## **Language Program Story**

Each year Taehyun Lee, Manager, Office of International Affairs at INHA Technical College, organises a language program for his students, visiting foreign partner institutions. During COVID-19, the program was unable to run in its standard format so another solution was found. In July 2021, 27 students from INHA Technical College participated in an online Global Career Program at The Gordon.

"We were concerned about running an online based language program as it's not always easy to communicate and exchange ideas online. However, working with The Gordon and their staff, we were able to develop a successful online program that exceeded all of our expectations.

Classes were conducted in real-time using Zoom. The Gordon teachers were dedicated and passionate, and were able to help our students throughout the program. Our students say it was a valuable and useful experience to practice their English communication skills and to understand the Australian culture and lifestyle.

The Gordon provided a high-quality service that enabled our students to continue learning and studying English, during COVID-19. I highly recommend working with The Gordon. I am very impressed with their delivery methods and the outcomes of their program.

We honestly appreciate the kind and helpful support from The Gordon. INHA Technical College hopes to implement the Global Career Program again. Thank you!"

#### **Taehyun Lee**

Manager, Office of International Affairs INHA Technical College, South Korea





# **Study Tour Story**



International student Tse Mei Yan participated in an eight day exchange program, visiting Geelong and Melbourne.

"I'm so happy I was able to do this tour with my friends. Time went by so fast!

During the tour we visited Avalon Airport, National Wool Museum, RMIT and lots of other places. I am studying Airport Operations Management, so I was particularly interested in the aviation-related trips. The RMIT Point Cook Campus is a Royal Australian Air Force base. The experience was very impressive.

We visited Avalon Airport where there is only one terminal - very different to Hong Kong International Airport! It is a very small airport near Geelong but had everything needed; moreover, it had a self-bag drop-off area and a computercontrolled immigration area. I got to see up-close, an aircraft takeoff from the ramp. It is rare to see something like this so I was very excited.

The most memorable experience was our free time in Melbourne CBD and using the free tram-zone transportation. I was really surprised at the number of tea shops in Australia and visited one called King Tea. The tea tasted just like tea from China and reminded me of home! The biggest highlight was the staff member serving me; he was from Guangdong and we were able to communicate in Cantonese.

The most challenging part of the exchange program was the language. We are taught English from a very young age, but I found communicating with Australians very difficult. The accent is very hard to understand and different to the English we hear in Hong Kong. I was often very confused when we ordered food at a restaurant.

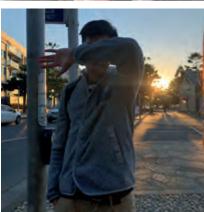
I had a great time on this exchange program, laughing and joking around with everyone. I made some great friends and wished that we could have travelled longer together as there are many more places we wanted to see. I took a lot of photos. The scenery in Australia is very beautiful, no special effects needed!"

### Tse Mei Yan

International student, Hong Kong













# **Study Tour Story**

International student Cheung Ka Ki loved her study tour experience in Geelong.

"I was very excited to see Australia for the first time. We visited Geelong with the ambassador from The Gordon, and saw Geelong's waterfront and had lunch at a nearby restaurant with two local students. It was a great experience.

Throughout the week, The Gordon arranged for some fun activities with local students. I really enjoyed the trip to the aviation college for pilot training & flight school, which provided great insights into airline culture and presentation.

I spent most of my time at The Gordon's City campus completing my lessons and assessments. I completed the customer service course with teacher Klaus and really enjoyed being in this kind of mix of cultures. I found it to be very helpful for cultural exploration and future career development.

Lecturers at The Gordon were very professional and helpful. I was impressed with their sincerity and inspirational feedback for my assignments.

During the exchange tour we stayed at a motel close to The Gordon. I stayed there with my high school best friend, Ivy. We really liked that it was within walking distance to The Gordon and that the station is located next-door to The Gordon. We were able to travel between Geelong and Melbourne (capital city) very easily. It was perfect!

When we arrived in Melbourne there were many delicious food spots right near the station, and all throughout the city. I was impressed with Melbourne's culturally diverse range of cafes and restaurants. We went to 'Pho Bo Ga Mekong Vietnam' and 'Tina's Noodle Kitchen', two very popular restaurants in Chinatown. The food was delicious and it was a great Melbourne experience!

Geelong is a religious country where the majority of people are Christian. Locals were extremely friendly, honest and helpful. This made me feel safe, relaxed and welcomed. If I had to use a sentence to describe Australia, it would be, "Australia is a safe, harmonious and friendly place to visit and enjoy life".

I really enjoyed my exchange study at The Gordon. I am very proud of the marks I achieved, and the friendships I made. This experience is one I will always remember!

I am very grateful to The Gordon for giving me this opportunity, and would like to thank the staff at The Gordon for making this exchange tour memorable and to our VTC teachers, Ray and Terry, for taking really good care of us. Thank you!"

### **Cheung Ka Ki**

International student, Hong Kong









