

Navigating Taiwan: Your Essential Campus & Life Companion

*Presented by the Department of Biomedical Engineering,
National Cheng Kung University*

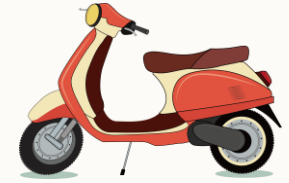
Welcome to the NCKU BME family!

Moving to a new country is an incredible adventure. This companion guide is crafted to provide essential assistance and accompany you throughout your academic journey here.

Taiwan is globally recognized for its safety, inclusion, and friendliness.

Understanding our local lifestyle and community standards is the best way to ensure your journey here is smooth, successful, and filled with wonderful memories.

Module 1: Smart & Safe Commuting

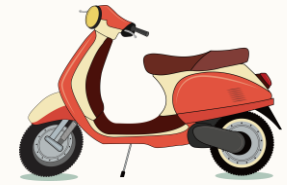


Taiwan has one of the most vibrant scooter cultures in the world, making commuting incredibly dynamic. To enjoy exploring Tainan smoothly, here is how to master the local street rhythm like a pro.

License & Helmet Essentials: To ride legally and safely, always ensure you possess a valid Taiwanese license or an authorized International Driving Permit (IDP). Additionally, wearing a properly secured, approved helmet is a strict legal requirement in Taiwan for both scooters and electric bicycles to prevent head injuries and avoid administrative fines.

Compulsory Insurance Protection: Every registered scooter in Taiwan must have Compulsory Automobile Liability Insurance (汽機車強制責任保險). Always verify its status when buying or renting. This policy automatically covers medical expenses and injury claims for third parties (pedestrians or other riders) if an accident occurs.

Module 1: Smart & Safe Commuting



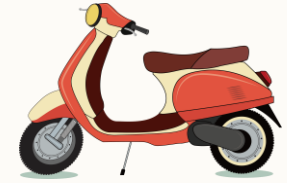
Two-Stage Left Turn:

When turning left on a scooter or bicycle, look out for the two-stage left turn sign. This blue circular sign at intersections - featuring a scooter symbol with straight and left arrows - is your invitation to a safer turn! Simply ride straight into the designated waiting box on the right first, then proceed safely when the traffic light changes.

Pedestrians First: In Taiwan, pedestrians have the absolute right-of-way at crosswalks. Cultivating the habit of stopping and yielding to pedestrians ensures a harmonious environment and keeps you clear of a **NT\$ 6,000** administrative penalty.

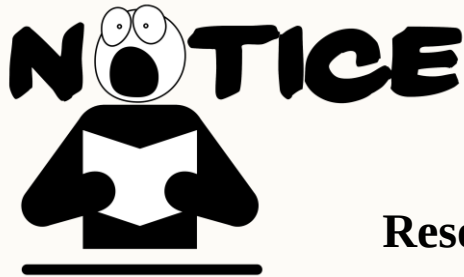


Module 1: Smart & Safe Commuting



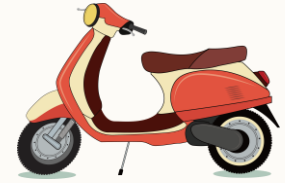
Real-Life Scenario (Minor Violations):

Student A thought the area near the campus was quiet, so they decided to ride a short distance without a helmet and made a quick right turn on a red light.



Resolution: They were pulled over by the police. Student A was fined NT\$500 for riding without a helmet and NT\$1,800 for the red-light violation. Because they also lacked a valid Taiwanese driver's license, they faced an additional fine of up to NT\$ 24,000.

Module 1: Smart & Safe Commuting

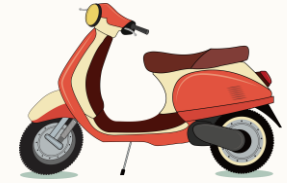


Smart Travel: Safe Rides Only

Zero-Tolerance for Alcohol: Enjoying Tainan's night economy or food scene? Always choose public transport, a taxi, or Uber if you have consumed alcohol. Taiwan enforces a strict zero-tolerance policy.

