

1. Welcome to Chung-Ang University

I am very pleased to welcome you to Chung-Ang University, one of the most prestigious universities in Korea. Chung-Ang University has proved itself to be a national leader in providing the highest quality of education and conducting diverse research activities. It has also set an innovative pace in internationalizing its campus.

Chung-Ang University is still under the fast transformation into a truly internationalized university to cope with the worldwide educational trends of globalization. We are developing and offering varied international programs to host students from many different nations with diverse cultures.

As an exchange student of Chung-Ang University, you can join the unique community of students from more than 20 nations. You can study various courses offered in English while learning Korean culture and language with not only Korean students but also international students of diverse backgrounds. We expect you to add to the quality and diversity of the university by your presence on our campus.

We encourage you to meet new people, experience new culture, expand your views, meet challenges and develop yourself academically as well as personally under our full assistance. As a special friend, one Chung-Ang University student will be matched to you as your buddy in order to help you settle down at Chung-Ang University and in the city of Seoul where it is located in. Not only the services that exchange students would expect but also various additional help and benefits will be provided.

I believe that you will be able to find dynamic Korea and experience the international community at Chung-Ang University which is the center of Korean arts and culture.

(총장님 서명) 사진

About Chung-Ang University

Chung-Ang University is a private, non-profit, coeducational and comprehensive institution, which enrolls approximately 26,000 students with a faculty of 850 members, there are about 200,000 proud CAU alumni spread around the world.

Founded in 1918, the university consists of 18 colleges established at two campuses in Seoul and nearby Anseong. It has a graduate school, two professional graduate schools, twelve specialized graduate school, two university hospitals, and four attached primary and secondary schools. Its Graduate School of International Studies admits international students from many nations, offering whole courses in English.

Respected as a national leader in providing the highest quality of education, Chung-Ang University has been setting an innovative pace in higher learning.

Now, it is under the fast transformation into a truly internationalized university to cope with the worldwide educational trends of globalization. It develops and offers diverse international programs to host students from many different nations and cultures.

Fully accredited by the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, CAU offers undergraduate and graduate programs in a comprehensive range of fields, which lead to bachelor`s, master`s, and doctoral degrees. The dynamic confluence of its components helped the university gain top recognition nationwide from the Ministry of Education and Human Resources for the past seven consecutive years. As a major private institution, Chung-Ang is fully committed to helping its domestic and international students envision their life goals and achieve their maximum potential.

CAU in Numbers

1. Our aim is to be one of the world`s 100 best universities by year 2018, when we will celebrate our 100th anniversary.
2. Selected for the past 7 years as the best university overall by the Ministry of Education and Human Resources in Korea.
3. Department of Film studies and Department of Theatre were ranked No. 1 on an evaluation by the Joongang Daily Newspaper in 2003
4. Chosen as the No. 1 university by students from a wish list in the Jinhaksa Surbey. Also ranked among the top as a most wanted university in a trial examination by Joongang Gyoyuk Jinheunghoei in October, 2003
5. Ranked No 5 for number of graduates who passed the KCPA and other national exams among universities in Korea.
6. Ranked No. 6 by the Joongang Daily Newspaper in 2003 for our Exchange Program
7. Ranked No. 1 in job placement of its graduates in 2005
8. Ranked among the best universities by the evaluation of Korean Concil for University Education in 2006
9. Figures

Number of	Graguate Schools	Colleges	Graduate Students	Undergraduate Students	Full Time Faculty	Staff
Seoul Campus	13	9	4,579	13,183	577	289
Anseong Campus	2	9	199	9,818	272	184

(As of May 2006)

