



Jeongyi's Story

ICHM Student Success Story

Please introduce yourself.

Hello, I'm Jeongyi Kim, currently on the master's degree track at ICHM. This phase of my life marks a significant turning point. Originally, I graduated with a degree in journalism and broadcasting from Korea. After that, I explored various part-time roles, ranging from cafes to department store desks. Yet, deep down, I craved something different, something in the hotel industry. So, here I am at Adelaide ICHM today, driven by a blend of ambition and a genuine love for hospitality. Throughout my college years, I juggled an array of part-time roles to make ends meet. Following graduation, I spent some time in office jobs before landing at the front desk of a department store. Despite the detour, I remained confident in my ability to connect with people and deliver exceptional service, skills honed through diverse experiences. That's when the idea of diving into the world of hotels struck me. It seemed like a leap, given my background, but here I am – embracing the challenge of mastering hotel management at ICHM.

Why did you choose to study at ICHM?

When I was selecting a college, my main considerations were the curriculum and the overall cost. Given my limited knowledge and experience in the hotel industry, I was looking for a school that could effectively address both aspects. ICHM's master's program is total of two years, with 1 year and 6 months dedicated to academic coursework and a further 6 months for an internship. This internship period offers invaluable practical training opportunities. What's more, during this 6-month stint, students have the chance to explore locations beyond Adelaide, where the main campus is situated. They can even apply to work at hotels of their choosing. This flexibility was a key factor in my decision to choose ICHM.

Secondly, ICHM stands out in terms of financial support. The institution offers excellent scholarships for international students, with awards granted upon admission. Moreover, additional benefits are extended to students who maintain good grades each semester, which significantly eases the financial strain of studying abroad.

In addition to financial aid, opting for ICHM over universities in major Australian cities like Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane also offers cost-saving advantages. Adelaide boasts relatively affordable housing prices compared to its metropolitan counterparts. This affordability was a crucial consideration for me, as it allowed me to manage my expenses more effectively while pursuing my studies in Australia. Hence, choosing the Adelaide campus over the Sydney campus was a logical decision for me.

Student Profile

STUDENT NAME

Jeongyi Kim

NATIONALITY

South Korean

COURSE

Master of International
Hotel Management Year 2

"To anyone contemplating studying abroad in Australia or considering admission to ICHM, I urge you not to hesitate but to seize the opportunity. Embrace the journey with an open heart and mind, for it is through such experiences that we uncover the pathways to our dreams and aspirations."

How was the location and facilities of the school?

The ICHM campus boasts a prime location, situated just a 10–15-minute from the heart of Adelaide city, making it incredibly convenient for both students and commuters alike. Personally, I reside in student accommodation nestled within the city center, rendering walking an efficient mode of transportation for me. However, for those relying on public transport, numerous bus stops dot the area surrounding the campus, ensuring seamless connectivity to and from campus without any hassle. Surrounded by an array of cafes and restaurants, the campus area offers ample opportunities to unwind and recharge during breaks or leisure time between classes. Despite its departure from the traditional university landscape characterized by towering structures and expansive libraries, ICHM is far from inconvenient for both academic pursuits and campus living. Featuring spacious classrooms bustling with students and a well-appointed leisure space on the second floor, the campus provides an ideal setting for collaborative learning and social interactions. Throughout the semester, engaging in group assignments and lively discussions with friends further enriches the academic experience. Moreover, the campus's strategic location provides easy access to Adelaide City and Chinatown, presenting myriad opportunities for part-time employment. Personally, I explored job opportunities around campus, and navigating to work immediately after school posed no logistical challenges thanks to the campus's convenient proximity.

ICHM's campus offers a harmonious blend of accessibility, functionality, and connectivity, fostering an environment conducive to both academic excellence and personal growth.



Can you share the timetable?

During the first semester, I juggled four subjects over a three-month period, attending classes from Monday to Friday. With practical training sessions also interspersed throughout, my days were fully immersed in academic pursuits from morning till afternoon.

The second semester unfolded differently. Following the completion of two subjects, we enjoyed a brief week-long respite before delving into two fresh subjects. This streamlined approach made managing assignments and attending classes notably more manageable compared to the first semester. Classes only convened from Monday to Wednesday, affording ample time and flexibility to tackle assignments, indulge in personal leisure activities, or even pursue part-time work on the remaining days of the week.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9:00-10:30					
10:45-12:15					
13:00-14:30	MIHM201 Workforce Design and Strategy	MIHM201 Workforce Design and Strategy	MIHM201 Workforce Design and Strategy		
14:45-16:15	MIHM203 International Hotel Revenue Management	MIHM203 International Hotel Revenue Management	MIHM203 International Hotel Revenue Management		

Please provide information about the structure of the master's program for one year and the subjects studied as well as the evaluation methods.

