

Report on My Half-year Study in KUASU

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The half-year study life in Kyoto was a dream come true for me. It's really a great honor to me to be chosen as an exchange student to KUASU. Here I've had more chance to learn about the method of doing economic research, more chance to touch a foreign but world-famous economic model, more chance to study new, hard but useful and technical instruments than every other semester I've had in China. Simultaneously, living in Japan provided precious experience about engaging in the Japanese history, culture and Japanese style life.

In this exchange semester, I took 4 lessons and 1 audit class. As I've managed some Japanese before, it was an advantage for me to try classes with Japanese. One of my classes was provided by Graduate School of Economics, 2 classes were provided by East Asian Course of Graduate School of Economics, and the other 2 classes were provided by Institution of Economic Research. GSEKU EA classes were offered in English and GSEKU & IERKU classes were offered in Japanese. Most of the classes were concerned with Econometrics, and I got deep grip of econometrics, That is my greatest acquirement in KU.

One of GSEKU EA classes was 'Firms and Industrial Organization in Japan' by A.P. Hikino Takashi and A.P. Asli Colpan. This class was an introduction of the development outline of Japanese enterprises and industries in the history after WWII. The other GSEKU EA class was a seminar named 'Econometric Analysis of Developing Economics', in which the advisor, A.P. Yano Go guided the econometric method in analyzing the actual economic problems in developing countries like China and Philippines through rigorous academic papers. My GSEKU class was 'Analysis of Contemporary Chinese Economy 2' by Prof. Liu Deqiang. This class was also a seminar and offered in English and Japanese. It provided methods not only single econometrics but also affiliates with some complex models like input-output analysis or models with more economic mathematics. It was a good supplement to the application of econometrics.

IERKU classes were the most important for my study in KU, and among the classes, I put the effort to the audit class, Advanced Econometrics by A.P. Okui Ryo. I registered the class, but as an undergraduate and a Japanese beginner, the Japanese-used Master class was too hard for me to pass the class. The difficulty of the class was surprising for me. Though I didn't get the message very well because of my immature Japanese, I really learnt a lot from notes and homework. The knowledge from the class became a solid theory foundation of my econometrics study. Another class in IERKU was Nonlinear Business Cycle Theory 2 by Prof. Yano Makoto. The class was a seminar and a great chance to meet an internationally famous Japanese Economist. The professor was kind and nice to students. The research methods and topics introduced in the class was very advanced and Japanese style.

Half a year in Japan was a very short time. I tried to travel a lot and spend my spare time to see the real Japan by my own eyes. I went to Oboke in Miyoshi, Tokushima in December; Maizuru and Miyazu in January; Izumo, Okuizumo, Matsue, and Hiroshima in February. Those areas are not very developed but they keep pure Japanese traditional ways of style; people live and work in agriculture and do sideline works in towns and villages.

During my study here, I have acquired two things. The first is progress in theory and application in econometrics, and the second is a rough understanding to Japanese ways of living, industry, finance, history, culture and agriculture. I think it is a good try to combine them to theoretical research to Japanese economy as my subject in my forthcoming postgraduate study.