Introduction to the University System of Taiwan with its four campuses

The University System of Taiwan (UST) is a consortium of four top research universities in Taiwan, namely National Central University, National Chiao Tung University, National Tsing Hua University and National Yang-Ming University. These four universities complement with each other in academic disciplines and research strengths. Furthermore, they are structurally compatible in size, while enjoying regional proximity (please see the following table for detail): recognized academic excellence in research. The Ministry of Education has formally authorized the establishment of the University System of Taiwan on January 24, 2008, as the first and the only integrated university system in Taiwan.

These four universities have decided to integrate their pedagogical functions and research resources in order to more fully and extensively cooperate in seeking further breakthroughs in overall teaching quality and research excellence.
The main goal of the UST is to share the resource, to enhance teaching quality, and to integrate research strengths among its member universities. UST has organized several inter-university research centers to pursue academic excellence, i.e. Brain Research Center, Inter-Asia Cultural Research Center, Center for Nano Science and Technology, Center for Advanced Information Systems and Electronic Research and Center for Environmental and Energy Research. Best teachers from four universities have jointly established four inter-university graduate programs, namely International Program in Inter-Asia Cultural Studies, Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program, International Graduate Program for Photonics, Environmental Science and Technology Program.

Another example of integration of its member universities is that a total of 16 Nobel Laureates supported by UST Sayling Wen Lectureship of Academic Excellence were invited to deliver 40 special lectures in four universities. Within the system, students can share their libraries and laboratories, take credit courses offered by other universities and transfer to another department at different campus. Students from the four universities participate in various extra-curriculum activities, such as sports, concerts and volunteerism. For the students, joining the UST is indeed a choice with many opportunities.

Introduction to the University System of Taiwan with its four campuses

Details of four member universities of the University System of Taiwan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>National Central University</th>
<th>National Chiao Tung University</th>
<th>National Tsing Hua University</th>
<th>National Yang-Ming University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students(2012)</td>
<td>12,372</td>
<td>13,725</td>
<td>12,492</td>
<td>4,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty(2012)</td>
<td>598</td>
<td>696</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty</td>
<td>Earth Science, Space Science and Optoelectronics</td>
<td>Information Technology and Engineering</td>
<td>Science, Engineering and Social Sciences</td>
<td>Biomedical Sciences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction to the University System of Taiwan with Its Four Campuses

List of the Nobel Laureates who visited the UST (2007-2012)

Chemistry
- Harold W. Kroto (1996)
- Paul Berg (1980)
- Alan J. Heeger (2000)
- Robert H. Grubbs (2005)
- Rudolph A. Marcus (1992)
- Ada Yonath (2009)
- Aaron Ciechanover (2004)

Economic
- James A. Mirrlees (1996)

Physics
- Douglas Osheroff (1996)
- Theodor W. Hansch (2005)

Physiology or Medicine
- Jules A. Hoffmann (2011)
- Harald zur Hausen (2008)
- James D. Watson (1962)
- Francoise Barre-Sinoussi (2008)
International Program in Inter-Asia Cultural Studies, University System of Taiwan

Program Description

International Program in Inter-Asia Cultural Studies seeks to advance new forms of interdisciplinary knowledge that connect academic learning to inter-Asia as well as global problems and contexts, highlights four curricula clusters: Critical Theory and Asian Modernity, Contemporary Thought-trends and Social Movements, Gender/Sexuality Studies, Visual Culture Studies. With a pool of 60 outstanding teachers in the humanities and social sciences, IACS offers an ideal environment for students who are interested in the socio-historical-political-cultural studies of Asia in the global context.

IACS not only as a cultural and economic reality but most importantly as a historical-philosophical construct laden with multiple and conflicting forces. Students are required to choose one specialized area of interest but may take courses from the four course clusters organized by the Program; and cross-campus transportation is provided by the UST to facilitate going to courses located on different campuses.

In addition to course work, the International Program in Inter-Asia Cultural Studies offers a diverse community of scholars with passionate commitments to intellectual inquiry in the regular classroom, in scheduled special seminars, and in dozens of workshops and conferences held each year throughout the UST. International exchange agreements have already been signed by the Program with 18 other institutions of cultural studies throughout the region, thus offering further opportunities to link up with other Asian cultures and studies.

Team and improve infrastructure. Our goal is to reach the top level of research achievements internationally in the area of advanced information systems and electronics research in the near future.

