Differences in University life

Zhang, Shi-Yu

As a student from Taiwan, I have experienced several cultural shocks at Hosei University.

Class Size and Teaching Style

Firstly, when I entered the classroom, I was surprised to see that it is normal for over 200 students to attend a single class. At my home university, a class with more than 120 students is already considered large.

Secondly, in Taiwan, classes also last 100 or 150 minutes, but we usually have a short break after 50 minutes. Therefore, it was hard for me to concentrate at first due to the continuous 100 minutes sessions at Hosei.

Thirdly, I was surprised by how professors check attendance. I thought they would just call students' names, but some professors ask students to write a "reaction paper" in which they share their thoughts about lesson. Some professors even give feedback on the reaction papers at the beginning of the next class. I think this is a good way for students to review what they learned and also helps professors check each student's understanding.



Campus Facilities



Another thing that impressed me is how modern the campus buildings are. I was surprised to see that some buildings even have escalators. There are also many spaces designed for online classes and studying, which is very convenient for students who have remote class. Also, the cafeteria is very convenient and affordable. There are many options, and the prices are much cheaper than eating out..