

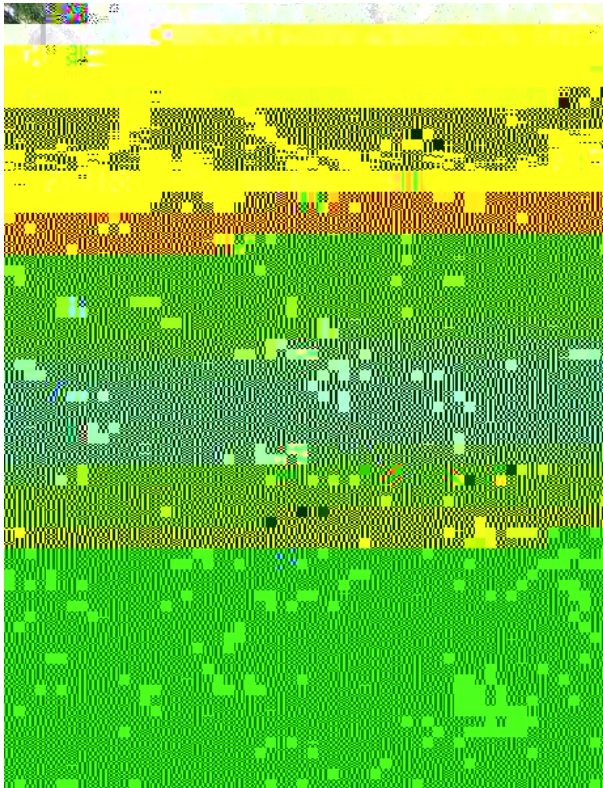


Simultaneously there were challenges in having to push through my social fears and interact with new people constantly, whether it was to ask for directions to the train station or to make friends out of my classmates. On the other hand, one of the biggest barriers I had anticipated facing was navigating these nearly homogenous spaces as a black woman. Yet, besides being asked once or twice for my picture in Taipei, the biggest inconvenience I experienced due to being of a different race was difficulty in figuring out how to manage my hair. But, being from northeast Ohio, I was already no stranger to humidity and its actions towards hair like mine.

Even though there may be any number of challenges in studying abroad, there are also bound to be successes for each obstacle you overcome. One of my biggest successes during my time abroad in both Taiwan and South Korea was pushing past my comfort zone to talk to different people in their language and experience different things.



The National Palace Museum in Taipei, Taiwan



Beitou Park Literary Trail in Taipei, Taiwan



Jin Shui Mountain Roads in Jinguashi, Taiwan



Outside of Jogyesa Temple in Insadong Seoul, South Korea

