

2026 | SPRING SEMESTER

Pre-arrival Handbook

for International Exchange Students



YOUR GUIDE TO NSYSU



National Sun Yat-sen University

VISA & INSURANCE

COURSES

HOUSING

ARRIVAL

GENERAL INFORMATION

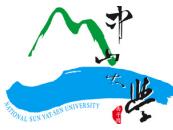


CONTENTS



1. Welcome Remarks & Calendar -----P1
2. Visa -----P2
3. Registration & Insurance in Taiwan -----P3
4. Tuition and Fees -----P4-5
5. Course Selection -----P6-7
6. Chinese Language Course -----P8
7. Buddy -----P9
8. Housing -----P10
9. Arrival -----P11-12
10. Transportation -----P13-14
11. Wifi, Sim Card, Bank Account -----P15
12. Student Activities -----P16
13. Daily Life Mandarin -----P17-18
14. Checklist Before & After Arrival -----P19





Congratulations on being accepted to National Sun Yat-sen University (NSYSU)!

This handbook provides important information for you to prepare for the coming journey at NSYSU and Taiwan.

We hope you find the handbook useful. If you have any questions after reading this handbook, feel free to contact us!



*Hazel HU
your exchange program coordinator
oia.exchange@mail.nsysu.edu.tw*

CALENDAR

**SPRING
SEMESTER
2026**

Semester Period

February 23 – June 12, 2026
Midterm: April 13-17, 2026
Final: June 8 - 12, 2026

Earliest Date for Dormitory Check-in: Feb 21, 2026
Orientation: Feb 23, 2026
Dormitory Check-out: June 22, 2026

**FALL
SEMESTER
2026**

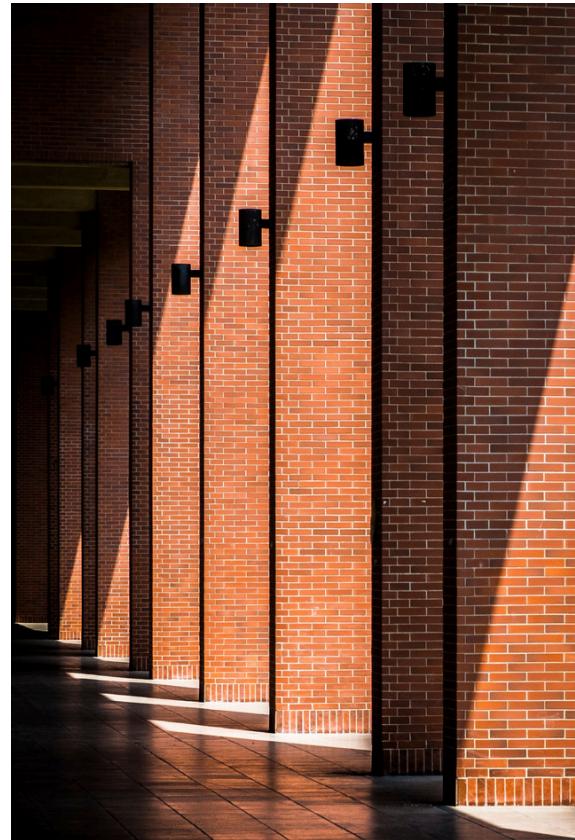
Semester Period

Early September , 2026
Midterm: Late October, 2026
Final: Late December, 2026

Earliest Date for Dormitory Check-in: Early September 2026
Orientation: Early September 2026
Dormitory Check-out: Early January 2027

Academic Calendar

<https://oaa.nsysu.edu.tw/p/412-1003-98.php?Lang=en>



VISA

Admitted exchange students should apply for a visa at the consulate in their region/country after obtaining the Acceptance Letter and the Approval Letter.

VISITOR VISA

Students who stay in Taiwan for **less than six months (one semester)** should apply for a [Visitor Visa](#). Students from Hong Kong and Macao should apply via [this page](#).

A multiple-entry visitor visa allows you to travel to other countries during your stay. As long as entry is made before the 'Enter Before' date, the duration of stay will be calculated from the day following the entry date.

A single-entry visitor visa only allows you to enter Taiwan once. The visa will expire once you depart from Taiwan.

With a Visitor Visa, each student may stay for 60/90 days and apply for a maximum of two extensions, each for 60/90 days.

The extensions should be made within **2 weeks** before the 60/90 days are due. Find more information on [this page](#).