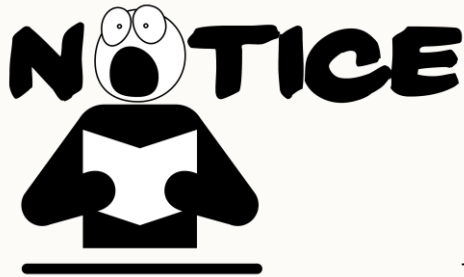
Cooperating with Sobriety Checks: When stopped by police officers for a Sobriety Test, refusing to take the Test will lead to a very high fine of **NT\$ 180,000**, immediate license revocation, and vehicle impoundment. Cooperating with officers keeps the process quick and stress-free.

Module 1: Smart & Safe Commuting



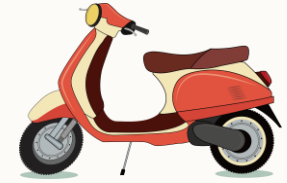
Real-Life Scenario (Sobriety Check Refusal):

Student G was stopped by police at a routine checkpoint after having a few drinks. Thinking they could protect their student record by avoiding a breathalyzer test, they refused to blow into the device.



Resolution: The police immediately issued a **NT\$ 180,000 fine**, towed the scooter, and revoked the student's driving privileges on the spot. Refusing the test is often far more costly and legally damaging than cooperating with the first-time offense procedure.

Module 1: Smart & Safe Commuting



"Stay-Put" Protocol for Road Incidents

Should you ever experience an accident - whether as a rider, cyclist, or pedestrian, and **no matter how minor it seems** - these are golden rules you should follow to protect your legal rights:

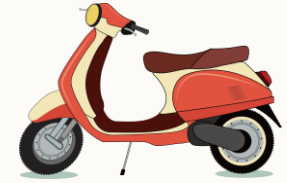


Call for Support: Immediately dial **110** for the police and **119** if medical assistance is required.

Remain at the Scene: Stay put with the other party, keep vehicles unmoved if applicable, and wait for police to document the scene.

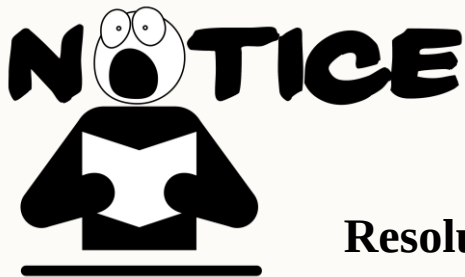
Legal Reality: Under Taiwanese law, leaving the scene of an accident involving property damage or injury is classified as a Hit-and-Run (肇事逃逸), which carries severe criminal penalties. Staying on-site ensures everyone is safe and protected.

Module 1: Smart & Safe Commuting



Real-Life Scenario (Hit-and-Run Reality):

Student K accidentally brushed against an elderly pedestrian while riding. Seeing she could stand up and seemed okay, Student K said "Sorry" and rushed to class.



Resolution: The pedestrian reported the incident later due to delayed pain. Because Student K left the scene without waiting for the police, a regular traffic accident escalated into a hit-and-run, which is an indictable offense subject to public prosecution in Taiwan. Consequently, Student K received a court summons.

Even though it was an honest mistake born out of being in a hurry, the incident led to serious legal complications that severely disrupted their studies and legal residency status. **Always wait for the police!**

Module 2: Creating Your Cozy Home



Finding your own space off-campus is an exciting step toward independence. Here is how to protect your finances and secure a peaceful living space.

