

It was an invaluable opportunity and experience to study at Tsinghua University during the fall semester of 2019 on an exchange from the University of Amsterdam. I took courses at the School of Chinese Language & Literature, the School of Economics & Management and the School of Marxism. I took courses in both English and Chinese, and my Chinese improved immensely during this period, as was my goal.

I lived on campus in the 'Asian Youth Center', where I had a Chinese flatmate. Tsinghua University was great in its treatment of its international students, and organized cultural trips, events and offered more than 100 student associations to participate in. I was actively engaged in the association that works against sexual harassment on campus.

In addition, I became a board director of the Swedish Young Professionals in Beijing, and assisted in planning and promoting Sweden through different events, such as the annual, very well attended, Swedish Christmas Party.

This generous scholarship I was awarded from the Swedish School Beijing has enabled me to conduct this exchange semester as well as do all of these extracurricular activities and responsibilities when in Beijing. As a direct result of this scholarship and my time in Beijing, I will continue learning about China and the Chinese culture, society, language and history, and I will return to study in Beijing this fall as I have been accepted to the Master's Programme at the Yenching Academy of Peking University. The research I am planning is about the education situation for minority women in the Guangxi province and the Chinese Government's involvement and funding of educational initiatives, including establishments for minorities in tier-one cities, such as Beijing.

Overall, it was a truly educational experience which made me learn for life as well as grow as a person, as I was able to attend one of, not only China's, but the world's most esteemed universities with top class education and research, with students and staff from all around the world. I am truly grateful for this opportunity, and I am confident that this period of my life will contribute greatly to my future including the professional career path I am to embark.

Ebba Isaksson