

East Asian Sustainable Development Studies Exchange Programme

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Taking the student exchange programme at East Asia Course of Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University is probably the greatest experience in my life. I still remembered the day I submitted the application when I had no idea about what sustainable development was. As a master student majoring accounting, my courses are more likely talking about disclosure, finance, and numbers. Despite of my research interest in corporate governance, I didn't think that mine would be suitable enough to be related with the EA course. I thought I would find way much different subject or area between accounting and sustainable development. However, what I had experienced here was quite encouraging. The courses, classes, materials, and of course lecturers were very good and didn't care what subjects I had been interested in before I came here. All the class members, including me, could still enjoy the courses being conducted even though we came from many different majors. I figured out that EA course was very suitable and somehow applicable for many issues in which many countries in Asia to deal with. One thing that I like is the way Senseis encourage students to think more critically and deeply towards cases, something that I didn't really get before. Of course, it helps me so much now in how I should organize my mind, words, and speech. Taking EA courses has also given me a wide understanding to the many problems in East Asia, especially in ASEAN that still need more attention to overcome its problems.

In the future, I would like to study more about governance in wider area. I see "governance" is still potential area to be researched more because in ASEAN, especially in my country, there exists a weak governance system. The governance system could be in many sectors such as government, corporations, environments, and social life. And I do think that studying governance also helps me to understand more about sustainable development. I look forward that in the near future, after finishing my thesis, I can make it to dig into and learn more about it. And I expect myself to be a good lecturer that can share wide knowledge to all my students and in the same time discuss with them. At least, courses I have taken here such as ASEAN Economy, Comparative Development Studies, and Environmental Management have made my eyes wide open. I mean, by studying governance I could contribute more to the society in terms of development studies.

Studying in Kyoto University is also very unforgettable moment for me. Given the opportunity to study in one of the best university in the world is really valuable because I could find that the university provides good and well-established facilities for students to do self-learning. People here are very friendly and helpful, the staff of Kyoto University as well. Despite the language barrier, I could still get much information I wanted. In summary, my time being here was like finding myself again about learning and studying; that I can't and shouldn't surrender my time for something that are useless. I want to do and act more so I can help my communities to grow and develop themselves without forgetting sustainable action. As Japanese proverb said, "一期一会", meaning one time one meeting. お疲れ様でした、ありがとうございます！