**Tips for Exchange Students**

(Written by BROME SILVA JAIME, from Spain)

**1**. When you arrive at JUFE you need to download and create a WeChat account, open a bank account with ICBC and buy a new Chinese SIM card. The SSO office will help you on this matter. For students who don’t know which bank account to use, I am using "revolut" which offers a good exchange rate with a low commission.

**2.**Wechat is platform that is commonly used to make payments in China, make sure you link your WeChat account with your ICBC bank account. You also need to download **Alipay** application which is also used to make payments and link it to your bank account as well. The SSO office will assist you link your bank account and the two applications. This is important because most places do not accept credit cards to make a payment.

**3.**It is easier and cheaper going out to eat than cooking at the International Student Apartment. Please take caution when you go out to eat because most of the food in Jiangxi Province is spicy and you should ask waiters to put minimal spices or no spices at all in the food.

**4.**Since most of the natives do not speak English, it is advisable to download a good language translator for easy communication.

**5.**Download a map application, Baidu maps or Maps.me.

**6.**Download a Virtual Private Network (VPN) application before coming to China. The recommended VPNs are Nord VPN, Express VPN and Winscribe VPN.

**7.**Download "Taobao" application for all your online shopping, it is an equivalent of Amazon in China. You can find absolutely everything in this application and even food from your home countries and it is affordable. Link the Taobao application to your Alipay account for payment of your transactions.

**8.**You can use WeChat, Alipay or Trip.com to book train and airplane tickets for your travel arrangements. You can also use WeChat to order food to be delivered to your doorstep.

**9.**The JUFE campus has almost all the required facilities including school canteen, restaurants, supermarket, bank office, gymnasium, hospital and many more.

**10.**The courses offered at JUFE are educative and informative. The lecturers have an extensive knowledge in their specialties and good command of the English language.

**11.**You will have a week to attend all the courses in order to choose the ones suited to your needs.

**12.** For travel arrangements, book trains or airplanes in advance, especially if you want travel during holidays as tickets are usually on high demand and they sell out quickly.