The master's program at ICHM entails the completion of four subjects per semester, totaling five subjects before the internship phase. The curriculum integrates practical experiences alongside theoretical learning to foster holistic skill development.

For instance, MIHM101 incorporates field practice sessions, such as those held at the banquet hall of the Adelaide Convention Centre, providing hands-on exposure to the food and beverage sector. Similarly, MIHM102 offers practical training in hotel housekeeping, enabling firsthand observation and participation in essential tasks within the hospitality industry.

MIHM103 introduces testing formats distinct from traditional essay submissions, culminating in a comprehensive exam that evaluates students' understanding of accounting principles. The professor's proactive guidance and advance clarification of exam content facilitate thorough preparation.

In subsequent semesters, MIHM201 and MIHM203 primarily involve theory classes and personal report assignments, complemented by meticulous instruction from professors to ensure task comprehension and execution.

MIHM202 emphasizes collaborative learning through group assignments, fostering teamwork and knowledge exchange among peers. Likewise, MIHM204A delves into hotel design, offering immersive exploration of visual elements and culminating in personalized PowerPoint presentations.

In addition to written assignments, students are tasked with preparing group PowerPoint presentations, facilitating deeper insights into industry trends and cultural nuances. Professors actively support students throughout the assignment process, encouraging dialogue and offering guidance to navigate challenges effectively.

In summary, the master's program at ICHM offers a multifaceted learning experience that combines theoretical rigor with practical application, equipping students with invaluable skills and insights vital for success in the dynamic hospitality sector.

Have you had any experience working part-time during your studies?

In both the first and second semesters, I held positions at two different Korean restaurants, sourcing job opportunities through the "Adelaide Focus" website. This platform not only listed job openings but also offered insights into housing and other essential aspects of life in Adelaide.

Initially, I aimed to secure employment close to my accommodation and college, allowing me to work after classes and on weekends. However, finding a job meeting these criteria proved challenging. Eventually, I opted for Korean restaurants where 80-90% of the clientele comprised foreigners.

At the first restaurant, I worked part-time, earning an hourly wage ranging from \$21 to \$22. In contrast, the second restaurant offered casual work, yielding approximately \$28 per hour. Each employment type presented its own set of advantages and disadvantages, including varying hours, schedule flexibility, and long-term prospects. Negotiating terms with the employer upfront proved crucial in securing a mutually beneficial arrangement.

Balancing work and studies was undeniably demanding. With four subjects each semester, each with three assignments, the workload amounted to 12 assignments per term. Nonetheless, working in Australia provided invaluable insights into the country's culture, language, and culinary habits—all essential aspects for someone studying hotel management.

Understanding Australians' dining preferences contributes to a comprehensive grasp of the food and beverage industry. Moreover, interacting with locals and collaborating with fellow foreigners facilitates quicker adaptation to life in Australia, particularly in Adelaide. Thus, I wholeheartedly recommend striking a balance between work and studies for anyone aspiring to live and study in Australia.

How's life in Adelaide?

As for life in Adelaide, I currently reside in student accommodation situated in the city center, a mere 10–15-minute walk from college. Sharing a room with another person, I pay approximately 320 AUD per week in rent, with additional living expenses ranging from 100 to 150 AUD per week, covering food, phone bills, and leisure activities.

While not the most economical choice, city-center living offers unparalleled accessibility, convenience, and safety. However, opting for suburban accommodation could significantly reduce housing costs, albeit with potential transportation expenses. Throughout my stay, I've found Adelaide to be safe and sufficiently equipped with amenities for a comfortable lifestyle.



Why would you recommend the ICHM master's program over a typical comprehensive university master's program?

At ICHM, a distinctive feature setting it apart from other institutions is the tradition of students wearing uniforms. Although the master's program doesn't mandate specific attire, the expectation for students to don professional attire, such as suits, during classes fosters a sense of pride in studying hospitality and aspiring to become adept hoteliers.

Moreover, the curriculum's emphasis on hands-on courses and the provision of direct entry into the hotel industry for practical experience distinguish the ICHM master's program. This practical exposure equips students with invaluable skills and insights, preparing them effectively for real-world scenarios.

Another defining aspect is the camaraderie among master's students, many of whom share backgrounds in hospitality or hotel experience from their respective countries. Collaborating with peers who possess diverse insights and experiences enriches one's understanding of the industry, fostering a dynamic learning environment.

Reflecting on my journey, the bonds forged with classmates and the immersive learning experiences have affirmed my conviction in choosing ICHM. If posed with the question of selecting a school again, my answer would unequivocally remain unchanged: ICHM.

