I was pretty surprised when I got my first university schedule for IBIS course because I had always expected that the subjects would be 100% about business, marketing, management, etc. In fact, I got more than that. The course has almost everything, the diversity of the subjects really changed the way I thought about studying abroad, especially studying in Inholland university.

First, I got to know about creating a website, about HTML and CSS (to be honest it was the first time I've ever heard about a thing which called HyperText Markup Language), about everything is contained in "Webville". A big thanks to the lessons, I finally know that there are more than the words, the images, the videos we read, we see and we watch; the websites we spend hours a day to surf. It's more seriously complicated than that. I've gone through some stuffs like the elements, the layouts, navigation, hover, etc and in the end, I came to the point that what I had known about the computer world was nothing compared to those really exist.

The most important thing I've learnt during the past 2 months was the activeness in class. I am an Asian student in general and a Vietnamese student in particular. I didn't go to the international private schools in Vietnam (for your further information : be accepted to Vietnam public schools is kind of a pride because we normally have to get the high scores in national entrance examinations to get in). The way Vietnamese education works is completely different

than the western. The common learning techniques like presentations, mind map, brainstorm, note-take is not widespread in public schools. The teachers mainly focus on theories, they make you to learn most of things by heart to gain the knowledge (not a effective way I believe) and there is almost no interaction or activeness during class. What western people think of asian people like me is somehow true, I am not an active person, sometimes I feel insecure and embarrassed to speak my mind or make a presentation in front of everyone. I think that is my biggest weakness that block my way to my main goal. However, I had a chance to face that fear in most of classes, I learnt to be more participate in class, to ask more questions, to be more confident during a presentation. I am not saying that I have magically turned into another person who is more active or confident. I am still shy sometimes but I think I made some small steps and I believe in the future, maybe after 4 years of IBIS, I will make it to the goal of becoming a true innovator who is capable of coming up with new ideas for products, services or business model, who can confidently accept the challenges.

In PSD classes, I was able to gain a lot of new and interesting knowledge, for examples in Reasoning and Thinking class, we got to learnt about the relevance fallacies. Like HTML and CSS stuffs, it was completely strange for me but in a "cool" way. I meant we've been experienced it maybe like a million time but we don't know what it is or what it's called or we forget about it

after that. However, I know about it now, about Straw Man or Ad Hominem Fallacy, isn't that great ? Besides, another factor of a leader/innovator is creativeness. To do that, I have to get out of my zone, do something new, stop being afraid of something bad might happen instead waiting for something good to come, also stop doubting myself. We watched a video of Steve Jobs Stanford Commencement Speech in What is in my backpack class and that really inspired me. There's so many things you can learn in a video, at a person. It was kind of a connection between a video with the lesson we learn in class. Both encourage us to do anything that we love, to wake up our talents and that is one of the things I have added to my reminder list to head towards the goal of my life. About my NLU choices, I will go for Dutch, Magazine Marketing and Innovation and the final one is Psychology. Dutch course is absolutely important for an international student like me if I want to get on well in Holland. I was really excited for it, I feel like I have more interest with language than any other subjects. I hope that will become my motivation to do good in that class then. I picked psychology because it's helpful and necessary for all kinds of aspect. It is also interesting to get to know what is going on in people's mind so that it would be like a stepping stone help me to develop some great skills. And finally, I have always been curious about how marketing works in magazine field. This course has also innovation so that I really look forward to learn it.