

Japan has been a treasure cove of exciting

Exchange Semester Experience

Politecnico di Milano University , Italy



It has been a little dream of mine to be able to come and live in Japan for a short period of time. I have been studying the Japanese language for a long time, and it was one of my hobbies completely unrelated to my degree that I enjoyed and wished to put into practice more. Not only that, but I also wanted to experience first-hand the Japanese way of life, to visit as many places in this beautiful country as possible, and to meet new friends in this corner of the world, far away from Europe and the safety net it provided me.

There is nothing more exciting and scarier than moving to another country, but the anxiety is soon replaced by wonder when you take your first steps out of the airport, take the train headed for the main station and then the bus that will bring you to YNU's doorstep. I had a great time participating in the JOY program's courses, who were interactive, fun and very interesting at their core. At the same time, the Japanese language courses were incredibly well structured and allowed me to improve my Japanese very fast. I also managed to enjoy the university's campus facilities such as the library and the cafeteria, two very popular places among students and understandably so. One incredibly interesting feature of YNU is the great number of student clubs that exist. The activities you can take part in are endless and the members are all very welcoming and nice. I gladly joined one club during my time here named ESS, or English Speaking Society, where I had a great time participating in the discussions, games and extracurricular activities such as BBQs, trips and parties. It was a great pleasure to interact with YNU's regular students, to help them improve their skills in English and gain more confidence. During my time at YNU I managed to meet many other foreign students like myself as well as Japanese students. Everyone has been very kind and supportive, not to mention ready for going on adventures like I was, so we ended up going on a lot of trips together around Kanagawa, Tokyo and even further, to Osaka and Kyoto. We've had a great time discovering and visiting these places together. Japan has been a treasure cove of exciting things and I have learned so many things, not only about the Japanese culture and way of life, but also about myself and the limitless enthusiasm I have for discovering new things, visiting new places and meeting people. These memories will stay with me forever and even before leaving this country, I am already looking forward to returning one day.