



UC San Diego Chancellor's Scholars Program

International Study Scholarship

Sponsored by Dr. Barbara Parker and Dr. Geoffrey Wahl



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Major: Electrical
Computer Engineering
Cohort Year: 2022
Plans to study abroad
in South Korea

I have lived the majority of my life in America. There were a few occasions when I was young that my parents took me to China, however that was so distant that I have no recollection of it. I realized that I never really explored what's outside of the US, and I began to wonder if I will have time to embrace myself in other countries' culture once I graduate.

Recently, I came across the UCEAP program which allows students from all UC's to come together and study abroad. I know I was on track to graduate early, so I thought it would be perfect to explore other countries through this program. I thought this was my chance, not only can I still get credits so I won't completely halt my studies, but I get a chance to reconnect with friends from other UC's in an interesting country like Korea. As someone of Asian heritage in America, I wanted to understand more about other Asian groups and through studying abroad it will allow me to do so. I wanted to see how different media and the real country compares to broaden my perspective of the world. I believe that you never really understand something unless you have truly been a part of it. I want to take this chance to visit Korea to understand Korean culture while being among them. I have been in America's protective bubble so I believe after visiting Korea I will gain a new perspective to the country Korea and what America is like to other countries. I want to develop a stronger culture awareness by seeing the different lives that other people live. This way I can share my experience to my friends and family to allow them to gain a new perspective as well.

I have always wanted to experience studying in a different country. I have learned Chinese culture from my family, lived in American culture my whole life, so I wanted to explore what other cultures are like. I am very interested in Korean culture, it is not far-fetched to say they have dominated the entertainment industry with their K-pop and e-Sports. I want to experience their unique technology and cuisines that are less authentic in America. I want to experience being completely immersed in a different country, that way I can enhance my cultural perspectives and broaden my horizons. It is also known that the Korean education system is rigorous, so I want to challenge myself with that culture to see if I can handle it. This way I may be able to compare my academic performances and discover if that lifestyle is suitable for me. I want to take the chance to study abroad to improve myself not only culturally but also academically, but ultimately I want to have fun while I am still young.