Undergraduate Programs

SEOUL Campus		Anseong Campus	
College of Liberal Arts Korean Language & Literature English Language & Literature German Language & Literature French Language & Literature Japanese Language & Literature Psychology Philosophy History Library & Information Science Social Welfare Child Welfare Adolescent Science Sociology Folklore College of Natural Science Physics Chemistry Life Science Mathematics Statistics College of Engineering Civil & Environmental Engineering Architecture (5-year program) Architectural Engineering (4-year Program) Chemical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Electrical & Electronics Engineering Computer Science & Engineering	College of Education Education Early Childhood Education English Education Physical Education Home Economics Education College of Law Law College of Political Science & Economics Economics Political Science & Diplomacy Public Administration Mass Communication Advertising & Public Relations College of Business Administration Business Administration College of Pharmacy Pharmacy Manufacturing Pharmacy College of Medicine Medicine Nursing	College of Industrial Science Animal Science & Technology Horticultural Science Food Science & Technology Biotechnology Industrial Economics Urban & Regional Planning Information System College of Arts Creative Writing Theatre Film Studies Photography Korean Painting Western Painting Arts & Crafts Sculpture Industrial Design Dance College of Foreign Languages English German French Chinese Japanese Russian College of Social Science Business Administration Accounting International Trade Economics Public Administration International Relations	College of Human Ecology Family Welfare Housing Studies Food & Nutrition Clothing & Textiles College of Music Composition Voice Piano Orchestral Music College of Construction Engineering Architecture (5-year program) Architectural Engineering (4-year program) Urban Engineering Civil Engineering College of Sport Science Life & Leisure Sport Sport Industry College of Korean Music Instrumental Music Korean Vocal Music & Music Drama Composition & Musicology Percussion, Dance & Play

Graduate Programs (SEOUL)

Graduate School

Divisions	Departments
Liberal Arts and Social Science	●Korean Language and Literature ●English Language and Literature ●German Language and Literature ○French Language and Literature ●Japanese Language and Literature ○Chinese Language and Literature ○Russian Language and Literature ●Psychology ●Philosophy ●History ●Library and Information Science ●Creative Literature ●Education ●Early Childhood Education ●Law ●Political Science and Diplomacy ●Public Administration ●Economics ●Business Administration ●International Trade ●Accounting ●Industrial Economics ●Social Welfare ●Mass Communication ●Advertising & Public relations ●Statistics ●Urban and Regional Planning ○Information System ○Sociology
Natural Science	●Physics ●Chemistry ●Biology ●Mathematics ○Biotechnology ●Animal Science and Technology ●Food Science and Technology ●Horticultural Science ○Home Management ●Home Economics ●Food and Nutrition ●Clothing and Textiles ●Nursing
Engineering	●Civil Engineering ●Architecture ●Chemical Engineering ●Mechanical Engineering ●Electrical and Electronics Engineering ●Computer Science and Engineering ○Civil and Environmental Engineering ○Urban Engineering ○Architectural Engineering
Art and Physical Education	○Music ○Korean Music ○Western Painting ○Korean Painting ○Art and Crafts ○Photography ○Sculpture ○Architectural Art ○Industrial Design ●Theatre ○Dance ●Physical Education ◎Design
Medicine and Pharmacy	●Medicine ●Pharmacy
Interdisciplinary	●Science of Sciences ●English Linguistic Science ●Chinese Regional Study

● confers both M.A. and Ph.D. ○ confers only M.A. ◎ confers only Ph.D.

Graduate School of International Studies (<http://gsis.cau.ac.kr>)

Chung-Ang University's Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS) was founded in 1996 as part of a national project sponsored and funded by the government. Under an overall campaign to promote and accelerate Korean globalization, particularly its manpower and education system, the government formulated a project to provide an advanced training and education system with international expertise relating to business, international relations and economics. All lectures are conducted only in English. Degree programs include 1) MA (Global Business and Finance, Global Affairs and Trade, Korean Studies (Korean Business and Economics)) 2) Ph.D (lobal Business and Finance, Global Affairs and Trade)

Graduate School of Advanced Imaging Science, Multimedia & Film

(<http://www.gsaim.cau.ac.kr> /)

This special graduate school offer majors such as film and image, animation and digital photography majors in the Department of Film and Multimedia; computer graphics and virtual reality major in the Department of Image Engineering, and the digital image /Internet /game major. The School has plans to cultivate creative experts that can create new added value to the image (multimedia) industry, and to participate and contribute directly and indirectly by organizing an organic, objective-driven project team, encouraging research projects, and by inducing wide-ranging industrial-educational cooperation and active support for founding venture enterprises.

