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**Being an International Student – Reflection by Picture**

This is a picture I took in the library. I am sure it totally represents my whole academic life: a laptop, a great deal of paper and a cup of coffe. I have still remembered that I spent around 5 hours in the library on the average last semester. Even though on weekends, I preferred to go the library to study.

First, I have to admit that I have a host of assignments. I felt overwhelmed at the beginning of my first pathway program semester. Although every course seems like to have a few assignments, when you add them together, they are a big project. Only one thing you can do is divided them into small parts and accomplish them every day. Thus, I am good at time management and self-management. In addition, reviewing my works at the end of one day also motivated myself to summary and improve my efficiency. Under repeating this behavior pattern for a long term, I find I would like to do my task directly rather than complain about assignments.

As a graduate student, I am supposed to engage in studying and researching actively except the requirements within classes. Therefore, after finish my assignments, I would like to do more extra reading related to my major in order to have a full perspective of my concentration. It is time for me to find out my personal research interest and develop my individual research project. I can summarize research methods and research model from other’s research. With reading a lot of paper and other publications, it could increase my confidence and support me to express my opinion in the major class discussion.

Further, international students always deal with some problems, such as the language barrier, culture shock and academic failure. However, I believe that if I try my best and spend more time to do more things, as the result, I could finish everything as well as native students. Since studying in the library is more efficient than studying in my room, I enjoy every minute I spent in the library. After finishing my ‘to do list’ within the shortest time, I could get involved in other activities to explore myself.

To sum up, in order to be a successful international graduate student, I realize that studying actively is a significant factor. Furthermore, I am supposed to have the time management skill to improve my study efficiency and balance my life.