Hong Kong and Macau students should apply for an entry permit through [this page](#).



RESIDENT VISA

Students who are staying in Taiwan for **more than six months (full academic year)** should apply for a [Resident Visa](#).

The Resident Visa must be changed to the Alien Resident Certificate (ARC) within **30 days** after arrival.

[ARC Online Application Website](#)

*Must Check our [ARC Application instructions](#) first

VISA-EXEMPT ENTRY

We request that all students apply for a visa to enter Taiwan in case of any unforeseen incidents.

You will find more information about the visa-exempt entry [here](#).

Useful Tips

Visit the website of the Taiwan representative office in your located region/country for the most updated visa information and requirements.

<https://www.boca.gov.tw/sp-fogf-countrylp-01-2.html>

REGISTRATION & INSURANCE IN TAIWAN

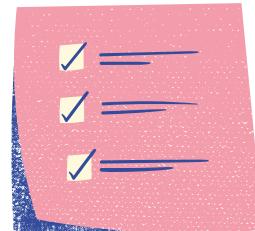
All international exchange students must complete registration on the first and second days of the semester to be officially enrolled. They will receive a student card after completing the registration.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Registration Requirement 1

You are required to purchase overseas travel insurance with **medical** and **accident** policies before coming to Taiwan.

The insurance plan [in the English version](#) must be submitted upon registration.



Registration Dates for Spring 2026: Feb. 23-25

STUDENT GROUP INSURANCE

All NSYSU students must purchase Student Group Insurance, which mainly covers accidents.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

According to the National Health Insurance (NHI) Act, any international student who is continuously staying in Taiwan for over six months is eligible to join the NHI.

Once you are qualified to join the NHI, please inform the OIA staff by email. If you have already joined the NHI program, please also inform OIA staff beforehand. The insurance fee will be included in the tuition and fees payment invoice every semester.

For more detailed information, please visit [the website](#) of the National Health Insurance Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare.

The fee is **NTD490** per semester, and it will be included in the tuition and fees payment invoice. You should pay the fees during the registration period.

Registration Requirement 2

Health Certificate

Students applied for one semester study should complete their [health certificate form C](#) before coming to Taiwan.

Students applied for one year study should complete the [health certificate form B](#) in their located country in order to apply for the residence visa.

TUITION & FEES

Fee-paying Students are required to pay tuition fees according to the length of study and the number of credits they take.

TUITION (AY2025-2026)

NTD

			文學院 College of Liberal Arts		理學院、醫學院(後醫學系除外) College of Science, College of Medicine (Except for the School of Medicine)		工學院 College of Engineering		
			9學分(含)以下 9 or fewer credits	10學分以上 10 or more credits	9學分(含)以下 9 or fewer credits	10學分以上 10 or more credits	9學分(含)以下 9 or fewer credits	10學分以上 10 or more credits	
學士班 Undergraduate	每一學分費 Credit Fee (per credit)	TWD	3,498	49,460 (USD 1,659)	3,530	57,420 (USD 1,926)	3,530	57,880 (USD 1,941)	
		USD	117		118		118		
	雜費 Miscellaneous Fees	TWD	14,480		22,120		22,580		
		USD	486		742		757		
	每一學分費 Credit Fee (per credit)	TWD	3,140	53,760 (USD 1,803)	3,140	57,300 (USD 1,922)	3,140	58,280 (USD 1,954)	
		USD	105		105		105		
	學雜費基數 Tuition and Fees	TWD	22,360		25,900		26,880		
		USD	750		869		901		
			管理學院、西灣學院 College of Management, Si Wan College		海科院 College of Marine Sciences		社科院 College of Social Sciences		
			9學分(含)以下 9 or fewer credits	10學分以上 10 or more credits	9學分(含)以下 9 or fewer credits	10學分以上 10 or more credits	9學分(含)以下 9 or fewer credits	10學分以上 10 or more credits	
學士班 Undergraduate	每一學分費 Credit Fee (per credit)	TWD	3,498	50,260 (USD 1,685)	3,530	57,420 (USD 1,926)	3,498	49,460 (USD 1,659)	
		USD	117		118		117		
	雜費 Miscellaneous Fees	TWD	15,280		22,120		14,480		
		USD	512		742		486		
	每一學分費 Credit Fee (per credit)	TWD	3,140	54,140 (USD 1,816)	3,140	57,300 (USD 1,922)	3,140	53,760 (USD 1,803)	
		USD	105		105		105		
	學雜費基數 Tuition and Fees	TWD	22,740		25,900		22,360		
		USD	763		869		750		



The total fees are calculated based on the number of credits assigned to each course together with the Miscellaneous Fees and other fees.