3. Student Exchange Program

Chung–Ang University administers a wide range of student exchange programs with its partner schools all around the world on one semester or an academic year basis. For most colleges and universities, credits earned at Chung–Ang University can be transferred back to the home university of each student.

Students who want to study a semester or a year can participate in following regular academic programs:

- a. Undergraduate courses offered in Korean in all subjects
- b. Undergraduate courses offered in English.
- c. Graduate courses offered in English at Graduate School of International Studies
(* Undergraduate exchange students are allowed to take courses of Graduate School of International Studies.)
- d. Korean Languages and Culture courses both in Korean and English.

* For more information on courses in English, please refer to chapter 5: Information on courses in English.

International Center assists international students with housing, orientation, general academic affairs, university facilities, health insurance, and personal concerns. A peer student adviser(buddy), who is a Chung–Ang University student, is assigned to each international exchange student to provide assistance in campus life. International center also offers cultural programs regularly for students who want to understand Korean culture and society better.

1) Admission Procedures

Documents to Be Submitted

1. Application Form for Exchange Students
2. Official Academic Transcript
3. Certificate of Enrollment
4. 2 Photographs (front, hatless): 3cmX4cm
5. Copy of Passport
6. Recommendation from the office in charge of international programs

Application Deadlines

Spring Semester (from March 2 to the 3rd week of June) : November 30
Fall Semester (from September 1 to the 3rd week of December): May 31

All inquiries and applications should be directed to:

International Center, Chung-Ang University
221 Heukseok-Dong, Dongjak-Gu, Seoul 156-756, KOREA
Tel: 82-2-820-6123, Fax: 82-2-813-8069
e-mail: interedu@cau.ac.kr

Admission, Visa, Travel and Airport Pick-up

1. Admission and Visa

Admission decision will be made within 4 weeks after the receipt of application. The admission letter with the Certificate of Admission will be sent to the relevant office of student's home university. Students should submit the Certificate of Admission and other required documents to the Korean Embassy for a student visa.

2. Airport Pick-Up

International Center will pick you up at the Incheon International Airport. Please send us airport pickup request through your international office. Students from the same university are expected to arrive at the same time by the same flight. Your student helper (buddy) will meet you at the airport and guide you to your housing and our office.

Information on Incheon International Airport: <http://www.airport.or.kr>

3. Housing

Exchange students are hosted at the dormitories/apartments of Seoul or Anseong campus based on the conditions laid out in the exchange agreement.

4. Orientation

For International exchange students, IC organizes an orientation session at the beginning of each semester. Information on registration, cultural activities, campus life and immigration related legal issues will be provided during the orientation.

2) Scholarships and Benefits

To promote student exchange programs, Chung-Ang University offers special

scholarships and benefits in addition to the general benefits based on the terms and conditions of the exchange agreement between Chung-Ang University and its partner institutions.

General benefits

1. Tuition fee waiver
2. Accommodation arrangement according to the agreement with partner university

Additional benefits

1. Internship opportunity of English language teaching (approximately 15 hours per week) for native speakers of English (Stipend of \$500 per month)
2. Free cultural activities and field trips to historic sites and tourist attractions
3. Free personal Korean language tutoring and advising by a Chung-Ang student buddy
4. Regular courses specially offered for international students in the area of Korean culture and language
5. Opportunities to experience Korean arts and culture through the university programs in the area of arts, culture, music and folklore that are top-rated in Korea

3) DUO-Korea Fellowship for European Exchange Students

Students from European partner universities can apply for DUO-Korea Fellowship. The fellowship was established in 2001 with the aim of promoting exchanges of people between Korea and European countries (the 15 EU member countries only: including Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the U.K.) on a balanced and permanent basis. In this respect, DUO-Korea requires that a PAIR (two persons) of students, teachers and professors be exchanged in the framework of a cooperative project. Please note that the pair should consist of people in the same category. For example, a pair cannot consist of a student and a teacher. Definitions of students, teachers and professors are as follows:

- Students: undergraduate and graduate students who are currently enrolled in universities
- Teachers: teachers in elementary, middle and high schools
- Professors: professors registered in colleges or universities

* All applicants shall maintain their positions at the time of application until the time

they are engaged in exchange projects.

