

Summer School at the Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University

Thongkhanlong Kruahiran

September 13 – 20, 2014

The main core of this program was about Economics. Actually, I don't have background knowledge about Economics at all because I've studied Languages for my whole life. I've been studying English since I was young and my bachelor's degree major was French. But when I got a chance to join this program, I can say that it opened my world to be wider. All the contents that it was like I've never ever heard before became more interesting. I learnt lots about Japan economics and some history of Kyoto and it was great to know that because Japan is one of the most powerful countries in the world and I'm studying about ASEAN so I think I can adapt all of the knowledge I've got from this program to my study in the future. To learn about Business groups in Japan is also my favorite because I've always heard about the name of the Japanese business groups as the sensei mentioned, for example, Nissan, Mitsubishi etc. But I never know it in the deep way. It's quite complex but still potential. So I quite like it lots.

This is my first time in Japan so I felt so excited when I first knew that we would come to Japan for the study trip. Especially, when I knew that we would have a chance to join in Kyoto University. And then when I arrived, I've been falling to this country since then. I don't know if other cities in Japan are as nice as Kyoto because I've never been there but Kyoto is one of the nicest cities I've ever been. People in Kyoto are so nice. I'm so surprised that every time I smile to them, they always smile back (I don't think it will happen in every city). They are keen to help and so generous. Kyoto is so safe. I feel so calm and relax when I stay here. Kyoto is quite different from Bangkok so it's pleasure to learn and see new culture. Kyoto University is one of the most famous universities in Asia. When the sensei took us to walk around the university, I saw many new things that Thai universities should do like Kyoto U. For example, the wonderful library and the canteen.

Our schedule plan was good. We had many useful and variety sessions in class such as Economics, Business and also history and also we had time to go sightseeing like visiting Kiyomizu Temple, Yasaka shrine, and we got the local Kyoto people with us to explain about the places. Moreover, we had a chance to visit the Kyocera museum and Nishijin Textile and they are such unique Japanese companies. If we didn't have any help from Kyoto University, we won't have a chance to visit all of the wonderful places like these for sure. Thank you so much.

Actually I still have no job because I want to focus on my master degree. My master degree is about Asean studies so the economics are important for us to know or to study. The knowledge that I got from this program will support my research for my master degree in the future and I hope someday I will apply all the contents that I got from here to develop my career in the future as well.

Other content: I want to say thank you for all of senseis, staffs and Kyoto University that you give us this kind of opportunity. We are so glad and we appreciate lots. Thank you so much.