A credit fee bill will be issued after the course selection period.

Nominated exchange students are tuition-waived!



TUITION & FEES

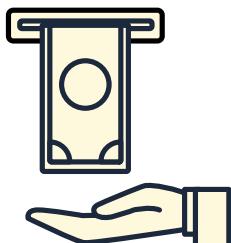
OTHER FEES

	NTD	Object
Administration Fee	3,000	Fee-paying Students
Internet Fee	300 / per semester	All Students
NSYSU Student Group Insurance	490 / per semester	
Dorm Fee	10,200~20,900 / per semester	Dorm Residents

- Above fees are subjects to change in accordance with the NSYSU latest announcement.

MAKE THE PAYMENT

All exchange students can make the payment by cash at any Post Office or Bank of Taiwan. If the fee is less than NT20,000, the payment can also be made at any convenience store in Taiwan.



It is important to check with your bank for your weekly/monthly overseas withdrawal limitation.

The fees must be paid in a lump sum during the registration period (first and second day of the semester).

Important! Pay close attention to this chapter!

COURSE SELECTION

LOG-IN

NSYSU Course Selection System: <https://selcrs.nsysu.edu.tw/smain.asp?eng=1>

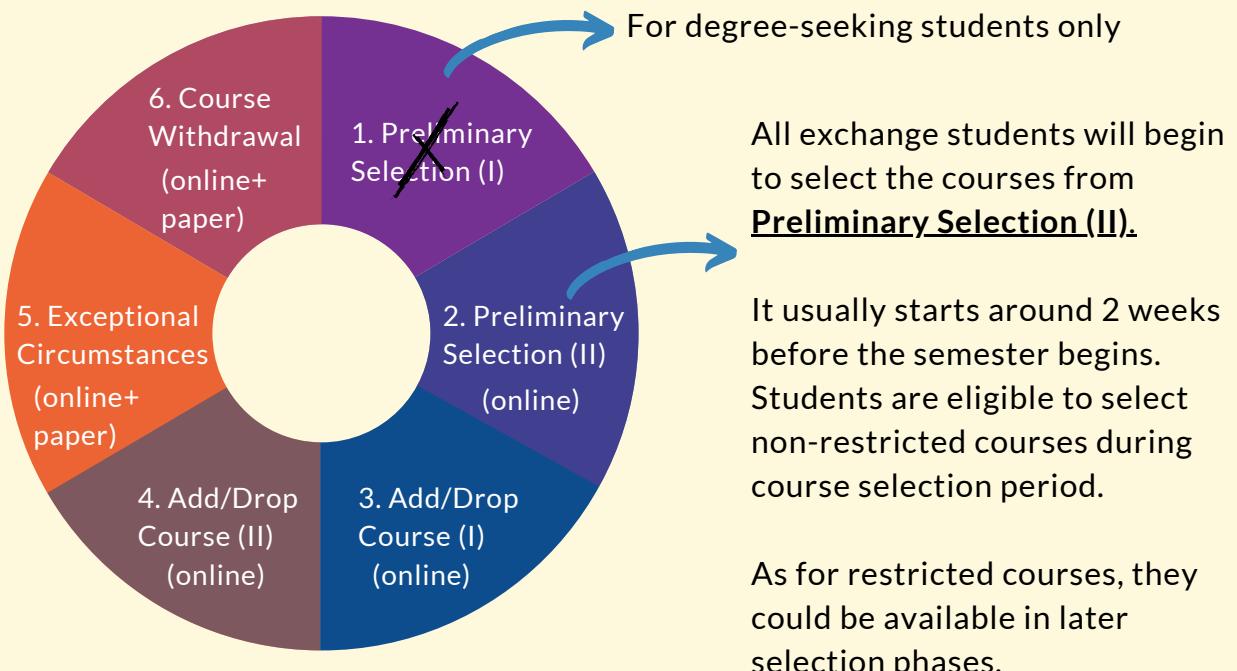
Username: Your student ID number

Password: Your initial password is the first two letters of your given name in capital + your birthday (mm/dd).

E.g. "Hana TING, born on July 1, the password will be HA0701."

Your student ID number and the course selection instructions will be sent around 1 month before the semester begins.