Eligibility

Either your exchange project fulfills all three requirements below:

1. An educational institution in Korea and an educational institution in Europe have established an academic cooperative agreement; and
2. The Korean educational institution has selected a Korean national student, teacher or professor to send to the European institution, and such selection has been accepted by the European counterpart; and
3. The same European educational institution has selected a European national student, teacher or professor to send to the Korean institution, and such selection has been accepted by the same Korean counterpart.

DUO-Korea Fellowship Program provides fellowship grants for Koreans who wish to go to European countries and Europeans who wish to come to Korea for further study, research or joint lecture. A couple of such Korean and European students who are to pursue academic opportunities in Korea are eligible to apply for this fellowship.

Duration and Amount

For students: 1 unit of six months for an amount of 8,000 euros for both students in a pair. Maximum duration for application is 1 unit.

For teachers and professor: 1 unit of one month for the amount of 6,000 euros for both teachers and professors in a pair. Maximum duration for application is 1 unit.

For more information, go to <http://www.aseduo.org>.

4) Academic Information

Courses for exchange students

Exchange students can take maximum 20 credits per semester. Below are the guidelines for taking courses.

1. Those who have Korean language proficiency
 - Take courses of all subjects offered in Korean.

2. Those who have English language proficiency
 - Take undergraduate courses offered in English.
 - Take courses offered in English at the Graduate School of International Studies.
 - Take Korean culture and language courses offered in English and Korean.

3. Those who have interest in Korean language and culture without Korean language proficiency
 - Take Korean culture and language courses.
 - Take foreign language courses.

5) Expenses

Tuition is waived for international exchange students. Housing and meal costs can be charged unless the exchange agreement has a waiver provision.

Dormitory is available for all exchange students. Normally two students share one twin room, but male dormitory on Seoul campus has rooms only for 4 people. Bed, desk, closet, and internet access are provided for each student.

Estimated expenses are as follows:

Books and Supplies	\$ 280
Meals	\$ 3,000
Personal Expenses	\$ 1,100
Transportation	\$ 280
Housing	\$ 3,000 *
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Total	\$ 7,660

* For those receiving housing allowance should subtract this item from the total.

6) Buddy Program & Field Trips

Buddy Program

International Center organizes Buddy Program to help international students and promote interaction between them and Chung-Ang students. Each international student is matched to a Chung-Ang student on a one-to-one basis. Chung-Ang

students play roles of friends, Korean language and culture tutors and campus life advisers. The matched students meet regularly and spend 3–4 hours per week together. They develop and keep good relations and friendship in various events and activities. International Center organizes a few activities for them, but each buddy pair is free to organize their own activities.

Field Trips

For the purpose of maximum exposure to Korean traditional and modern culture, International Center organizes field trips to various historic sites and tourist attractions at least once a month.

Some examples of field trips and events:

Seoul City Tour

Visit to Korean Folk Village, National Museum of Korea and JSA

Participating in various university clubs

Experience of Korean Traditional Musical Performance

7) Korean Language Courses

Exchange students can take introductory Korean language and culture courses in English. If they have basic knowledge of Korean language, they can take intermediate courses offered in Korean. The following courses are offered:

Common Introductory courses in English on Seoul and Anseong campuses:

1. Korean Culture and Custom in English
2. Korean Language in English

Courses offered on Seoul Campus:

Intermediate courses in Korean

1. Korean Conversation
2. Korean Practice 1, 2
3. Korean Writing
4. Korean Reading

Courses offered on Anseong Campus:

1. Korean for Foreigners (Beginner's Course)

2. Korean for Foreigners (Intermediate Course)
3. Korean for Foreigners (Advanced Course)

4. General Information

1) On Korea and Seoul

1. HISTORY

Archeologists believe that people have been living on the Korean peninsula for about half million years. Stone chopping tools and hand axes have been found in archeological digs in central Korea. Pieces of old pottery decorated with comb patterns have been found at riverside and coastal sites around the country. Farming, including planting of rice in warmer southern regions, started around 3,500 years ago during the Bronze Age. Archeologists have found carbonized rice grains and farming tools at many archeological digs from this period.