Features

- Trans-disciplinary, trans-cultural, trans-national cultural studies
- Outstanding faculty pool
- Four research clusters
- Facilitated by four member universities
- Inspiring and friendly learning environment
- Immersion in Chinese language and culture
- Rich resources in Inter-Asia network
- Scholarship & Financial Aid

http://iics.ust.edu.tw/
The University System of Taiwan Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Graduate Program

The University System of Taiwan (UST) comprises many participating departments with research focuses covering different disciplines of neuroscience. The UST Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Graduate Program (INP) integrates the basic, medical, and genomic researches of National Yang-Ming University with clinical research of Taipei Veterans General Hospital, informatics and neural engineering of National Chiao Tung University, system neuroscience of National Tsing Hua University and cognitive neuroscience of National Central University. INP highlights four curricula clusters: molecular and cellular neuroscience, cognitive neuroscience, clinical neuroscience and neuroscience engineering. This program offers students an opportunity to specialize on a specific area of neuroscience while providing broad instruction across several important neuroscience disciplines.

http://ustnc.web.ym.edu.tw/front/bin/home.phtml

National Chiao Tung University
Participating Departments
• College of Biological Science and Technology
• Brain Research Center, NCTU
Research Interests
Computational Neuroscience, Brain-Computer Interface, Neural-Signal Processing, Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition

National Tsing Hua University
Participating Departments
• Institute of Biotechnology
• Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology
• Institute of Molecular Medicine
• Institute of Systems Neuroscience
• Institute of Bioinformatics and Structural Biology
Research Interests
Connectomics, Cellular Neuroscience, Systems Neuroscience, Computational Neuroscience

National Central University
Participating Departments
• Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience
• Graduate Institute of Biomedical Engineering
• Department of Computer Science & Information Engineering
Research Interests
Neurolinguistics, Psycholinguistics, Visual Attention, Human Memory and Neuropsychology, Action Control, Auditory Perception, Emotion and Criminology

National Yang-Ming University
Participating Departments
• Institute of Neuroscience
• Institute of Brain Science
• Institute of Biophotonics
• Brain Research Center, NYMU
Research Interests
Genetics/Molecular/Cellular Neuroscience, Systems neuroscience, Cognitive neuroscience, and Clinical and Translational Neuroscience
University system of Taiwan (UST) was established on January 24, 2008, to break through developmental and structural impasse obstructing creative integration of research personnel and resources in higher education in Taiwan. The UST aims to actively forge close communication and cooperation among the four top universities involved. They are National Chiao Tung University, National Tsing Hua University, National Central University, and National Yang Ming University.

In this era of globalization in industry and academics, UST strives to be committed to the campus internationalization in Taiwan. To fulfill this task, we are now integrating all international graduate programs in Colleges of Photonics, and aim to offer a complete range of services for all graduate students from around the world.

We take pride in offering quality Ph.D. degree program in the area of photonics, such as nanophotonics, green photonics, biophotonics, optics, display, solid state lighting, and so on, from the four top universities in Taiwan. Our mission is to equip international graduate students with the knowledge and ability to become outstanding and highly competitive in today’s global job market. For every international student, we also provide comprehensive assistance and support in both academic studies and personal matters. As a liaison with administrative and academic departments among the four universities, our role is to assist international students to successfully achieve their educational goals. If you wish to be professional in Photonics and would like to explore Chinese language and cultures, the UST International Graduate Program for Photonics will be a perfect choice for you.

All students except those who hold Taiwan citizenship, including overseas Taiwanese citizens or compatriot students, may apply as an international student. Applicants are required to complete and submit the application form along with the following supporting documents:

A. Bachelor and/or Master of Science Degree Certificate
B. English proficiency, as demonstrated per (select one)
   1. TOEFL:
      a. the paper-based
      b. the computer-based
      c. the new Internet-based TOEFL (TOEFL-IBT)
   2. GEPT:
      instead of TOEFL, applicants in Taiwan may take the General English Proficiency Test (GEPT), administered by the Language Training and Testing Center.
   3. IELTS:
      IELTS test score is generally accepted as an indication of English proficiency
   4. Academic transcript for coursework completed beyond the high school level
C. Two (2) letters of recommendation
D. Statement of purpose

Features
• World-class faculty
• Cutting edge academic curricula delivered in English
• Outstanding teaching and research facilities
• Generous scholarship & financial aid
• Acquaintance of Chinese language & culture

http://www.ieo.nctu.edu.tw/ustigpp/
The International Doctoral Program in Environmental Science and Technology (UST-EST) offered at the Center for Space and Remote Sensing Research (CSRSR) of the National Central University (NCU) is uniquely designed for postgraduate study and research in remote sensing of environmental issues. The core of the program is formulated in two sub-fields: Remote Sensing and Geoinformatics. The Remote Sensing sub-field focuses on the fundamentals of remote sensing science and application development, including the calibration and fusion of passive and active remote sensing data in the optical and microwave spectral bands. The Geoinformatics sub-field covers the 3S disciplines: remote sensing, geographic information systems, and Global Navigation Satellite Systems, with concentrations on geospatial data acquisition, processing, analysis, and their integrated applications as well as system development. The researches and studies comprise a variety of diversified areas, such as environment remote sensing, resources remote sensing, atmosphere remote sensing, microwave remote sensing, hydrology remote sensing, geology remote sensing, pattern computing, artificial intelligence & pattern recognition, satellite surveying & navigation, geographic information system, digital photogrammetry, geocomputing, space plasma physics, space environment & weather forecast, space payload (solar-terrestrial physics), radio wave propagation, ionosphere physics and sounding. In addition to inter-department collaborations in NCU, most of the researches and applications are also collaborated with off-campus and international scientists.

