Student Profile

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Study Abroad Exchange student with Melbourne University, 2016

What made you choose your programme at LSE and what do you like about it?

The LSE is one of the top universities that offer Social Anthropology. The incredible range of interests and knowledge that the lecturers have here is probably one of the best things about the LSE. They are all experts in a different field, and it is fascinating to be able to see this influence their way of teaching. Much of what is taught stems from their own fieldwork experience, informed with a plethora of other ethnographic studies, thus making studying here all the more engaging. Being in London also means that we have the British Library, Senate House, and so many different places to explore, study, and enjoy outside of the university timetable!

What do you particularly like about the studying Anthropology at LSE?

The Seligman library is an important hub in the middle of the Department of Anthropology. It is essentially a small sanctuary for me. If I'm stressed or confused, or even just want to talk to someone about any interesting thoughts about the course, there will almost always be someone in the Seligman librarywhether it be the student librarians or a course mate.

What do you think were some of the main differences about studying in Melbourne compared to the LSE?

The sheer size of the universities! It took me a fortnight to get my footing in Melbourne, with so many departments and libraries to traverse through. The university is much larger and students are expected to curate their own study timetables and subjects. Melbourne University offers students the chance to choose and discover different subjects across all disciplines. The LSE on the other hand focuses students to a specific field of study from the outset learning and building on your knowledge rather than overwhelming yourself.

How did participating in the exchange change you?

Studying abroad gave me the space to really reflect and consolidate everything that I had learned in London in the two years prior, both academically and personally. Although I was still in an English-speaking country, it was nevertheless an alien environment, and it took a while to adjust. However, I can say that I am now much more comfortable with unexpected situations, and the looming prospect of graduating and entering adult life doesn't seem as daunting anymore!

Did the exchange influence your future plans?

It's given me a few ideas. It has reinforced and allowed me to accept that uncertainty is okay, and it is beneficial because I can then open up my options to trying different things that I had not thought of.