COURSE SELECTION PHASES



Most professors will provide a brief introduction to their course and may open additional slots for interested students during the first weeks. We strongly recommend attending the courses you are interested in during this period, regardless of whether you have already selected them.

Important! Pay close attention to this chapter!

COURSE SELECTION

COURSE SELECTION CODES EXPLANATION

In the course selection system, we use codes to represent the time. You may use the following chart to check the time of courses.

CODE	TIME	CODE	TIME
A	07:00 - 07:50	6	14:10 - 15:00
1	08:10 - 09:00	7	15:10 - 16:00
2	09:10 - 10:00	8	16:10 - 17:00
3	10:10 - 11:00	9	17:10 - 18:00
4	11:10 - 12:00	C	18:10 - 19:00
B	12:10 - 13:00	D	19:10 - 20:00
5	13:10 - 14:00	E	20:10 - 21:00



USEFUL TIPS

1. The course selection process does not run on a first come first serve basis.
2. We will organize a list of English-taught courses for the current semester and update it on the [OIA website](#) before the course selection starts.
3. **Students may select courses from different levels starting from Add/Drop Course (I).** Undergraduate students can choose master-level courses. A master's student can choose undergraduate and doctoral-level courses.
4. **Students may not select courses with an overlapped schedule.**
5. Sports courses are categorized as bachelor-level courses, and we recommend you take Yachting and Aquatic Recreation Activities courses. They are popular among all students.

CHINESE LANGUAGE COURSE

Exchange students can apply for the free Chinese Language Course when applying for the exchange program.

NSYSU provides free Chinese language courses to international exchange students.

The aim is to provide them with an opportunity to further enhance their Chinese language skills and ease the transition to their life and study in Taiwan.

The Chinese Language Center will assign students to an appropriate level of class per their Mandarin proficiency.

According to our senior students, the Chinese language course is not a course you would like to miss!

Chinese language course is a 3 credits course, 4 hours per week.

Attendance and effort are both important to pass the course!



BEGINNERS CLASS

Students who have applied for the Chinese language course with zero Mandarin bases will be assigned to the beginners class.

The beginners class is held on every Mon. & Thu. or Tues. & Fri., 12:10-14:00. Most exchange students will be assigned to Tuesday & Friday courses.

PLACEMENT TESTS

Students who have learned Mandarin before will need to take placement tests before the semester starts.

The Reading / Writing / Listening Tests will be shared via email, and students will have to complete the tests on time.

If you missed the deadline, the Chinese Language Center will **NOT** assign you to any class!

It is important to attend the Mandarin course in the first week, as you will have only one chance to ask for a level change.

After the first week of classes, the course will be officially registered on your course list.



BUDDY PROGRAM

The Buddy Program aims to help international students adapt to the campus and local life as soon as possible.

WHO ARE THE BUDDIES?

Each semester, we will open the opportunity for current NSYSU students to join the Buddy Program.

They come from different departments and colleges, and they are all volunteers to help with the international students' arrival.

Buddies are assigned to different groups, which are supported by experienced seniors.



Useful Tips

Taiwanese buddies are sometimes shy in social interaction. Give them some time and chances to hang out together. You will find your life in Taiwan easier and more fun with them around.

If you find your buddy not suitable for you, join our activities to meet more local students!



HOW DOES IT WORK?

When there are not enough buddies to assign one to each exchange student, we will open registration for the Buddy Program. Only those who successfully register will be assigned a buddy.

If you are successfully matched with a buddy, your email address will be given to them before the semester starts, and they will contact you with a virtual greeting.

If you registered for the Buddy Program but do not receive any contact two weeks before the semester begins, please inform your OIA coordinator.



HOUSING

Students can apply for on-campus dormitories when applying for the exchange program, but they are not guaranteed.



DORMITORY

On-campus housing affairs are managed by the Campus Housing Service Division (CHSD).

The room number will be shared with you by email around 1-1.5 months before the semester starts.

Further details --> [CHSD Website](#)

DORM FACILITIES

Each student will be provided with a bed, bookshelf, desk, closet, and chair. Bedding and mattresses are not provided.

Shared washing and drying machines, showers, and restrooms are located on each floor. Shared kitchens are also available in each dorm area.

FEES

	NTD	Type	Note
Wu-ling Village 1 & 4, Dorm C	10,200-12,400	Quad Room	
International Dorm	18,700-20,900	Twin Room	Shared Kitchen at 1F

- The above fees are subject to change in accordance with NSYSU's latest announcement.
- There will be charge if you cancel the dorm application within 2 weeks before the semester starts.

