**Tsinghua University: Exchange Semester in China**

After studying Chinese language and business for more than three years, I had the incredible opportunity, thanks to extensive support from Svenska Skolan in Beijing, to spend a semester at Tsinghua University, one of the world’s most prestigious institutions. Located in the heart of Beijing, Tsinghua is surrounded by iconic landmarks like the Great Wall, the Summer Palace, and the Forbidden City. But even more impressive is its huge campus, which offers a dynamic student life filled with events, activities, and even visits from famous entrepreneurs, including Tim Cook. When I wasn’t traveling around China, I spent most of my time on campus—and it truly was a great experience, largely thanks to the many local and exchange students I had the pleasure of meeting.

From an academic perspective, Tsinghua University is hard to beat. Its reputation is so strong that even in Chengdu, a city in southwestern China, a simple Tsinghua tote bag attracts attention. With that prestige also comes high academic expectations and the university certainly lives up to them. Among my many electives, there was one course that stood out from the rest: Financial Statement Analysis. Unlike traditional lecture-based classes, this course was built around real-world case studies featuring companies like Facebook, Alibaba, and Tencent. For the final exam, we worked in teams as in-house consultants for major Chinese firms, presenting our analyses as if they had hired us for the role. It was a challenging but deeply rewarding experience, and I intend to continue to leverage this knowledge in future coursework and career.

Beyond academics, one of my main motivations for studying in China was to improve my Chinese fluency. While I had built a strong foundation back in Scandinavia, it was the everyday conversations that made the biggest difference. Whether ordering food at the local canteen, chatting with classmates, or having longer discussions with my DiDi driver, immersing myself in Beijing’s daily life greatly enhanced my language skills.

I can nothing but recommend taking the opportunity to study in China and applying for the generous financial support from Svenska Skolan in Beijing. Being able to focus less on the financial aspects of my stay and more on the experience itself made my time abroad even more enjoyable.

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