Partner Country of the Month: Taiwan

Our partner country this month is Taiwan. We have four partner universities there, and we would like to introduce them to you in this article. To give you some insight into the country, the city, and the universities, we have put together some information for you:

**General facts and figures:**

**Capital:** Taipei

**Population:** approx. 23.5 million

**Established:** 1 January 1912

**National Day:** 10 October (Wuchang Uprising 1911)

**Currency**¹: New Taiwan Dollar (TWD), €1 = 33.57 TWD²

**Time zone:** UTC+8 = CET+7 (no daylight saving time)

**Official language:** Mandarin³

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**A brief language overview:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Chinese (traditional)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hello</td>
<td>您好</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bye</td>
<td>再見</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank you</td>
<td>謝謝</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You’re welcome</td>
<td>別客氣</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>是</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>沒有</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

² [https://bankenverband.de/service/waehrungsrechner/](https://bankenverband.de/service/waehrungsrechner/) Accessed: 07.02.2021
Taipei is Taiwan’s largest city as well as its economic, political, and cultural centre. It is a modern cosmopolitan metropolis with a vibrant and diverse face. From the tallest building in the world (2004 – 2010) to the largest collection of Chinese art, Taipei invites you into a world of fascinating contrasts – a blend of the modern and the traditional. Incense-veiled temples from the dynasty period blend seamlessly with the neon street life of a much more modern era. Taipei is home to dozens of world-class restaurants, as well as many night markets where you can sample regional cuisine. The polarities of Taipei are also reflected in the combination of city and nature. Just minutes away from the hustle and bustle of the city are mineral-rich hot springs nestled in the foothills.⁴

Chinese Culture University (CCU)

The Chinese Culture University (CCU) was founded in 1962 to advance Chinese culture while keeping traditions in mind. With more than 24,000 students enrolled in 62 bachelor’s, 45 master’s and 11 doctoral programmes, CCU has become one of the most prestigious comprehensive universities in Taiwan. CCU maintains extensive cooperation and network with leading universities around the world. 10% of the students are international citizens from 40 different countries. With dozens of Mandarin language courses available on a semester basis on campus, cultural experience courses are also offered for international students. The aim is to give students a taste of the beauty of Chinese culture. CCU is ranked 1st among private universities and 16th in Taiwan. CCU’s website can be found [here](https://www.ccuh.edu.tw).
Chung Christian University was founded in 1955 by a group of Christian educators seeking to provide education for all. The university is located in the Chungli district in the city of Taoyuan in northern Taiwan, about 30 minutes by car from Taoyuan airport. For those commuting to the university from Taipei, it took about 45 minutes by train. The universities is divided into 29 departments with 38 graduate programmes and 13 doctoral programmes. CYCU offers both students and faculties high-quality facilities for research and development. In terms of research and development, CYCU is currently one of the leading universities in Taiwan. In comparison, there are currently 160 universities across the country in Taiwan, with CYCU ranking in the top 10% in the research and development sector among all universities. To achieve a meaningful and healthy study life at the university, CYCU provides excellent services to every student at the university. These include free Mandarin classes for all overseas students. As an exchange student, you have the opportunity to live in the new dormitories on campus, which were built in 2017. The campus is also very diverse and even has a McDonalds and Starbucks directly on campus. You can find the CYCU website here.
Fu Jen Catholic University

Fu Jen Catholic University has a history of 95 years. It was first founded in 1925 in Beijing, China. In 1961, however, it moved to Taipei, Taiwan. FJCU is located in such a way that it takes about 40 minutes by taxi from the airport. Taipei city centre is about 30 minutes by taxi and 1 hour by metro. The university offers 50 bachelor’s programmes, 49 master’s programmes, and 12 doctoral programmes spread over 12 different faculties. A total of 12,000 students are enrolled there, including about 1,300 international students. To make you feel right at home at FJCU, you can learn Mandarin for free and also benefit from the buddy programme. You can also become part of 150 student clubs and associations. If you want to know more, take a look at the FJCU website.
National Taiwan Normal University

The National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU) is steeped in both tradition and innovation and has long been considered one of Taiwan’s elite institutions of higher learning. NTNU was founded in 1922 and was formerly an institution dedicated to teacher training. The university later evolved into a comprehensive university offering students and scholars the opportunity to study and conduct research in a variety of fields. NTNU’s mission to nurture people who think critically and are prepared to meet the challenges of an ever-changing world has attracted thousands of talented students and scholars from Taiwan and abroad. With three campuses in Taipei and New Taipei, NTNU offers 63 academic subjects in nine fields of study. The internationally renowned Mandarin Training Center is also located at NTNU. Each year, around 1,800 students from over 70 countries take language courses offered by the Mandarin Training Center. Currently, about 14,000 students are studying at NTNU. NTNU has also produced three Nobel Prize winners. The website of NTNU can be found here.