Exploring Taiwan @ NTU
+1 Summer Intensive Program
for Chinese & Culture

Pre-Departure Guide

July 30th to August 24th 2012
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Chapter 1: Preparing for Departure

VISA
Do you have your VISA ready?
VISA is required to students in certain countries. For checking if you need VISA or getting to know how to apply VISA, please contact your local consulate or go to the website of The Bureau of Consular Affairs (BOCA):

Currency Exchange
Living expenses will vary, depending on each student’s individual lifestyle, but approximately 10,000 ~ 15,000 TWD is considered adequate to cover monthly living expenses. The most convenient place to change your foreign currency is the head office of the Bank of Taiwan, where a variety of currencies is accepted. Please consult your banks in your home country prior to your departure whether you can use your credit cards / bank cards to withdraw money in Taiwan and transaction charges.
※ 1 TWD / NTD = 0.0338USD = 0.0265 EUR (May 2012)

Things to Bring / Things to Do

● **Travel Insurance:** NTU offers all participants the travelers insurance worth a minimum of TWD 1,000,000 valid for the whole summer program period. However, we recommend that you enroll in extra insurances.

● **Transcript & Credit Approval:** Upon successful completion of the program, participants will receive an academic transcript. If you wish to have your credits approved, please consult with your home institution in advance about obtaining credits for coursework.
conducted during the program.

- **Clothing:** Participants are advised to bring an umbrella and hat. There are Field Trips that may involve a lot of walking so we recommend participants to bring walking shoes, east comfortable clothing and suntan lotion. In particular, summer in Taiwan is very hot and humid (average 27 – 35 °C). There is also rainy and typhoon season during summer.

- **Items for living:** Pillow, quilt, sheets and quilt cover will be provided, but you will need to have your own towels, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, hair dryer ...etc., you can also buy these in Taiwan.

- **Electrical equipment:** Taiwan usually uses 110V/60Hz electric current, with 2-hole flat blade sockets. But our dorm provides 3-hole sockets. Please bring your adapter or voltage transformers if necessary.
Chapter 2: Arrival in Taiwan

When Should I Arrive?
Participants must arrive at TaoYuan International Airport at the latest one day before the start day. There will be a group airport pick-up service on July 29\textsuperscript{th} 2012; therefore, participants are strongly recommended to arrive on that day.

From Tao Yuan International Airport to NTU

Listed below are directions to get to the NTU main gate and on-campus dorm.

1. By Taxi

*Fare: Around TWD 1,200; Travel Time: 60 mins*

There is no direct train or bus traveling from the airport to NTU. If you are carrying heavy luggage, taking a taxi would be the easiest and most comfortable way to get to NTU. Taxi stands are outside the Arrival Lobby of both Terminal 1 and 2 and services are available 24 hours a day. Airport taxis to Taipei city charge a flat rate of TWD 1,000 to 1,200 (highway tolls included).

A night time surcharge may apply after 11:00 PM. The address for the NTU Main Gate and NTU dormitories are listed below for your use.

*NTU Main Gate: No. 1, Sec. 4, Roosevelt Road, Taipei City

Chinese【臺大正門：台北市羅斯福路四段1號】

*Prince House- NTU Shui-Yuan Dorms: No. 16-1, SiYuan Street, Taipei city

Chinese【太子學舍－臺大水源舍區：台北市思源街16-1號】
2. By Bus + Taxi/MRT

**Fare:** Around TWD 200-300; **Travel Time:** 80 mins

Bus tickets are available at both Terminals (Terminal 1: On the south side of the B1 floor; Terminal 2: on the northeast side). There are several bus companies that service Taipei city. You can either take a taxi or the MRT to NTU when you get off in Taipei.

To NTU Main Gate and Prince House - NTU Shui-Yuan Dorms: Get off at MRT Gongguan Station〔捷運公館站〕. The NTU campus is right next to the station. Cross Roosevelt Road and walk southwest to TingChou Road turn right on TingChou Road and then walk about 200 meters to SiYuan Street. Take a left turn on SiYuan Street, and Prince House – NTU Shui-Yuan Dorms are 2-minute walk away on your right.

Airport Transportation:
http://www.taoyuan-airport.com/english/index.jsp
Chapter 3: Life in Taiwan

Prince House Dorms (BOT)
Management of our student suites is service-oriented. We provide:

- Key card access control, emergency buttons, and security cameras to establish 24-hour informing network
- Retailer shops and parking facilities
- Regular cleaning and maintenance of mechanics as well as planting
- Single rooms with beddings
- Private bathrooms, furniture, A/C, hot bath water and Internet/Cable TV connection
- Meeting rooms, coin laundry (B1) and sports facilities
- Management center with mail service
- Separate male and female halls

Building Management Center provides basic administration help on facilities info and management. For more information, please check the website of http://ntudorm.prince.com.tw/Introduction_List.aspx
Transportation

Easy Card
The Easy Card is a prepaid, rechargeable transportation card, which can be used on all Taipei buses, MRT trains, metro shuttle buses, and at Taipei Public Parking lots. It can be purchased at all convenience stores, MRT station in Great Taipei Area.  

MRT (Mass Rapid Transit)
The Taipei MRT is a modern transportation system serving the city and its vicinities. NTU is at the Gongguan station on the Danshui-Xindian line.  
http://english.trtc.com.tw/

Downtown Buses
Buses in downtown Taipei can bring you to more places than MRT. Please refer to the following website for bus schedules and routes:

Long Distance Buses
To purchase long distance bus tickets, passengers can choose
to buy directly from bus drivers (cash only) or at the Main Bus Station, which neighbors Taipei Railway Station.

