing. I like the learning atmosphere in Tsinghua University. Tsinghua University provides courses that are conducted in Chinese and English. Usually, courses in English are opened for international students. Local students' courses are usually taught in Chinese. Half of my registered courses are taught in Chinese and half of my courses are in English. The one taught in Chinese is much harder and has more requirements than the one taught in English.

May

I was exploring the resources provided by Tsinghua University in May. I have listened to few talks. All the speakers are expert from different part of the world. I have also gone to different art exhibitions. There are a lot of resources in Tsinghua University. Around one month before I left, I started to miss this place and the livelihood. We also felt amazed how we get used to the environment and condition.

June

My semester ended in mid June because I had all exams in the last lesson. I didn't have any exams in the exam period. I would not need to stay at Tsinghua University until late June. A good time management was really needed when all the exams were tested in the last lesson because there was no study period. I was the first one who left the dormitory. Time really passed quickly. It seemed I have been to Tsinghua University one month ago. However, I have already stayed at Tsinghua University for four months.

General Exchange Information

Visa Procedures

No Visa procedures is needed because Hong Kong citizens have a Home Return Permit.

Orientation Activities

There is an orientation activity. It is around two hours. It tells us what we need to prepare and pay attention to. For example, we need to buy a bicycle.

International Services & Activities

Tsinghua University will assign a buddy to each exchange student. He /She will organize a school tour for exchange students to help us to get familiarized the campus. It is held after the orientation talk that I mention above. In the first two weeks, there are functions for exchange students on Thursday afternoon. Moreover, in the mid semester, there is a free trip. We will go to one of the cities in China for a few days.

Accommodations

Hong Kong exchange students will be assigned to live in local hall. There are two type of halls --- local hall and international hall. The designs of the two type of halls are different. In local hall, there are no walls between each shower head, so we need to take a shower together. There is a restricted time for taking a shower. It is from 5pm to 11pm. It also cuts off all electricity from 11pm to 6am, so there are no lights during 11pm to 6am.

Course Registration

An email will be sent by the person in charge in Tsinghua University. The email will instruct you how to register courses.

Teaching & Assessment Methods

Tsinghua University provides courses that are conducted in Chinese and English. Usually, courses in English are opened for international students. Local students' courses are usually taught in Chinese. Half of my registered courses are taught in Chinese and half of my courses are in English. The one taught in Chinese is much harder and has more requirements than the one taught in English. Professors may adjust their assessment method during the semester.

Sports & Recreation Facilities

All sports facilities are free, except gym room.

Finance & Banking

I have spent around 20,000 RMB in the exchange. Tsinghua University provides subsidies to Hong Kong exchange students.

Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities

Clubs will set up their counter and recruit members at the beginning of the semester. The counters will be near the local hall. Moreover, there is an event that Tsinghua University will invite big companies to their campus, so students can get familiar with the company and meet staff there. Some may get their job through communicating with the staff there.

Health & Safety

HKUST will help each student to buy their medical insurance. Also, there is a hospital in Tsinghua University.

Food

The food in school canteen is safe to eat. Student pays their meal by using their IC card. Each meal is very cheap, around 10 RMB. Also, cooking is not allowed in the hall.

Transportation

In campus, we always ride bikes. Outside campus, we always use subway and sometimes ride bike.

Climate

It doesn't rain a lot, especially in winter. It is very dry too, and clothes dry in one night. The smog in Beijing is very serious, so we will check the air pollution index every day and wear mask when the air pollution index is over 100.

Communication

We speak Mandarin in Beijing.

Cautionary measures

It is important to pay attention to the air pollution in Beijing and wear mask when needed.

Items to Bring

The things that you bring to travel.

Useful Links and Contacts

Intranet: <http://info.tsinghua.edu.cn/>

Wifi: <https://net.tsinghua.edu.cn/wireless/>