OFF-CAMPUS RESOURCE

Please scroll down to the bottom of [this page](#) for the off-campus housing resource. We will also share a nearby hotel option with you soon!



NOTICE

Our dorms are located on the hills with natural surroundings. It's common to see wild insects and animals around. Please be prepared to live with one of the NSYSU features - Taiwanese Macaque.



Lock your windows and doors at all times and do not carry food or plastic bags in your hands!

Smoking is prohibited in all school areas.

ARRIVAL

ORIENTATION

The Orientation and Campus Tour are usually held on Friday before class begins.

Topics including visa, insurance, general regulations, and course selection will be shared at the Orientation.

You will also receive the registration materials on that day. **It is mandatory for exchange students to attend the Orientation.**

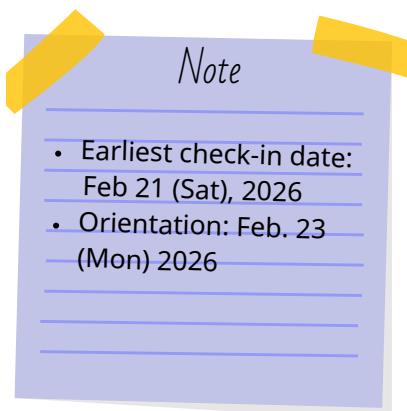


DORM CHECK-IN

The dorm will usually open for check-in 5 days before the semester starts. Please visit the designated dorm office to collect the keys.

Check-in hours: 8:00 - 20:00 everyday

Note that our dorms are located on the hills. Taking a taxi to the dorm office is the most efficient way.



If there is any problem with your dorm room, please take a picture of it and report it to the Campus Housing Service Division and the International Office!



Wu Ling Dorm Office, 1F of International Dorm
07-5256004 (24/7 on duty)

Coordinator from the Campus Housing Service Division
Ms. Eugenie Cheng - xycheng@mail.nsysu.edu.tw

Coordinator from the Office of International Affairs
Ms. Hazel HU - oia.exchange@mail.nsysu.edu.tw

WHERE TO BUY MATTRESS & DAILY NECESSITIES?



Click for Campus Map



Campus Convenience Stores

B1 of Wu-ling Village 2

Weekdays: 07:20AM - 11:00PM
Saturday: 08:00AM - 13:00PM
Sunday: 05:00PM - 10:00PM

1F of Dorm A, Tsui-heng Village

Weekdays: 07:30AM - 10:30PM
Sunday: 11:00AM - 10:30PM

If you would like to ask your buddy to accompany you to the marts in the city, pay the transportation fee for them to show your gratitude!

There is also another Carrefour right beside IKEA!

Click for Google Map



Carrefour

No. 356, Hedong Road, Sanmin District, Kaohsiung City (Love River Branch)
8:30AM- 11PM

Click for Google Map



IKÉA

No. 1201, Zhonghua 5th Road, Qianzhen District, Kaohsiung City
10AM- 10PM



Taxi and Uber are both common in Taiwan.

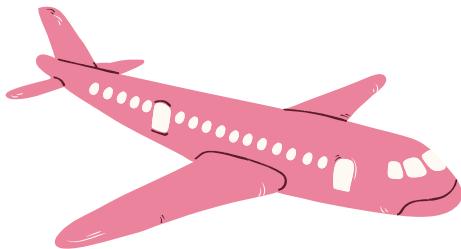


TRANSPORTATION

SUGGESTED ROUTES TO NSYSU

- 1) Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport (桃園國際機場) → Taiwan High-speed Rail (to 左營 Zuo Ying) → National Sun Yat-sen University (國立中山大學) by taxi
- 2) Kaohsiung International Airport (高雄小港機場) → National Sun Yat-sen University (國立中山大學) by taxi

For [more info](#):



TRANSPORTATION ON-CAMPUS

Campus Bus

Check the [Bus Schedule](#)



City Bus

Orange 1 & R52 go through our campus.

Download the app: [Kaohsiung iBus+](#) or [Bus+](#) for the bus schedule.

YouBike

Please refer to the [website](#) for rental and station info.

