

How will an international education help me make a difference in the world?

I had great interesting to know the world. By reading news about the world when I was in Tongji University of China, I knew more things and was attracted more by all things happened out of China. Luckily I was accepted by US University.

This is my second year in University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) as a Ph.D. student in information science. The international education here is totally different from China. All the following benefits of my international education makes me different in the world:

Firstly, I was fascinated by the distinct cultural perspectives and incredible new foods, customs, traditions and social atmospheres of the world when arrived the US. I learned some West Country customs before came the US, but these are only remembered in my brain but not understood in my mind, so this limited my career of working and study. Fortunately I attended International Fellowship Outreaches and multi-culture festivals in UALR and make friends with people from different country. All of these activities has developed my intercultural competency, knowledge of the international community and a sense of global citizenship amongst students and education professionals.

Secondly, the English language is the most important language in the world, but I only learned it in reading and writing but seldom in speaking and listening in China. Studying in the US grants me the opportunity to completely immerse myself in English, and there is no better way to learn than to dive right in. In addition to the considerable language practice just in day to day life, my university (UALR) offered language courses to provide us with a more formal education.

Third, in the academic area, it is required to learn English since the majority of papers and research was done in English in the world. So Study in US give me more opportunities to read the best research papers and involve in the global community.

Fourth, another benefit of studying in the US is the opportunity to meet friends from different backgrounds. While studying here, I attended school and live with students from US, Japan, Indian, Nepal, Vietnam, Saudi Arabian etc. This gives me the opportunity to make more friends from all over the world. I will also make an effort stay in contact with my international friends. In addition to rewarding personal relationships, these friends can also be important networking later down the road.

Finally, by studying in the US, I have enhanced my awareness of the world around me. And I learn to see the world through others' eyes and to understand the international dimensions of the problems. Being in a new place by myself can be overwhelming at times, and it tests my ability to adapt to diverse situations while being able to teach and influence people in my country as well as some developing countries, since many people there are lacking of education resources and opportunities to involve in global community.