If you were to advise students who aspire to become hoteliers or are considering studying abroad for a master's program in related fields, what would your advice be?

After completing my bachelor's degree in different major in Korea, I gained diverse experiences through various part-time jobs. However, venturing into the realm of hotel management for my master's degree stirred apprehensions within me due to my lack of prior expertise in the field.

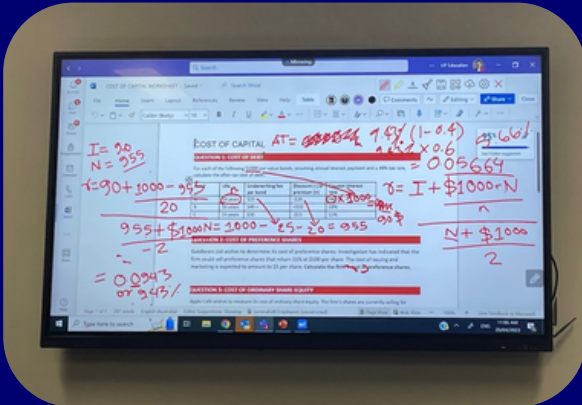
The prospect of navigating coursework without prior experience triggered uncertainties about my ability to keep pace. Yet, amidst these doubts, the vibrant atmosphere of Adelaide and the unwavering support of exceptional professors and compassionate friends provided me with reassurance and guidance, leading me to a place of contentment and fulfillment.

For those harboring aspirations of entering the hospitality industry, embarking on the ICHM master's program offers an invaluable opportunity to equip oneself with essential knowledge and skills. While immersing oneself in a foreign environment where one's native language may not be spoken presents its share of challenges, the presence of a supportive community can smooth the transition, allowing for personal growth amidst the breathtaking backdrop of Australia's natural wonders.

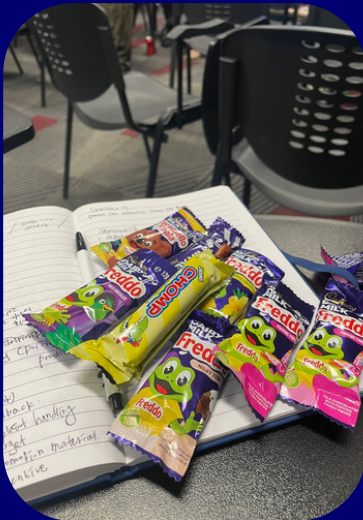
Life's pivotal moments are defined by the choices we make. Thus, to anyone contemplating studying abroad in Australia or considering admission to ICHM, I urge you not to hesitate but to seize the opportunity. Embrace the journey with an open heart and mind, for it is through such experiences that we uncover the pathways to our dreams and aspirations.



Before the practical training for MIHM101 (International Hotel Food and Beverage), I received a brief education from the instructor on how the practical training would be conducted in the convention hall.



This is a photo taken during the MIHM103 (Hospitality Management Accounting) class. Our professor consistently uploads the necessary class materials before the start of each session. We spend our class time previewing and reviewing by working through the materials together, allowing us to engage in both pre-class preparation and revision during the session.



During the class, there were small group assignments that we had to perform together, and my group received chocolate (as a reward) for our outstanding group activities. These little events not only add fun to school life but also serve as motivation for academic tasks that can sometimes feel challenging and tedious.



This is a photo taken wearing an ICHM name tag and holding the bag provided by the school. The location is the dormitory where I am staying. The photo was taken not long after starting my studies at ICHM. Sometimes, I miss the mixture of fear and excitement that filled me back then.



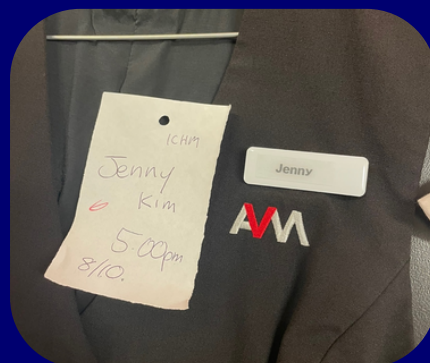
This is the award I received for being selected as an outstanding student for the first semester by the school.



These are the photos from MIHM101(International Hotel Food and Beverage) class. It was an enjoyable and informative class where I could learn more specifically about the food and beverage aspect of the hotel industry while making cocktails and tasting wine myself.



During the MIHM204A (Art and Design in Hospitality Environments) class, there was a field trip to visit the Adelaide Museum and Library. Here is a photo taken with friends who attended the class together.



MIHM101 (International Hotel Food and Beverage) practicum - Here are photos of the exterior of the convention hall and the interior of the banquet hall taken during the practicum.

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JEONGYI IS SHAPING HER FUTURE.

To shape yours, enrol with ICHM.

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