

Report of DD Program

Noah Kherchouche

Duration:2023.10~2026.3

1. Student's Life

The program was a good experience overall. The courses were interesting, although sometimes not very challenging, and could feel kind of slow. The educational environment was supportive and made it easy to communicate with professors and classmates, and dedicate oneself to the research project.

It is easy to go from one campus to another so the choice of the dormitory does not matter much, but I felt the Sanjo dormitories were a bit far so online classes were more convenient.

The course registration process was somewhat confusing, but the GSIS staff offered valuable support and made it manageable.

2. Living in Sendai: Experience and Advice

The first thing I recommend doing is buying a sim card to have Google Maps, it will make your daily life much easier. You can order one online on Sakura Mobile and it will be delivered at the residence, it costs around 3,000 – 4,000 Yen per month.

To make the bus / metro travels easier, you can go to Sendai Station to buy a Suica Card, which works in all Japan, or you can issue a ICSCA card at any metro station in Sendai, but it only works in the Sendai Area.

If you need stuff for your room / kitchen, you can go to 100 yen shops and find everything you need for very low costs.

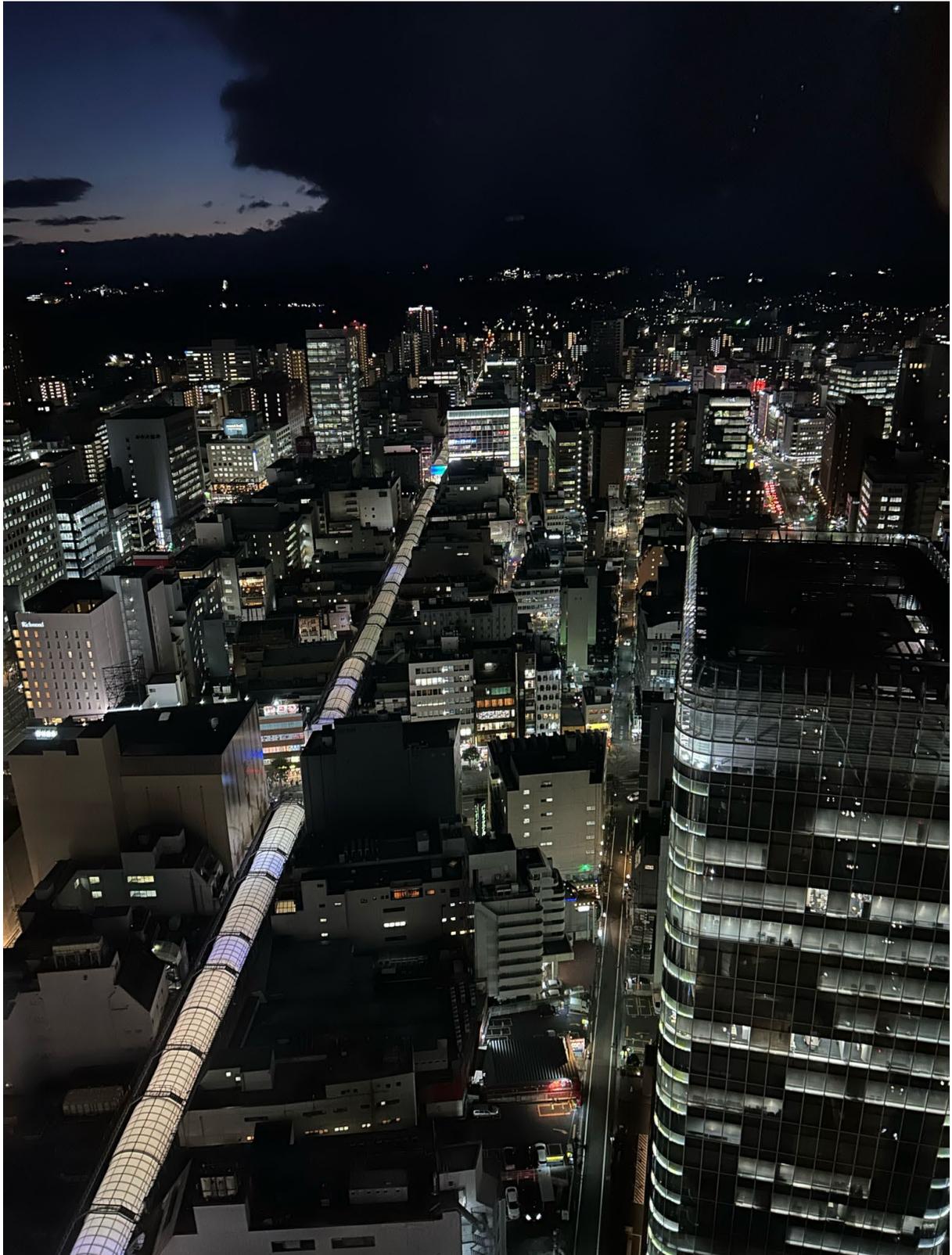
The food costs around 1,500 Yen per day, you can go to small supermarkets or convenience stores, which are open 24/24. Considering the rent is around 30 000 Yen / month, and the bus ride costs around 200 yen, depending on how much you use public transportation, total monthly expenses can be estimated at around 80,000 – 100,000 Yen per month, which is mostly covered by the scholarship.

