Study abroad experience: a student’s view

Rachael Bird, Global Engagement Manager (Study Abroad)
Programme

- Study abroad an overview
- Stories from our peer advisers
  - Emily Doyle, Malaysia Campus
  - Federica Williamson, China Ningbo Campus and PUC, Chile
  - Lucy Davis, Monash University, Australia
  - Freddie Carter, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
  - Ann-Elin Myhre, McGill, Canada and University of Queensland, Australia
  - Chloe Gibbons, National University of Singapore
  - Connor Higginbottom, Waseda University, Japan
Opportunities

- University-wide exchange programme
- Inter-campus exchange programme
- Erasmus
- School exchanges
- Summer Schools
Where to go

- Study abroad website: www.nottingham.ac.uk/studyabroad
- Partner profiles
- FAQ document
- Finance webpage
- Events webpage
- School academic adviser
- Peer Advisers
- Drop-in sessions
- Facebook and Instagram
Deadlines

- University-wide exchange programme: Friday 11 January 2019
- Inter-campus exchange programme: Friday 8 February 2019
- Erasmus and School exchanges: Check with your school/department
- Summer Schools: Friday 22 February 2019
HOW I MADE THE DECISION TO STUDY WHERE I DID

Emily Doyle
BSc International Management
University of Nottingham Malaysia
CONSIDER ALL OPTIONS

- Instinctive choice may not be best
- Be open minded
- Utilise Peer Advisers
DO YOUR RESEARCH

- Research the programmes
- Research the institutions
- Research the country
CONSIDER COSTS

- Affordability
- Exchange rate
- Financial incentives
- Hidden costs
THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT TO GAIN

- Travel experiences
- Language skills
- Different learning style
- Personal development
Worries and Fears of Study Abroad

Federica Williamson
BA Management with Spanish
University on Nottingham Ningbo, China
Pontificia Universidad Católica, Chile
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Finance

- Budgeting
- Proactive approach
- Forward Planning and Discipline
- Tapping into resources

- Scholarships
- Grants
- Reduced Tuition Fees
• You’ll make friends abroad too
• Photos from abroad will give FOMO to those at home
• Independence and adaptability
Graduation Date and Studies

- Academic advisor
- Results transfer
- New way of learning
Safety and Wellness

- Be aware of local news and follow guidance
- Support network from the university
- Common sense and vigilance
- Safety in numbers
Home sickness

- You will have ups and downs – always have support.
- Host family?
- Make you a stronger person
- Consider somewhere closer
Culture Shock and Language Difference

- New food, fashion, weather, customs, religions, language.
- Be open-minded in connecting with others.
- Amazing to see similarities and differences
- Enroll in language classes before going
- Don’t be afraid to make mistakes and jump in
- English-speaking location eg China, Copenhagen, Singapore
COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS Vs REALITY

Lucy Davis
BA History
Monash University, Melbourne
Misconception #1: It’s too expensive!

- **Reduced tuition fees:**
  - £1385 for a year
  - £6475 for a semester

- **Enhanced maintenance loan**

- **Means-tested or automatic aid:**
  - Student Finance Travel Grant
  - The Vice-Chancellor’s Award for International Travel
  - The Global Travel Bursary

- **Destination scholarships:**
  - BUTEX Scholarships
  - U21 Scholarship for Korea University
  - DUO - Singapore Fellowship
  - Jasso Scholarship – Japan
Misconception #2: I can’t speak the language!

Many partners teach in English and China and Malaysia campuses are all in English!

You could learn a new language!
Misconception #3: Universities are all the same!

- University systems are completely different across the world
- Different class sizes
- Different teaching methods
- New topics to learn about
- Top teaching quality!
Misconception #4: Travelling independently will give me the same experience

• Immerse yourself in the culture
• Live like the locals – you won’t just be a tourist
• Have a university base and meet your travel buddies
Misconception #5: I’ll miss out on life back at home

- Experiences you can’t have at home
- So many memories to make and share when you return
- Keep in contact easily with WhatsApp, Skype, FaceTime
Studying in Another Education System

Freddie Carter
Law with European Law
University of Copenhagen
Studying at the University of Copenhagen

- Meeting students
- Smaller classrooms
- Interesting and varied module choices
- Group work and presentations
- Oral examinations
Reflections on Studying Abroad

- Grown in confidence
- Greater subject knowledge
- Friends from around the globe
WHAT IT’S LIKE STUDYING IN ANOTHER COUNTRY

Ann-Elin Myhre
MSci Neuroscience
McGill University
• Research university based on academics
• Four modules
• Each class is different
• Midterms
• Late night library sessions
DON’T BE INTIMIDATED

- Course facebook groups
- Peer-taught tutorials
- Engaging professors
SKILLS GAINED

- Time management
- Motivation
- Asking for support
- Don’t stretch yourself thin!
Travel and other unique experiences

Chloe Gibbons
Law with South East Asian Law
National university of Singapore
How do I fund it?

- Working before your year abroad
- Working on your year abroad
- Bursaries, scholarships and student finance
- Family
What do I need to think about?

- Visas and government advice
- Vaccinations
- Travel insurance
- Important documents
- Travelling alone?
- Keeping in contact with home
How did you fit it all in?

• Pass/fail or transferable grades?
• Timetables
• Examinations styles
• Coursework or exam based modules?
I don’t have money or the time to travel!

- Free events in your country
- Local travel
- National holidays
- Travel before/after your study abroad
Reflections on Study Abroad

Connor Higginbottom
Msc International Relations and Global Issues
Waseda University (早稲田大学)
Japan
Experiencing everything you can
Employability benefits from having studied abroad

- International References
- International work experience
- Opportunities to live and work in your country of study again
- Standing out from the crowd!
Study abroad can be just the start!

- Global Network of Friends
- Giving you the confidence and desire to live and study abroad again
Any questions?
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www.instagram.com/uonstudyabroad

email: studyabroad@nottingham.ac.uk

Drop-ins: Tuesdays, Thursdays, 2pm - 3.30pm

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