Korean people trace their origin to the founding of the state of Chosun, which literally means "Land of the Morning Calm." In 2333 B.C., Tan-gun, a legendary figure, born between the son of Heaven and a bear-totem tribe woman, established Chosun.

Ancient Korea was characterized by clan communities that combined to form small town-states. They rose and fell, so that by the first century B.C., three kingdoms of Koguryo (37 B.C. – 668 A.D.), Baekje (18 B.C. – 660 A.D.), and Shilla (57 B.C. – 935 A.D.) emerged on the Korean Peninsula and on the area now known as Manchuria. Since Shilla unified the peninsula in 676 A.D., Korea has been ruled by a single government and has maintained its political independence, cultural identity, and ethnic identity, in spite of frequent foreign invasions. Both Koryo (918–1392 A.D.) and Chosun (1392–1910 A.D.) Dynasties consolidated their power and flourished culturally, while repelling intruders like Khitans, Mongols, Manchus, and Japanese. In the late nineteenth century Korea became the focus of intense imperialist competition among nations such as China, Russia, and Japan. In 1910 Japan annexed Korea and instituted colonial rule. National liberation occurred in 1945 but was soon followed by territorial division after the Korean War. The Republic of Korea in the south has a democratic government, while the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the north is ruled by a Communist regime.

2. SOCIETY

Religion

Religious freedom is guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Korea. Among more than three hundred registered religions, Buddhism and Confucianism have been the dominant faiths and have shaped the lives and attitudes of Koreans since the Three Kingdoms Period. Christianity has developed a vast following since its introduction in the late 18th century, and its influence has been grown throughout the society.

Education

Koreans put great concern on education, so illiteracy is almost non-existent. Children begin six years of elementary education when they turn six years old. After three years of study in the middle school and three years in the high school, students have the opportunity to advance to university for four years of higher education and should take a competitive national examination. Only 30% of high school graduates get admissions to universities. The fierce competition in university entrance is, thus, often referred to as "admission war." Today's parents are placing more attention on early education for their children, and preschools are growing rapidly to meet this need.

3. CLIMATE

Korea lies in the temperate zone and has four distinct seasons.

Spring is mostly sunny and clear, but winds bring 'yellow dust' from China. The dust is believed to be river sand, mixed with pollution particles. This phenomenon is observed to be more severe every year due to the effect of global warming and economic development of the neighboring regions of China. Some people suffer from allergies when the wind coming from China is strong, but overall spring is very beautiful with cherry blossoms. Azalea and magnolia bloom everywhere. This is a good season to take pictures of Korea.

Summer is relatively hot (over 25C/77F). During the monsoon rain period, which starts from the end of June and lasts until late July, the air in Korea is extremely humid. Floods periodically occur at the end of the summer and cause considerable economic damage; however, in urban areas, floods are of no serious danger.

Autumn comes with clear and dry weather, which makes the fall months the most pleasant time of year. Nature is very beautiful, with maple trees wearing vivid gold and vibrant red leaves.

Winter is very cold (-5~-10C/15~25F) and windy, with occasional rain and snow. An interesting feature of winter is that usually three or four days of cold weather are followed by four warmer days. The air is very dry, and proper additional skin care is often required.

4. BANKING

Bank

You will easily find Korean and foreign banks in Seoul. You can use most of international credit cards such as Visa, Master, or Diner's Club. We strongly suggest that you open a bank account at Woori Bank's CAU branch, which is located in the Student Union building. Opening an account is easy and free of charge. You only need to fill out a form and present your passport. You will then receive a debit card (NOT a credit card or international payment card) that you can use for withdrawing/depositing money at the ATM. You will also receive a deposit book in which you can record all your banking transactions. However, obtaining a credit card requires a complicated procedure for foreigners in Korea.

You can do all kinds of transactions at the bank such as money transfer, exchange, cash withdrawal, bill payment, etc. When you go to the bank, you should take a waiting ticket and you will be called by the number. Occasionally, you will have to be extremely patient, because you may have to wait for several hours, particularly at the beginning of the semester when students come to pay their tuitions. Lunchtime is also a busy time at the bank. Try to avoid these busy hours.

