



FU JEN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
New Taipei City 24205, Taiwan, R.O.C.

輔
仁
大
學
英
國
語
文
學
系

24205 新北市新莊區中正路 510 號 Tel: (02) 2905-2561, 2905-3536 Fax: 886-2-2905-2163 <http://english.fju.edu.tw>

July 13, 2023

Dear Freshmen,

Congratulations on your admission to the Department of English Language & Literature at Fu Jen Catholic University (FJCU)! As department chair, I'm writing to welcome you to your new home.

I remember long ago I was in your shoes. I started my university education and had to face some big adventures of my life: choosing my courses, being on my own (especially if you are staying away from home), and immersing myself in an English only academic environment. I am sure that while feeling curious, excited, and perhaps nervous, you also feel that you are facing the unfamiliar and the unknown. Luckily, you have already chosen a great major! Roughly a month from now you will be surrounded with new friends, senior classmates, and teachers. By then, you will start to ponder your goals about life here at FJCU.

I will offer you some background and advice to help you make this transition. First of all, an English major will join a tradition of liberal arts education dating back to the first medieval European universities almost a thousand years ago. In this tradition, the study of language and literature develops our ability to express ourselves, to understand our common humanity, to think critically and to understand different values and cultures. The curriculum in the English department at FJCU is built on these fundamentals, with basic training in English literature and linguistics, composition and conversation, critical thinking, and global culture. To help make bridge to a future career, the English Department offers a variety of professional training courses and chances for you to use English in many practical activities.

As to my advice, prepare for changes in college life. College will challenge you to think and act differently; you will take responsibility for what and how to learn. It is unlikely for learning to happen if you simply sit passively and do nothing on your part. To make learning happen, you are strongly encouraged to ask questions, participate in discussions, and relate your studies to your life.

In addition, explore your potentials via experimenting with different courses, programs, service learning, internship, student association and clubs, and career paths. During your study here at FJCU, try to apply for a minor, a double major, and/or a cross-disciplinary program, and even grasp the opportunities to study abroad (such as joining the exchange programs). Develop your short-term and long-term goals and be flexible in making adjustment.

College life is your golden age; you will taste much freedom but you also need to take on more responsibilities as well. While enjoying your freedom in college and trying different activities, you learn to properly work on time management and develop relationships. Think of your priority and make balance of your academic, personal, and family life. Additionally, make exercise a habit to release pressure, and relax on vacation.

Your life is about to get very interesting, but also very busy. Our teachers, staff, and students are here to help you. I believe your college years will be filled with unforgettable experiences of exploration, discovery and joy. See you soon!

Sincerely,

Dr. Yun-Pi Yuan
Associate Professor and Chair

Department of English, Fu Jen Catholic University