Smart House Hunting: The 5 "NOs"

Before signing your lease or transferring any funds, keep these official safety standards in mind:

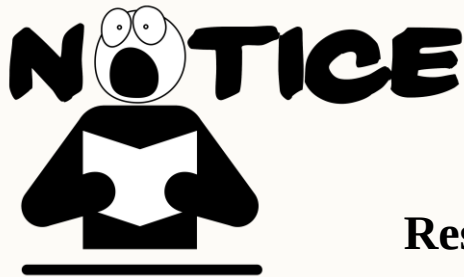
1. **NO Transfers Before Verification:** Never wire a deposit or share copies of your Passport/ARC until you have verified the true ownership of the property.
2. **NO Unrealistic Deals:** If a listing looks like a luxury suite but charges a price significantly lower than the neighborhood market rate, pause and verify—it is likely illogical.
3. **NO Untrusted Social Media Profiles:** Be cautious of rental listings posted by anonymous social media accounts with no real profile history or suspicious activity.
4. **NO Payment Before Viewing:** Never pay a "reservation fee" or deposit just to get priority for a house viewing. If you haven't stepped inside the room in person, do not give money.
5. **NO Irrelevant Personal Questions:** If an online "landlord" inquires about deeply personal lifestyle details unrelated to renting, stop contact immediately.

Module 2: Creating Your Cozy Home



Real-Life Scenario (Rental Scam):

Student C found a beautiful studio online for a bargain price. The host claimed many students were competing for it and requested a NT\$10,000 "holding deposit" to lock in a viewing before the weekend.



Resolution: Student C sent the money immediately to avoid missing out. The profile was instantly deleted, and the deposit was completely lost. Real landlords in Taiwan will never demand money before a physical viewing.

Module 2: Creating Your Cozy Home



Understanding Your Utilities & Lease

The Security Deposit Standard: By law in Taiwan, a landlord can request a maximum of 2 months' rent as a security deposit.

The Taipower Bill vs. Fixed Rates: Always ask how electricity is billed. Some landlords bill you based on the official Taiwan Power Company (Taipower) statement (which fluctuates fairly by season), while others charge a fixed rate (e.g., NT\$5 or NT\$6 per kWh) via a private sub-meter. Make sure this is clearly written in your contract.

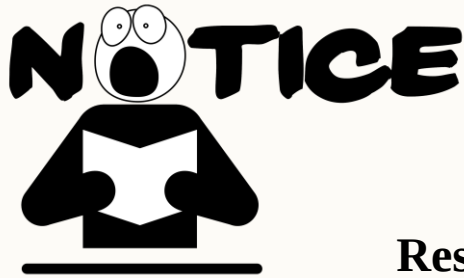
Prior Consent for Property Alterations: Out of respect for property ownership, always obtain the landlord's explicit written consent (or message) before making any modifications to your room (such as drilling holes, painting walls, or changing fixtures). Under civil law, tenants are responsible for restoring the property to its original condition upon moving out unless agreed otherwise.

Module 2: Creating Your Cozy Home



Real-Life Scenario (Property Alterations):

Student F drilled multiple holes in their rental room's walls to hang heavy custom decorations and refused to patch or repair them when moving out.



Resolution: The landlord legally deducted the professional wall-repair and painting costs directly from the security deposit. Under civil law, tenants are required to restore property to its original condition.

Module 3: Financial Wellness & Respecting Property



Managing your own finances and using campus resources responsibly is key to a stress-free student life.