Banking hours

Monday through Friday, 09:30–16:30

ATM

ATMs are located in all subway stations, and you can withdraw money any time (this may differ if you are outside the city). In most cases, both cash and bank checks are available. When you want to withdraw cash from the ATM, you will be charged approximately ₩600 if you use the machine outside of the bank's normal office hours (9–5 PM), and approximately ₩1,200 if you use a machine of another bank.

5. MONEY

Denominations

The Korean currency is called 'Won.' Both coins and banknotes are available: ₩10, ₩50, ₩100, and ₩500 for coins, and ₩1,000, ₩5,000 and ₩10,000 for banknotes.

Currency Exchange

Foreign currency and traveler's checks can be exchanged into Korean currency at banks in the airport, foreign exchange banks, and other authorized money exchange places. The exchange rate is subject to market fluctuations. To find a daily updated currency converter, go to <http://www.xe.net/ucc>.

Cash is widely used, and debit cards (i.e. like the card you can get from Woori Bank) are

more useful in certain places like department stores, big shops, restaurants, and hotels.

There are no personal checks, but there are bank checks of ₩100,000, ₩500,000, and ₩1,000,000 that can be used as notes. When you use a bank check, you must show your ID card or passport and write down your personal information and contact number on the back of the check. Shops in smaller towns will often not accept these bank checks. You may also use dollars and yen in certain tourist areas such as Itaewon and Insadong.

Visa, American Express, Diner's Club and Master Card are accepted at major hotels, shops, and restaurants in large cities. Contact your credit card company for details of merchant acceptability and other services available. Be aware that your international credit card may not work with Korean ATMs, and therefore you are recommended to always carry some cash with you just in case.

6. TELEPHONE

Korea enjoys a well developed telephone system for both domestic and international calls. For major cities, telephone numbers consist of seven or eight digits. The country code of Korea is 82.

Public Phones

Public phone booths are located everywhere. Both coins (₩10, ₩50 and ₩100) and phone cards can be used. Phone cards of ₩2,000, ₩3,000, ₩5,000, ₩10,000 are sold in small shops, banks, post offices, etc. Credit card telephones are also available.

A local call rate is ₩70 per three minutes; a long-distance call costs considerably more. International calls can be made from any public phone by using a phone card. International and collect calls can also be made through the operator by dialing 00799. For English speaking operators and telephone directory assistance in Korea, dial 080-211-0114.

Cellular Phones ('Hand Phones')

Korea is the country of cellular phones. Several companies offer cellular phone service, and the number of cellular phone users exceeds the number of home phone users. 010, 011, 016, 017, 018, 019 are cellular phone numbers operated by different companies. Rates vary depending on the company and plan. Using a cellular phone is much more expensive than using a public phone. Officially, foreigners are not allowed to register for cellular phone services, but you may ask help from a Korean friend.

How to rent a cellular phone:

At the Incheon International Airport you can find several mobile phone rental shops on the first floor of the airport (Gate 6 and 10). To rent a phone you need a credit card, passport, and need to know how many months you will be using it. In order to use the phone, you should buy a prepaid phone card (₩10,000 minimum). The rental charges as well as the phone rates vary depending on the company.

At a local cellular phone store you can activate a mobile phone with your Alien Registration card, passport, and a credit card.

7. TRANSPORTATION

As a foreigner, you need an international driver's license to drive in Korea. It will be better for you to issue and bring your international driver's license from your country than getting one in Korea.

Seoul has well developed public transportation system. The intelligently planned combination of taxi, bus, and subway services makes it possible to get around Seoul without any problem. Keep in mind that traffic is very heavy and during rush hour and on special occasions (national holidays, summer vacation, etc.). Traffic is reported as the main problem people face in Seoul.

Subway

The subway is fast, clean and safe. Trains run from 6 A.M. to about midnight (time may vary slightly depending on the station), at three to seven minutes' intervals. Cars have heating and air conditioning. The subway system covers nearly the whole city, and more new lines are being constructed. In addition, the subway links Seoul with major satellite cities, and line no. 1 is connected to the Korean National Railroad (KNR). All lines have different assigned colors, and all the names of stations and most of the signboards are written in both Korean and English. Announcements are made in both languages as well. Escalators and facilities for disabled people are well developed. Large subway maps are posted at each station as well as in the train. Neighborhood map is posted near all exits. The Seoul subway is great!

