

Seung Won Choi

Graduation Year: Junior

College: Business

Major(s): Accountancy

Minors(s): Korean

Scholar Group Membership: None

Did you received other funding for this project?: N/A

Could you have completed this project without CUSE funding? No

More details on CUSE funding assistance? This opportunity would not have been possible without any help from CUSE. I am extremely thankful for this opportunity!

Project Title: Winter Abroad Program at Yonsei

Project Location: Seoul, South Korea

ND Faculty Mentor: Yeonhee Soon

Project Type: Creative Endeavor, Korean Culture

Why did you undertake this project/experience? Deepen your knowledge of a topic or issue, Internationalize your Notre Dame experience

Did your funded experience help you:

[Deepen your understanding of your coursework or field of study]: Very Much

[Discern your interests and post-bac goals]: Very Much

[Become confident in your ability to set and achieve your goals]: Very Much

[Gain a more nuanced view of local, national, or global communities]: Very Much

[Improve your written and verbal communications skills]:Very Much

Tell us about your experience.

By attending Yonsei's program during winter break, I was able to learn about South Korea's culture as well as increase my fluency and build on my professional vocabulary. I was able to attend lectures, seminars, and workshops focusing on Korean art history. By interacting with the locals, I was able to become more fluent and equip myself with knowledge, expertise, and ethical values to become leaders in a changing global landscape as I gained a more international mindset. This program allowed me to develop myself into a multinational individual who is now able to foster collaboration and share my experiences in knowledge of cultural, social, historical, political, and economic issues within a global context.

Describe the impact this project had, both on you as a student-scholar and on the people you worked with.

This winter break I was able to received CUSE funding to go attend the Winter Abroad Program for three weeks at Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea. Yonsei University is a prestigious university in South Korea where I was able to foster my learning and growth. I had the opportunity to take an Asian Art History class where I was not only able to learn about Korean

Art History, but also art history in other Asian countries and how the relationships and influence shown through art. Before taking this class, I did not know much about Asian history, but I was able to learn so much as well as experience Korean art history by visiting art museums in Seoul. During these visits, I was able to connect the information I learned from class to the art pieces I was able to physically see. I was also able to learn about Korea's politics, society, and religion and its influence on art.

Describe how this experience is connected to your plans as a student or future professional.

I hope to use this experience for my future plans as a business professional. Through this opportunity I was able to learn more about my native language and culture. Before attending this program, I have not visited Korea for years and was not able to interact with the culture and history as intensely. Through this intensive program, I was able to integrate myself into a community and culture different from what I was used to. By the end of this program, I was able to gain a more global mindset as I interacted with peers who came from different parts of the world as well as local students and professors from South Korea.

What advice would you give other students who are planning to pursue similar projects?

I would recommend this opportunity for other students. Through this opportunity, I was able to go to South Korea and take a cultural class that is not offered at Notre Dame. Without this grant, I would never have had the opportunity to learn about Korea's art history and see the actual art pieces that I learned about in person. I would also recommend this specific program because the location of Yonsei University (in a "college town" of Korea) encourages other students to interact with the culture and people of Korea. By attending this program, I had the opportunity to experience life as a Korean university-attending student.

I acknowledge that this form has been filled out truthfully and to the best of my ability. I understand that this information will be shared with many different CUSE constituencies. As such, I have provided as much useful information as I was able. I understand that CUSE will not complete my award disbursement until this form is successfully completed. If I have any questions or concerns, I will contact CUSE before submitting this form. To illustrate that you understand all of these points, please enter your Notre Dame email in the box below.
schoi7@nd.edu