**Taiwan Railway**
There are seven railway lines available in Taiwan. Each line has its own characteristics and sightseeing routes. There are 2 lines that travel down the west coast and 3 lines transverse the north. The other railways go through the southern and eastern part of Taiwan.

**Taiwan High Speed Rail**
It takes roughly an hour to travel from Taipei to Zuoying Station in Kaoshiung. Passengers can reserve tickets via the phone or online. [http://www.thsrc.com.tw/en/](http://www.thsrc.com.tw/en/)

**Taiwan Taxi**
Taiwan Taxi is the largest taxi company in Taiwan, the first in its field to use 3G (GPS +GPRS + GIS) satellite positioning passengers service, 24-hour all-weather vehicle monitoring, and complete vehicle route tracking. English or Japanese speaking drivers and chartering services are available.
24 hour service hotline:
405-88-888 or dial 55688 via cell phone

**Daily Needs**

**Meals**
There are adequate and various eating places around NTU. Taiwanese cuisine is delicious and popular among people; besides, participants can easily get different kinds of food here. You could choose to eat at one of the numerous
on-campus cafeterias, which serve everything from noodles to full meals at very reasonable prices, or at restaurants outside the campus. In general, a meal cost around NTD100 to 250 in Taipei.

**Grocery Shopping**
There are many grocery stores and shops in Taiwan where you can buy your groceries and other necessities easily. Most stores in Taipei are usually open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. throughout the week.

**Convenience Store**
There are many convenience stores (such as 7-11 and FamilyMart) in Taiwan that are open 24 hours every day. It is like a small supermarket, stocked with a wide array of prepared foods, snacks, beverages, magazines, and daily necessities. Other services such as copy machines and ATMs are available as well.

**Telephone**
In order to make overseas calls from the public phones in Taiwan, you will need to purchase a prepaid telephone card. Those of you who would like to carry a mobile phone, you can purchase one at the airport at a mobile phone shop after arriving in Taiwan.

**Internet Access**
You will be able to use computers in the dorm and to access the wireless internet by using the login ID and password given to you at Orientation, but students intended to use cable internet should bring their own cable.

**Health**
Please consult with any OIA staff or student assistant if you are experiencing any health problems. There is a Medical Service Center on-campus that offers medical assistance to students with health concerns.

A Few Things to Keep in Mind

Bathroom
Although many public toilets in Taiwan are reasonably well-equipped, some may not provide any toilet paper. It is best to always carry a small pack of tissues with you.

Tipping
Tipping is not a common practice in Taiwan. This includes restaurants, hotels, and taxis.

Smoking in Public Places
In Taiwan, smoking is banned in all indoor public places such as movie theaters, shopping malls and so on. It is forbidden to smoke on NTU campus at all times.

Taxi
Since Feb. 1, all taxi passengers must fasten their seat belts, otherwise the passengers will face a fine of up to NT$4,500.

MRT
No food or drinks are allowed in either the stations or the passenger cars. The inside of both the MRT stations and the trains are kept extremely clean and passengers are generally quiet and respectful of one another.
Chapter 4: Campus Life

Orientation
On July 30th, 2012, NTU will hold the orientation, campus tour and welcome party for all participants. It will be a good chance to get familiar with the surroundings. More detail about the time and place will be announced.

NTU Student Assistant
There will be OIA assistant during the summer program. If you encounter any problems or have any questions, Please feel free to consult with any student assistant or OIA staff.

Classes
Chinese classes will start on the second day of the program, and will be held from 13:00-16:00 Monday through Friday. Exploring Taiwan lecture will be held 1 day per week from 10:00-12:00, and there will be four field trips during the program. More information on the program schedule will be given to you at Orientation.

Important Dates and Maps

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Period</td>
<td>July 30th – August 24th</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>NTU Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accommodation Period</td>
<td>July 29th – August 24th</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Prince House (BOT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Airport Pick Up</td>
<td>July 29th</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Tao Yuan Airport</td>
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<td>Dormitory Check-In</td>
<td>July 29th</td>
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<td>Prince House (BOT)</td>
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<td>Placement Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>July 30th</td>
<td>8 AM – 5PM</td>
<td>Leader Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICLP Chinese Class</td>
<td>July 31st – August 23rd</td>
<td>1 PM – 4 PM</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exploring Taiwan Class</td>
<td>July 31st – August 22nd</td>
<td>10 AM – 12 PM</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-Day Tour</td>
<td>August 3rd – August 5th</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Hualien</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation/</td>
<td>August 24th</td>
<td>9 AM – 4 PM/</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farewell Party</td>
<td></td>
<td>6 PM – 9PM</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Departure</td>
<td>August 25th</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Tao Yuan Airport</td>
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NTU Campus
http://www.ntu.edu.tw/english/about/location.html

Prince House
Prince House Guide Map

Prince House (BOT)- Shui-Yuan Dorms

太子學舍－臺大水源舍區：台北市思源街16-1號
The Taipei MRT (Mass Rapid Transit)
Important Contact Information

Office of International Affairs (OIA)
Room 420, the 4th floor of the 2nd Admin. Build.
No. 1, Sec. 4, Roosevelt Rd., Taipei 106, Taiwan
Tel +886-2-3366-2007
Fax +886-2-2362-0096
ntucie@ntu.edu.tw

Program Coordinators
林孟庭  Meng-Ting Lin (Linda)
Center for International Education
Tel +886-2-33662007 x 233
Email mengtinglin@ntu.edu.tw

Useful Information in Taiwan
Tourism Bureau, Republic of China (Taiwan)
http://eng.taiwan.net.tw/
Taiwan Travel Information - Lonely Planet
http://www.lonelyplanet.com/taiwan
Things to do in Taiwan - Taiwan Travel Guide
http://www.geckogo.com/Guide/Taiwan/