Similar Atmosphere, Different System

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There are some differences between Korean and Japanese universities.

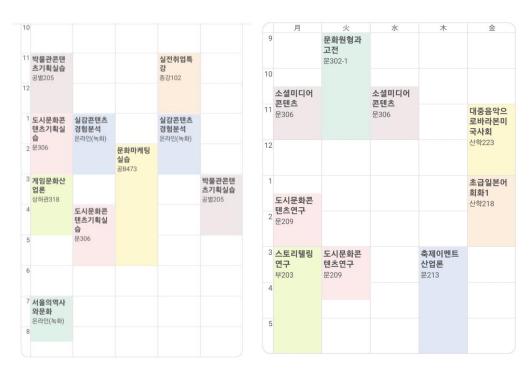
First of all, the course registration method is different. In Japan, if more students apply for a course than the quota, students who can take the course can be selected using a lottery system. But Korea applies for lectures on a first-come, first-served basis.

Second, Korea does not have a lunch break like Japan. If there are lectures from morning to afternoon, students often fill their stomach with simple snacks instead of lunch. So when most students make their own timetables, they organize classes away from lunch time.

Third, in Japanese universities, one class consists of 100 minutes, just one day a week, while in Korea, the frequency and time vary. One class may be held twice a week each for 90 minutes, or one class may be taken for three to four hours. As a result, the number of credits varies from class to class. And in Japanese universities, if as many as 15 classes can be taken per semester, Korea tends to take almost 7 classes.

In Japan, students start preparing for interviews as early as third grade, aiming to smoothly transition into society upon graduation. In Korea, the preparation typically begins in the fourth grade, with an increasing trend towards extending this preparation period even after graduation. Overall, it appears that the timeline for employment preparation is both later and more protracted compared to Japan.

Universities in Korea and Japan generally have a similar atmosphere, but there are systematic differences, so it was very interesting when I first came to Japan.



My last year timetables (The blocks of the same color on the timetable are same class!)



My Konkuk University in Seoul, Korea, has a big lake inside the campus!



Students can often see cats on campus (Most universities in Korea seem to have street cats loved by all students)