More information on Seoul subway system is available at www.seoulsubway.co.kr.

Bus

Buses are numbered according to their routes. However, the system is quite complicated, since the same number but different color will bring you to a different place. All signs and announcements are in Korean, so buses are somewhat difficult to use at first. However, after you spend some time to adjust, buses may prove to be occasionally more

convenient than the subway. But be careful during rush hour! Even though buses use a special lane, heavy traffic can slow them down.

Fare can be paid with cash or a transportation card. When you use the card, the amount is automatically deducted from the card when it touches the card reader located next to the driver. Empty cards can be recharged at bus stop booths. If you wish to get off a bus, there are buttons on the bus wall or ceiling that you can press to indicate you are getting off.

Taxi

Taxis are plentiful and relatively cheap. They can be taken on the street, and you do not have to tip when using taxi.

Korean Life

► Climate

Korea is located in the temperate climate zone, and has four distinctive seasons. During summer, which is July and August, the average temperature is around 25 degrees Celsius, and the temperature can rise up to 38 degrees when it is hot. A rainy spell usually falls from late June through mid July, and during this period the humidity as well as temperature is so high that it can cause you some discomfort and affect your mood. In winter, which is from December through February, the average temperature is -5 degrees Celsius, and the lowest point can be around -15 degrees. It is cold and windy in winter in Korea. The best seasons are spring from March through May and fall from September through November. In spring and fall, it is sunny and best for living. As Korea has four seasons, students must be prepared for a hot summer as well as a cold winter. Students from Southeast Asian countries may have some difficulty in adjusting themselves to cold weather, but it also can be a good chance to enjoy various seasonal sports and scenery each season.

The Korean heating system is called "On-dol," where the floor is heated with hot water through pipes. In the past it used to be common for people to sleep on mats on the heated floor. Nowadays it is more common to have a bed on the heated floor. Air conditioning, cooling fans, or heating fans are also used, so there will not be much discomfort in terms of indoor temperatures.

► Food

Koreans tend to prefer spicy food as they usually use Gim-chi, hot red pepper paste, or garlic for side dishes or marinating other food. Gim-chi, hot red pepper paste, and garlic are widely known as healthy food, and people tend to like them once they get used to them.

Koreans eat Japonica type rice as their staple food, and they eat rice with soup. There are various kinds of food in Korea, and they are tasty and served in large portions. As we see from the fact that recently American people chose Gim-chi-ji-gae and Sun-du-bu as good winter food, Korean food getting more attention internationally. However, eating out in restaurants is rather expensive. You can also eat at vendors on the street, but there are not many of them.

Around college or university campuses it is relatively easy to get western food young people enjoy such as bread, hamburger, pizza, or fried chicken. However, students will

not have difficulty in cooking their own country's food as its ingredients can easily be purchased at a market.

► **Transportation**

You can use buses, subways, taxis, train, ships, or planes for public transportation in Korea. The fares depend on your destination.

o Inner-City Bus

- Inner-city buses are one of the cheapest methods of transportation in Korea. They are for cities and areas on the outskirts of cities.
- You can buy tickets for the buses at vendors near bus stops. You can also pay cash, or use a transportation card. The transportation card can also be used for subways.
- In Seoul, city buses are categorized into four colors according to the areas each covers.
- Get on the bus through the front entrance, and put the money or ticket in the box next to the driver or put the transportation card on the sensor. Push one of the switches in the bus for your stop, and get off through the back door.

o Regional Bus

- These buses connect two long/middle distance regions. There may be several long distance bus terminals in big cities, and you may use the nearest one. You can buy a ticket on the spot or make a reservation.

o Subway

- The subway system in Seoul is quite advanced, and runs on a regular schedule with low fares.
- You can buy a ticket at the window by telling the clerk your destination, or use a transportation card.
- The fare differs depending on your destination.
- Other than Seoul, Busan, Daegu, and Daejeon have subways.
- The hours are usually from 5:30 am through midnight.
- All directions are in Korean and English, and at every stop you can hear Korean and English directions.