Keeping Your Assets Secure

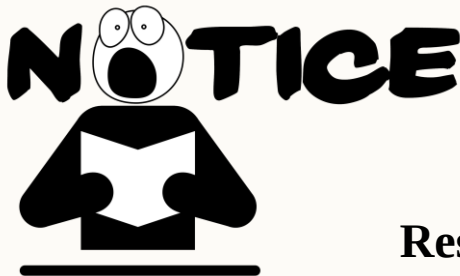
- ◆ **Protecting Personal Identity:** Your bank account, ATM card, and passport are exclusively yours. Never lend your financial accounts to anyone - not even a close friend. If a third party uses your account to transfer money, your account becomes a "mule account." Under Taiwan law, this constitutes an indictable offense, and you will face criminal prosecution as an accomplice to fraud or money laundering. This leads to severe criminal liabilities, heavy fines and potential deportation.
 - ◆ **Beware of Easy-Money Traps:** If an online ad offers high hourly pay for simple tasks like "withdrawing cash from an ATM" or "delivering sealed packages," it is a trap. This is the definition of a "Money Courier" (詐騙車手) for scam syndicates. In Taiwan, this is classified as Organized Crime, resulting in prison time and immediate ARC cancellation.
- .

Module 3: Financial Wellness & Respecting Property



Real-Life Scenario (The Mule Account Trap):

Student B was short on cash and agreed to let an acquaintance use their Taiwanese bank account to “receive a quick remittance from home” in exchange for a convenient NT\$ 3,000 commission fee.



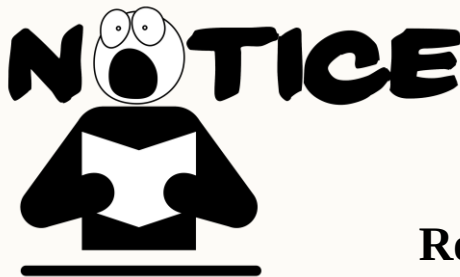
Resolution: The account was actually being used to harvest stolen money from scam victims. The bank flagged it as a criminal account, and Student B was arrested and prosecuted for Fraud and Money Laundering.

Module 3: Financial Wellness & Respecting Property



Real-Life Scenario (The Courier Trap):

Student D accepted a flexible "delivery job" advertised on social media that promised high pay just for using a provided card to withdraw cash at various local ATMs and handing it over to a courier.



Resolution: Student D was caught red-handed by undercover police at an ATM. They were sentenced to prison for participating in organized bank fraud and were deported immediately after serving their sentence.

Module 3: Financial Wellness & Respecting Property



Clear Boundaries on Property

- ◆ **“Unlocked” Does Not Mean “Free”:** In Taiwan, it is common to see locals occasionally leave bicycles unlocked, scooter keys plugged in, or personal belongings unattended in public spaces out of convenience. However, local laws strictly guard private property. Moving or using someone else’s property without explicit permission—even for a quick 5-minute errand across campus—is legally treated as Theft, and police intervention is legally mandatory once reported.



Because “Theft” is subject to **Public Prosecution**, the legal process cannot be dropped or canceled even if you return the item or if the owner forgives you.

Respecting others' property boundaries ensures your time here remains safe and trouble-free.

Module 3: Financial Wellness & Respecting Property



Real-Life Scenario (The "Borrowing" Misunderstanding):

Student H was running late for a class on the other side of campus and spotted an unlocked bicycle near the library. Thinking, "*The owner isn't using it right now, and I will park it nearby anyway,*" they rode it away.



Resolution: The owner noticed the bike was missing and reported a theft. Police tracked Student H using the campus CCTV system. In Taiwan, Theft is a non-compoundable offense, meaning once the police are involved, the case cannot be dropped or canceled, even if the owner forgives Student H.

Student H had to enter the legal system. Fortunately, the prosecutor considered the context and allowed Student H to settle and apologize to the owner; instead of jail time or losing their residency, they received a Deferred Prosecution combined with a fine and mandatory community service.

While Student H kept their ARC, the legal process and stress caused massive disruptions to their studies.

Module 4: Healthy Relationships & Campus Harmony



Building a vibrant campus life starts with positive social connections. Healthy relationships—whether friendships, romantic partnerships, or academic collaborations—are grounded in open communication, mutual support, and active listening. Embracing diverse cultural perspectives while genuinely respecting each individual's comfort zone is the key to creating a thriving, inclusive community.

