

DTP program experience report

By Gonzalo Rojas García



After going to Japan for first time thanks to the DTP short term scholarship I decided to apply for the long-term program to achieve my dream of experience how is living in Japan.

I can say that this was a wonderful experience and exceeded my expectations, not only in university studies but

also in daily life and experience the whole Japanese culture, that is even more amazing than you can see reading articles on magazines or watching videos on YouTube.

When I arrived, one of the first experiences that I had it was taking on time the shinkansen after arriving at Tokyo station with 15 minutes of time for the change, but because the Japanese rail system works amazingly I didn't have any problem.

Also, including the previous topic, one of the things that I experienced was the continuous improvement and care that Japanese people have for



everything that they do. And this also makes me realize on which points the Chilean society needs to improve to make some things work well.

Another point related is the safety that you can experience and feel everywhere, that compared to my country is at least 10 time higher in japan.

In other topic, another experience that I consider completely good for me is to the possibility of being part of professor Tadakuma's laboratory where I learned a lot about robotics and development on engineering,

and it was my first time working for a laboratory designing a new robot prototype. Also, this research helped me to become better on the steps needed for writing an engineering paper at the moment of making a new research.



This time on Japan also allows me to know more places on Japan such as Osaka, Nagoya, Tottori, Hokuei, Kyoto, Fukushima, Akita and others that allows me to know the different faces of Japan and its culture. I can experience the traditional lifestyle in places like Kyoto where I participate of a traditional tea ceremony. In the other hand I enjoyed the

technology and big cities like Akihabara in Tokyo.

Other of the wonderful experiences was to be part of a kendo dojo and take classes for about 2 months where I learned more form Japanese culture and Japanese language talking with the sensei and classmates, and was my first time practicing a Japanese martial art.





Thanks to the university and its different activities I had the opportunity to meet a lot of new people, not only Japanese, but also another foreigner people that we can become friends on the YUICI (Yamagata University International Circle). Activities like Wednesday's board game night or Friday's

movie night where a very big opportunity to practice Japanese and English at the same time knowing friends and make a very good experience exchange and share different points of view about different topics. With my new friends I was able to know a lot more of Japan travelling to places near Yonezawa but having a lot of fun together, for example at Yamadera or simply going to a karaoke place.

Finally, but no less important is that on all these moments I was able to practice my Japanese skills that improve a lot since I arrived Japan. Also, thanks to Japanese class at university I was able to reach almost JLPT N3 learning the base of Japanese formal language Keigo that I was able to use on a one-week internship that I made on NEC embedded products, Ltd. where I practice a lot of my Japanese language skills and my engineering abilities in research.



In summary I can say that this experience was unique and if anyone can know and enjoy the Japanese culture, should do it because it worth completely.