http://www.ieo.nctu.edu.tw/ers/

The UST-EST program offers more than 20 courses related to Environmental Remote Sensing by more than 10 professors taught in English. The program of UST-EST strives to advance into a world-class remote sensing institute that encompasses advanced fundamental and application researches, worldwide prestigious education, technical developments, and promotion of relevant applications in various fields to strengthen remote sensing technology and infrastructure development. The goal of this program is to integrate state-of-the-art sciences and technology breakthroughs of diverse disciplines for advanced environmental monitoring as well as the forecast, mitigation and assessment of natural and man-made hazards and pollutions for the sustainable development of the Earth.
Since more and more international students study for degree in these four universities of UST, the System is seeking for an effective cooperation on Chinese language teaching source. This project has working on establishing digital and platform of learning and teaching Chinese for academic purpose, cultural and language immersion programs across schools and promoting Chinese language programs of these four universities of UST. For helping students get used to study in Chinese academic environment, UST has working on compiling a serious of Chinese academic purpose teaching materials and developing a distance platform to offer students from UST or around the world to learn about Chinese academic as a assistant. And on the other hand, UST sponsors one-day Chinese culture trip and summer Chinese language & culture immersion camps for international students from UST or other overseas universities around the world, in order to enhance students’ exploring and exposure to local language and culture besides their subjects studying in Taiwan.

By Project of Integration in Chinese Language Teaching, we hope to reach the goal of sharing resources and creating additional value.

University System of Taiwan—Project of Integration in Chinese Language Teaching

If you wish to be professional in Photonics and would like to explore Chinese language and cultures, the UST International Graduate Program for Photonics will be a perfect choice for you.

http://www.lc.ncu.edu.tw/main/clp/
International Student Life and Activity

Students can access to resources, offices and services on the campuses of UST member universities. Some major items of interest are as follows:

• **Library**
  A total of 2,659,193 books, 2747,579 e-books and 31,543 journals are held in the libraries of UST member universities. Students can borrow/return books through UST interlibrary circulation service online.

• **Dormitory**
  Dorm reservations are made for international students automatically. Rooms on campus are furnished.

• **Gymnasium**
  Each of four campus facilities for a variety of athletic activities: indoor swimming pool, fitness room, jogging track, badminton courts, tennis courts, basketball court, volleyball court, aerobics and dance studios etc.

• **Medical Services**
  Clinic offers basic medical consultations and treatments.

• **Banking Services**
  There are ATMs (自動提款機) on campus. Taiwan’s postal office (郵局) also provides banking service; international students can open an account with a valid passport or a residence permit and a personal stamp (印章).

• **Health Insurance**
  All international students are required to purchase health insurance during the stay in Taiwan. Your health insurance coverage should begin when classes begin in the semester. The cost per student is approximately NT$400/month for the first four months and NT$600/month after that. The Department will provide you the information on how to buy health insurance in Taiwan.

• **Students’ Clubs**
  Join students’ clubs, i.e. sport clubs, music clubs, academic clubs, recreation clubs, service clubs, religious clubs.
UST International Student Scholarship

General Information

UST International Student Scholarship

UST International Scholarships are available to outstanding degree-seeking international students with excellent academic and research records. Selected students may be awarded a monthly stipend and/or exemption from tuition fees.

Amount

• Masters students: up to NT$10,000 per month and/or waiver/reduction of tuition and fees.
• Doctoral students: up to NT$15,000 per month and/or waiver/reduction of tuition and fees.

Duration

6 months in the first semester (6-12 months thereafter).

Renewal

At the end of the first semester, students may apply for UST International Scholarships for outstanding current students which offer monthly stipends (up to NT$13,000/20,000 for masters/doctoral students) and/or waiver/reduction of tuition and fees. The scholarships for current students are awarded for 6-12 months on a yearly basis by review of academic performance and research records and subject to a maximum number of years.

Sponsoring Institution

Offered by the University System of Taiwan.

Fields

All degree programs

Application

Apply along with the degree programs. When filling out the admission application form, mark under the “UST Scholarship” box on the form to be considered. Submit the application form together with other required documents for admission to the Division of International Admissions at NCU, NCTU, NTHU or NYMU.

Application Period

Entry to Fall semesters:
• October 1 - December 31 (Early Action)
• January 1 - March 31 (Regular Action)

Entry to Spring Semesters (graduate programs only):
August 10 – September 30