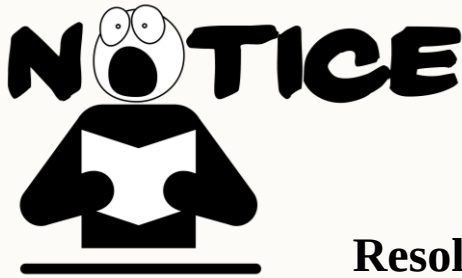
- ◆ **Mutual Respect & Consent:** Healthy relationships are built on clear, mutual consent. Any unwelcome attention, suggestive remarks, or physical contact that makes another person uncomfortable contradicts our community values.

Module 4: Healthy Relationships & Campus Harmony



Real-Life Scenario (Respecting Boundaries):

During a group project collaboration, Student A constantly made remarks about a teammate's appearance and relationship status, dismissing it as "friendly humor." Later at an evening gathering, Student A repeatedly stood too close, initiated unwelcome shoulder rubs, and hugged the teammate tightly despite visible signs of discomfort.



Resolution: Seeking a safe resolution, the teammate formally reported the incident to the university's Gender Equity Education Committee. Consequently, Student A was called in by the Committee to formally explain the situation, and now faces potential disciplinary actions under school regulations.

Module 4: Healthy Relationships & Campus Harmony



NCKU is a diverse and welcoming campus where you can truly be yourself, no matter your cultural background or gender identity. When making friends, dating, or building relationships, respecting everyone's personal space and comfort levels is always the top priority. Your freedom ends where another's comfort zone begins.

- **Verbal Boundaries:** Avoid making unsolicited comments about someone's physical appearance, relationship status, or private life. What one considers a casual joke or a compliment can legally constitute verbal harassment if it makes the recipient feel uncomfortable or intimidated.
- **Physical Boundaries:** Personal space is absolute. Unwanted physical contact—such as lingering hugs, touching someone's hair, or placing a hand on their shoulder or waist without explicit invitation—violates personal boundaries.

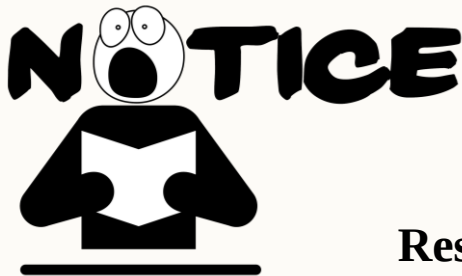
In Taiwan, gender equality laws (Sexual Harassment Prevention Act, Act of Gender Equality in Employment, and Gender Equity Education Act) protect everyone from any unwelcome behavior, regardless of your gender or background.

Module 4: Healthy Relationships & Campus Harmony



Real-Life Scenario (Respecting Boundaries):

Student D wanted to build a closer relationship with a classmate. Student D began waiting outside the classmate's residential lobby every day and sent dozens of daily messages on social media, even though the classmate always left the messages on "read." Even after the classmate explicitly requested space and asked Student D to stop, Student D persisted, believing that continuous effort would eventually build a friendship. However, The classmate felt increasingly uncomfortable and unsafe, eventually reporting the situation to the NCKU Gender Equity Education Committee.



Resolution: Following a formal, strictly confidential investigation, the committee ruled that Student D's persistent behaviors crossed personal boundaries and constituted harassment under campus regulations. Student D received a **Major Demerit** on their official university record and was required to complete mandatory gender-equity and relationship counseling, which significantly impacted their academic standing.

Module 4: Healthy Relationships & Campus Harmony



Our Campus Support Network

If you ever experience or are reported for a boundary violation, Taiwan's universities utilize a supportive, educational administrative path rather than jumping straight to courts:

1. **NCKU Gender Equity Education Committee:** The university will launch an internal, strictly confidential review to understand the situation fully.
2. **Campus Disciplinary Actions:** Serious or repeated violations are handled via school regulations, which can result in academic demerits, suspension, or expulsion. (Note: Loss of student status automatically deactivates your ARC).