[More info for NSYSU Transportation Services](#)



OTHER TRANSPORTATION IN THE CITY

KHH Airport

Kaohsiung Travel [Website](#)

Kaohsiung Metro (KRTC)

[Website](#)

Taiwan High Speed Rail (THSR)
[Website](#)

Taiwan Railways
[Website](#)

TRANSPORTATION

DRIVER'S LICENSE

An international driving permit (IDP) is required to drive in Taiwan.

Students from countries that have reciprocal agreements with Taiwan can use their IDP for up to 30 days after arrival. After 30 days, it is required by law to have an International Driving Permit Visa or R.O.C. (Taiwan) Driver's License if they wish to continue driving in Taiwan.

If your country does not have a reciprocal arrangement with Taiwan for an international driving permit, you must sit a written test and take a driver's examination (only applicable for students with ARC). Find more information [here](#).

- You will need an IDP to rent a scooter or car in Taiwan. An IDP for a car **CAN'T** be used for scooters. You must have a scooter driving permit for General Heavy Motorcycles (50–250 cc) to ride a general heavy scooter (most common) in Taiwan.

VEHICLE RENTAL

Please search for a certified company to rent a scooter/car.

Both parties should sign a clear contract. The company should present its valid license, and you should be asked to show your international driving permit.

The rental company should purchase compulsory insurance for vehicles, and **we strongly suggest you buy extra insurance** such as **liability insurance for third parties** and **property damage insurance** in case big amounts of compensation are requested.

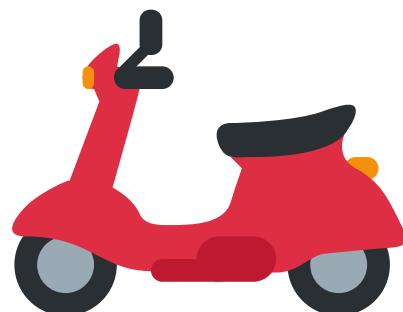
Find more information regarding [suggestions on driving in Taiwan](#).

PARKING ON-CAMPUS

You should apply for a parking permit to park your scooter on campus. The fee is 300NTD per year.

If you didn't park your vehicle in designated areas, it could be towed.

Visit the Vehicle Management Committee for applying for the parking permit.



NSYSU Vehicle Management Committee

1F of Administration Building

NSYSU Parking Permit, Scooter Retrieve, Paying fine, borrowing & returning NSYSU bike, ...etc.

WIRELESS NETWORK

The NSYSU campus is mostly covered by a wireless network named TANetRoaming.

Most of our dormitories are not covered by a wireless network, you can buy or bring a suitable cable or router for using the internet in the dorm.

Don't forget to bring an adapter for electrical appliances. The current in Taiwan is 110 volts.



OPEN A BANK ACCOUNT IN TAIWAN

We recommend you open a bank account at the Post Office if you carry a large amount of cash or if you will receive a scholarship.

Requirements:

1. Personal Seal (optional)
2. Passport
3. Taiwan ID No.
4. Student ID (for the Post Office on campus)
5. Self-Certification Form (Individual for the Post Office only)
6. 10-1,000NTD

*However, from 2025, the Post Office only accept TW-EU scholarship receiver to open an account, if you're a scholarship receiver, please also prepare your **certificate of scholarship**.



SIM CARD

We suggest you purchase a prepaid card from one of the mobile network carriers at the airport or the cellular company in the city.

There could be a student discount if you bring your student card.



POST OFFICE

2F of the Student Center

Opening Hours:
8:30 AM-05:00 PM
Weekdays Only
Appointment is needed

The Taiwan Uniform ID number can be applied at the [National Immigration Agency \(Division of Kaohsiung\)](#).

Requirements:

1. Application Form
2. Passport
3. One copy of the passport

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The OIA will organize student activities for international and local students each semester!

Seasonal Celebrations

A great chance for international and local students to spend time together.

By the Christmas season, there will be a Christmas gathering. Sometimes it will be combined with the farewell party as it is closed to the end of the semester.



Monkey Ecological Tour

The OIA organizes monkey tours for international students every semester.

The goal is to help students understand the ecology of Taiwanese macaques and learn how to respond appropriately when encountering them, as they are commonly seen on campus.



Cultural Trip & Company Visit

Visit cultural destinations and local businesses to explore different aspects of traditional and modern Taiwan.

and More...!