The only thing you may need to prepare before coming is a plug adapter (to connect your devices like your pc / phone, to the Japanese plugs) which is necessary for the first days until you can find the shops.

There are many beautiful parks and temples in Sendai, so it is always a pleasure to go out sightseeing. It is a beautiful mix of nature and city. Here are some photos I took in Sendai.



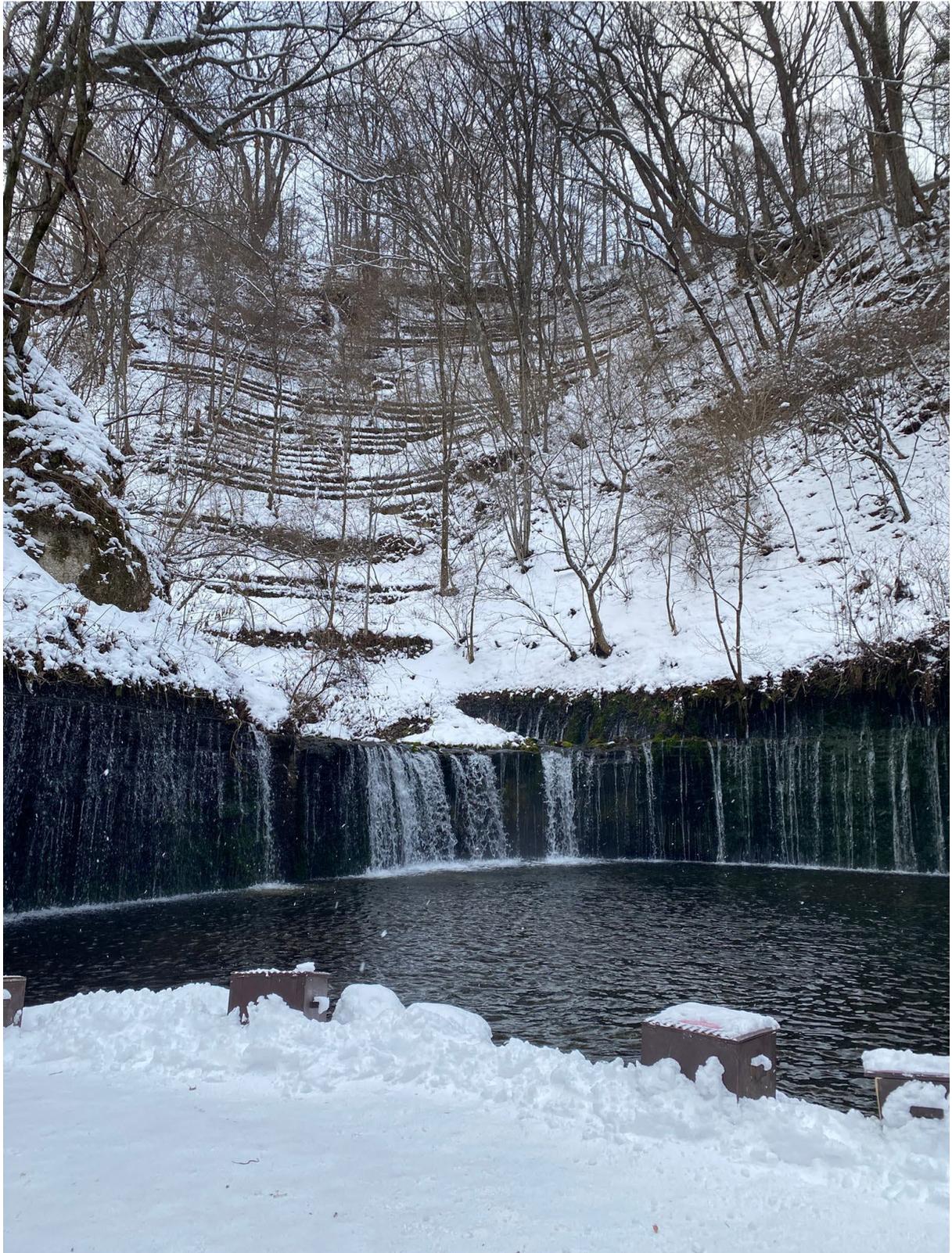






You can go everywhere in Sendai with public transportation, but if you want to rent a car and go to other places, you do not need an international licence, you can just ask for a translation of your licence on the JAF website and they will send you a code that can be used to print the translated licence with a convenience store's printer. Here are some photos I took in other cities.









3. Career paths

The University occasionally organizes events and seminars to help students explore their future career paths, whether they wish to continue their studies in the University with a PhD or start working in Japan. I plan to work in my home country, so I did not attend those and do not know how helpful they actually were, but it is worth checking if you are considering these options.

The academic environment of Tohoku University is especially well suited for students who want to pursue research thanks to its numerous research facilities and supportive atmosphere.