

To be the social innovator

Social Innovation Forum @Peking University

Over the past three days, the SIF trip proved to be an incredibly enriching experience, filled with valuable learning opportunities and meaningful stimulation. Below, I will present a day-by-day account of the journey, accompanied by photos.



Day1

On the first day, we met with our group members at Peking University in the morning. After a brief round of self-introductions and casual conversation, we joined a guided tour of the Peking University campus. Following lunch, we attended lectures by professors from both Peking University and NTU. In the evening, after completing all scheduled activities for the day, we went out for hotpot with students from Korea University and made a short visit to a local shopping mall before returning to the hotel.

Throughout the day, we had many opportunities to freely engage with fellow CAMPUS Asia program participants whom we met for the first time. We exchanged in-depth stories about our cultures, universities, and study abroad experiences, allowing us to better understand one another. In particular, during the break following the professors' lectures, we shared our impressions and reflections with each other, which helped deepen our understanding of the lecture content.



Day2

On the second day, we visited a museum and the Olympic Tower in the morning, where we gained a deeper understanding of Chinese history. In the afternoon, we attended lectures by professors from Waseda University and Korea University, and then worked on preparing for the group presentation scheduled for the third day.

During the preparation session, our group chose to address the issue of youth mental health, a challenge commonly faced by China, Japan, and South Korea. We began by examining the current initiatives being implemented in each country, and then explored potential solutions from a variety of perspectives to identify approaches that could be shared across the three nations.

Working together with other members to tackle a single issue—while listening to ideas that approached the problem from angles I had never considered before—was a completely new experience for me. It provided many valuable insights and opportunities for learning.



Day3

On the third day, we visited the Bell Tower and Drum Tower, where we were able to experience Chinese history firsthand. After lunch, we made our final preparations for the group presentation and then delivered our presentations. To conclude the program, we received feedback from the professors and attended a farewell party, marking the end of the SIF journey.

Creating a group presentation within such a limited timeframe was by no means easy. However, each

group member respected one another's individuality and fostered an open and inclusive environment where everyone felt comfortable sharing their ideas without fear of being dismissed. Thanks to this, we were able to work together effectively and complete the project as a united team.



Conclusion

This SIF program was my first opportunity to fully engage in classes, discussions, and mutual learning conducted entirely in English. At first, I felt extremely nervous and lacked confidence in my English, which made it difficult for me to speak up. However, thanks to the warm support and acceptance of the other participants, I gradually gained the courage to actively interact with students from other universities, despite my insecurities.

Most importantly, I came to realize that meaningful communication is possible even without perfect language skills. As long as there is mutual respect for each other's cultures and individuality, we can learn from one another and grow together. Through this experience, I feel that I have developed stronger intercultural understanding and communication skills to be the social innovator.

These three days were truly invaluable, bringing about a genuine transformation in my mindset and personal growth. Building on this experience, I hope to study abroad next semester and continue to grow so that I can one day return to SIF as a more confident and capable version of myself.

