

Taiwan Trip Report

I went to National Taiwan Normal University in Taiwan to participate workshop.

About workshop

The workshop was based on the goal that create an idea to solve issue on educational area by using STEAM education method. NTNU students and Kyushu university students who are the member of the international program participate it. In the first day and second day, we visited elementary school and high school where introduce the STEAM education in lessons. Then, in the third day, we discuss about the idea in group and in the fourth day, we did our presentation to propose our idea. In the final day, we enjoyed sightseeing with Taiwanese students.

STEAM educational school visits in Taiwan

The elementary school and girls' high school where we visit induce STEAM education and, they especially focus on art, which is "A" in STEAM.

I was surprised that these schools make an environment where students have chance to use the state-of-the-art facilities such as 3D printers and equipment for VR even both schools are public schools.

In addition, I was impressed that teachers spend long time to prepare for one class by making prototype and rearrange it to make the project profitable for students.



Electronic blackboard installed in a high school

Group work with Taiwanese students

In the project, we basically communicate in English. Although sometimes we couldn't convey what we were thinking exactly because English is not the first language for everyone, we rarely faced the problem about communication. When we

couldn't express own idea in English, we used translator or draw pictures instead of languages.

Some of the Taiwanese students who majoring education works in a school and incorporates STEAM education methods in his class, so we create our proposal by using his knowledge and experience as reference. It was great time to discuss students who come from school of education, because I had not had enough chance to talk with students majoring in a field other than design.

Food and sightseeing in Taiwan

In Taiwan, we could find inexpensive and delicious restaurants from the morning to the night. In the morning, many people seem to buy their breakfast at the wagons which is at the station or on the street before going to schools or works. Also, hotpot was very popular meal in Taiwan that I ate three times in a week. Hotpot in Taiwan has many ingredients such as vegetables, meat, sea food, and even Solidified pig's blood. The ginger and sesame oil hot pot were my best hotpot in Taiwan.

In addition, we visited to some sightseeing spot such as night market, Jiufen, famous for Spirited Away, Chung Cheng Memorial Hall, and Museum of Contemporary Art

Taipei. The art museum has many Taiwanese artworks and Asian art, like Fukuoka Asian Museum does, and it was so interesting place.



Jiufen, famous for "Spirited Away"



Hot pot with ginger and sesame oil

Due to this visit was the first visit for me to go overseas, I was a little bit anxious before the visit if I can communicate with Taiwanese. However, there were no big differences with the groupworks I have done in Japan, and it became a valuable experience for me.