Module 4: Healthy Relationships & Campus Harmony



Possible Civil & Criminal Legal Consequences

Beyond university administrative procedures, individuals should be aware that non-consensual behavioral violations carry significant liabilities under Taiwanese national law if the affected party chooses to pursue legal action through the justice system:

- **Civil & Criminal Liabilities:** Sexual harassment or non-consensual physical contact can lead to criminal prosecution (resulting in fines or imprisonment) and civil lawsuits for monetary damages regarding emotional distress.
- **Stalking & Harassment Prevention Act:** Persistently following someone, waiting outside their dormitory or classroom, or sending an overwhelming volume of unwanted messages after being ignored or rejected constitutes a criminal offense under this act. Law enforcement can issue official warnings, and court-ordered restraining orders may follow to protect the victim.

Module 5: Anti-Bullying & Campus Inclusion



Fostering an Inclusive Community

NCKU thrives on diversity and mutual support. Creating a safe learning environment means embracing individual differences—including nationality, race, language proficiency, academic performance, and personal expression. True peer collaboration is built on empathy, ensuring every student feels valued and respected within the community.

Recognizing Bullying Behavior: Bullying is any repetitive, aggressive behavior intended to cause physical, psychological, or social harm. It can take multiple forms, all of which violate campus codes of conduct:

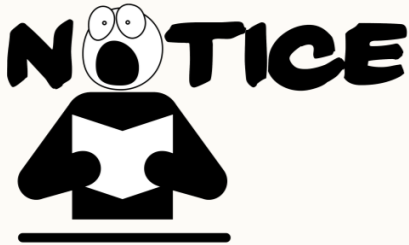
- ✓ **Verbal Bullying:** Using inappropriate comments, insults, or insinuations targeting someone's background or characteristics.
- ✓ **Social Isolation:** Intentionally excluding a peer from group projects, social activities, or communication channels to isolate them.
- ✓ **Cyberbullying:** Posting abusive comments, sharing private information without consent, or spreading rumors on social media platforms or group chats.

Module 5: Anti-Bullying & Campus Inclusion



Real-Life Scenario (Addressing Social Exclusion):

During lab sessions, Student B repeatedly made fun of a classmate's accent and excluded them from group activities, while urging other peers to ignore the classmate. Feeling deeply isolated, the classmate formally filed a formal report via. As a result, Student B was called in by the department administration to formally explain the situation, and now faces disciplinary review under campus regulations.



Campus Reporting & Support:

NCKU maintains a zero-tolerance policy toward bullying. If you experience or witness any form of harassment or exclusion, you can contact Department Office, Counseling and Wellness Services Division under Student Affairs Office, or International Affairs Office (OIA).

All reports are handled with strict confidentiality, providing both administrative mediation and psychological support to ensure your safety and well-being.



Your Emergency Support Network

Save these essential numbers in your phone right now. Help is always just a call away!

- General Police Assistance: 110
- Ambulance & Fire Emergency: 119
- 24/7 National Anti-Fraud Hotline: 165 (English service available)
- NCKU Student Safety Center (24h Campus Hotline): 06-2381187



NCKU Online
Suggestion Box System



Legal References & Official Citations

- **Traffic:** Adhering to the *Act Governing the Punishment of Violation of Road Traffic Regulations* and the *Criminal Code of the Republic of China*, enforced by the **National Police Agency, Ministry of the Interior (MOI)**.
- **Anti-Fraud:** Sourced from the National **165 Anti-Fraud Hotline**, and the *Anti-Rental Fraud Guidelines*, Department of Student Affairs, **Ministry of Education (MOE)**.
- **Campus Equality Standards:** Administered under the *Gender Equity Education Act (MOE)*, *The Guidelines for Prevention of Campus Bullying (MOE)*, and the *Stalking and Harassment Prevention Act (MOI)*.