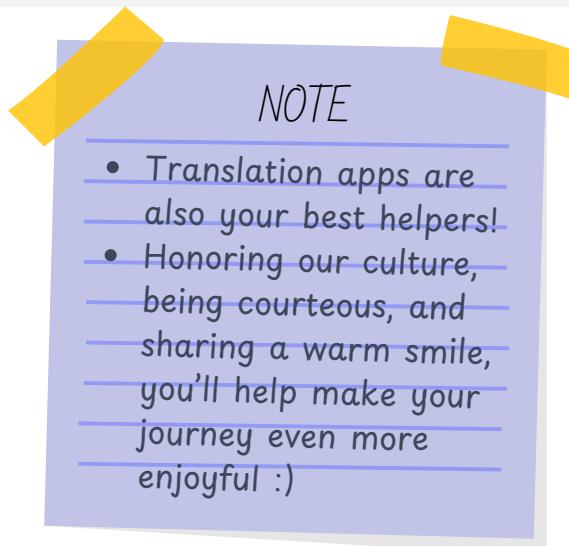


DAILY LIFE MANDARIN (MOST USEFUL 20 OF PHRASES)



漢語拼音 (Hàn Yǔ Pīn Yīn) 中文(Zhōng Wén)	英文翻譯 (Yīng Wén Fān Yì) English Equivalence
問候 / 招呼 (wèn hòu / zhāo hū)	Greetings / Regards
請/謝謝/你好/對不起/沒關係/再見 (qǐng/xiè xie/nǐ hǎo/duì bù qǐ/méi guān xi/zài jiàn)	Please/Thanks/Hello/Excuse me/ Never Mind/Good-Bye
不好意思/我不知道。 (bù hǎo yì sī / wǒ bù zhī dào)	To find it embarrassing to do, say something or addressing to someone politely / I don't know.
很高興認識你。 (hěn gāo xìng rèn shì nǐ)	(I am) pleased to meet you.
你的電話號碼是幾號？ (nǐ de diàn huà hào mǎ shì jǐ hào?)	What is your phone number?
購物 (gòu wù)	Shopping / Purchasing
我要買這個。 (wǒ yào mǎi zhè ge)	I would like to buy/have this.
多少錢？ (duō shǎo qián?)	How much (is it)?
我可以刷卡嗎？ (wǒ kě yǐ shuā kǎ ma?)	May I pay by credit card?
可以便宜一點嗎？ (kě yǐ pián yí yí diǎn ma?)	May I get a discount?
可以試試嗎？ (kěyǐ shì shì ma?)	Can I try it (on)?
請求 (qǐng qiú)	Making a Request
請等一下！ (qǐng děng yí xià!)	Wait a minute, please!

你能幫我一個忙嗎？ (nǐ néng bāng wǒ yí ge máng ma?)	Would you please do me a favor?
請你幫幫我！ (qǐng nǐ bāng bāng wǒ!)	I need some help, please!
我不舒服，請送我到醫院。 (wǒ bù shū fú, qǐng sòng wǒ dào yī yuàn.)	I don't feel well, please take me to the hospital.
快叫警察！/ 請幫我打110！ (kuài jiào jǐng chā, qǐng bāng wǒ dǎ yī yī líng!)	Get the police quickly! / Call 110 (emergency) for me please!
問路/買票 (wèn lù / mǎi piào)	Asking for directions / Purchasing Tickets
請問，_____在哪兒？ (qǐng wèn, ____ zài nǎ ēr?)	May I please ask, where is the _____?
請問，_____怎麼走？ (qǐng wèn, ____ zěn me zǒu?)	May I please ask, how to get to the _____?
我要買一張到_____的票。 (wǒ yào mǎi yì zhāng dào____ de piào.)	I would like to buy one ticket to ____.
我迷路了。 (wǒ mí lù le.)	I have lost my way.
詢問 (xún wèn)	Getting Information
我們去_____，好嗎？ (wǒ men qù____, hǎo ma?)	Let's go to the____, Ok?
什麼時候去？ (shén me shí hou qù?)	When should we go/leave for __?



Checklist Before & After Arrival

- Passport
- Travel Insurance & Health Certificates (in English)
- A valid International Driving Permit (optional)
- Adaptor for electrical appliances (optional)
- A cable or router for the dorm internet (optional)
- Taiwan dollars for transportation & daily expenses
upon arrival (USD, EUROS, Japanese Yen, and RMB
can be exchanged for NTD at the airport in Taiwan)
- A credit/debit card for withdrawing cash from abroad
Activate overseas usage for your credit card & mobile
phone

Safe flight & see you soon!