o Taxi

- Taxis are expensive compared to city buses or the subway, but they are convenient late at night or when you don't know how to get to the destination exactly.
- In the city, you can just raise your hand for an available one, or wait at a taxi stop. Fares will be decided depending on the time and distance and indicated on the meter.
- It is the law to fasten your seat belt in the front seat.
- Tipping is not a general practice but you may if you want to.

o Train

- Trains run on a regular schedule, and are good for long distance trips.
- Other than Express Trains (KTX) which began service from 2004, there are Sae-ma-ul and Mu-gung-hwa trains. KTX is the fastest with high quality facilities and service, and stops at relatively big stations. Mu-gung-hwa is the slowest one and the most inexpensive, and stops at almost every station.
- You can buy tickets at the station, on the internet, or other places selling tickets. Reservations are available.

▶ Making Phone Calls

- o International Calls : Press the country recognition number (001`, 002...) + the country code+ the area code (without the first 0) + the phone number. Korean international call service companies are Korea Telecom (001), Dacom (002), Onse (008), and others. You can also make an international call with an international calling card. The prices vary, so ask your friends which one is good before you buy one.
- o Domestic Calls: There are two kinds of pay phones. One is for card use only and the other one is for coin use. There is no time limit on pay phones, and you can make international calls at some pay phones.

▶ Electric Appliances

Korean electric appliances use mainly 220 V and 60HZ. Therefore appliances such as vacuum cleaners or refrigerators must be adjusted to this. Electric outlets are for two connecting round prongs, so other countries' products may have to be adjusted to this. Video players and TVs are NTSC type, so PAL types in Europe or in Southeast Asia cannot be used.

▶ Drinking

Koreans enjoy having some drinks with family or friends. However, minors under 19 cannot purchase alcoholic beverages, and those who sell alcohol to minors will be

penalized. The rules on drunk driving are very strict. Koreans tend not to drink in the presence of elders. However, when one is offered drinks by his elder, he holds the glass with two hands while the elder is pouring the drink, and drinks after turning his head aside a little as a way of expressing respect for the elder.

▶ Shopping

Haggling over prices is not uncommon in Korea. At markets well known to foreigners such as Nam-dae-mun or Dong-dae-mun, customers usually ask for discounts. However, department stores or large scale discount stores sell products at fixed prices.

▶ Socializing

Koreans place importance on age and manners in social relationships. Greeting first and paying respect to elders is considered good manners. Having a good relationship with neighbors is also encouraged in Korea. Upon moving into a new neighborhood, people visit their neighbors and introduce them as a new neighbor. With this, they can have a friendly relationship with their neighbors. Koreans are nice to foreigners, so if you can communicate with your neighbors, you can get useful information and help from them. Korean students may seem a little unfriendly or indifferent at first. However if you approach them first, you will find them kind and willing to help you. There is an office for foreign students in every university. You can ask for help there.

▶ Manners in Korea

a. Etiquette of visiting a house : You should take off your shoes before you enter the house and you are recommended to wear socks even in the summer.

Small gifts such as flowers or fruit will be useful to show your gratitude.

b. Table manners :

Koreans have placed importance on table manners, and observed their traditional table manners strictly. they dress properly and have good posture when they eat. They do not lift a spoon or chopsticks until their elders do so. When eating food, they try not to show the food in their mouths, and try to chew the food quietly and slowly. Do not hold the spoon and chop sticks together, or lift the rice bowl from the table. Younger ones cannot leave the table until their elders do.

c. Appointment :

You should always try to be punctual but ask for the other person's consent if you are late or when you are to change the appointment.

d. Bowing : You do not have to bow to friends. However, you are expected to bow to a teacher or an elder to express humility.

e. Drinking & Smoking : You have to drink in a polite attitude before elder people, with your head a little turned aside. You should not smoke before elder people.

f. Public transportation : It is better for you not to take the "Seats for the Elderly" or to offer your seat to elder people, children, and pregnant women.

Chatting loudly in a bus or subway is prohibited.

g. You are required to stand in a line to use a bathroom. People usually make two lines when waiting for the subway.