

## Student Profile

**Andrea Sze**

BA (Hons) Social Anthropology  
LSE, London



### 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 library- whether 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.

## Student Profile

Alice Harrison

BSc (Hons) Social Anthropology

LSE, London

### Study Abroad Exchange student with Melbourne University, 2016

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

LSE is a world-renowned university and the best for Anthropology.



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

The community spirit in the department and the way that we are given so much opportunity to find what we like in the discipline. I like being a student in London because of the vast amount of opportunities to do what you like and to be an individual. Also, I love the amount of free events that you can find.

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

Melbourne as a university has an incredibly relaxed atmosphere and is not as high-pressured as LSE. This meant that I had the opportunity to explore different disciplines whilst there.

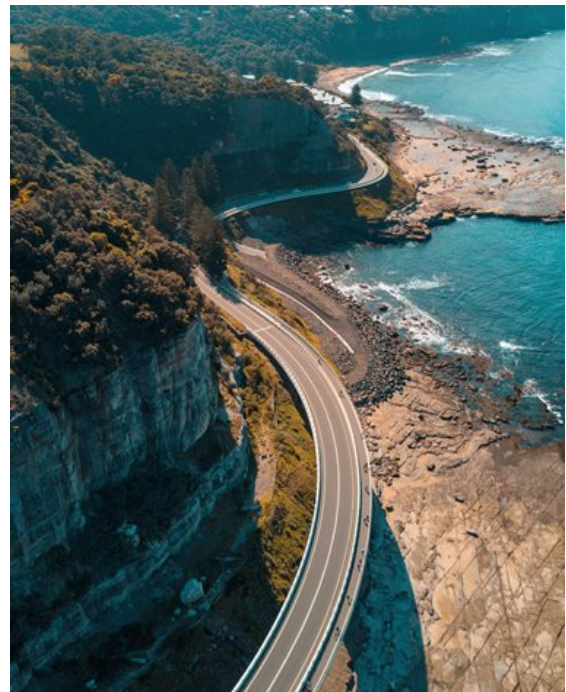
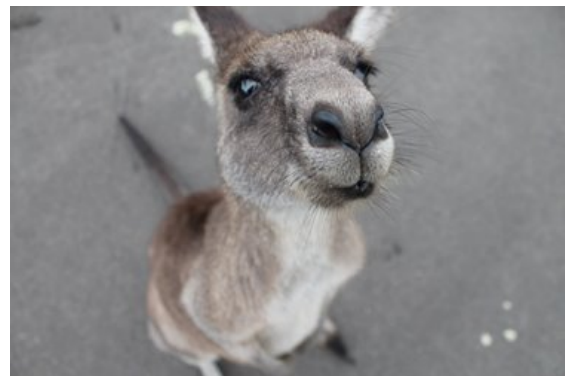
#### How did participating in the exchange change you?

I felt that I improved my writing style, and I liked being given the freedom to explore different options both within and outside of the discipline. I was also able to integrate myself into different groups within the university, and I enjoyed making friends with so many environmentally

minded people. I liked that the people there were incredibly open-minded and I felt that there was a sense of community.

#### Did the exchange influence your future plans?

I am still not 100% sure what I want to do after university but I gained useful skills whilst abroad. I became increasingly involved with environmental philosophy/anthropology and this is probably something that I would like to explore further



## Student Profile

**Harry Needell**

BA (Hons) Social Anthropology  
LSE, London

### Study Abroad Exchange student with Melbourne University, 2016

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

Perhaps owing to my upbringing in the relatively uniform Wiltshire countryside, I've always been captivated by cultural variation. Anthropology at LSE provided me with the fast lane to an understanding of the boundless diversity of human experience.

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

Thought provoking discussions with fellow student anthropologists are, for me, the highlight of studying anthropology at the LSE. A highly inspiring ensemble of professors provides the encouragement for challenging debate that continues long after the end of class.

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

For undergraduate Anthropology study LSE is arguably the place to be, and so the feedback from the work you do and knowledge you learn has a real sense of worth. With Melbourne however there was a lot more freedom and variety due to relaxed course choice selection allowing me to explore in depth topics I'm interested in that aren't available at LSE. Every course I chose had a unique feel to it that meant studying was never a chore. Finally while LSE is insanely gratifying, it was nice to slightly quell the intensity for a year

#### How did participating in the exchange change you?

Going on exchange and studying in Melbourne granted me with a chance to explore a greater selection of what social science has to offer and understand perspectives from academic disciplines

other than social anthropology. More importantly, it has enabled me to reflect on my own views more critically. Studying Anthropology at LSE has changed my outlook on life in general, so the year abroad gave me the time to embrace change and pick up some confidence, used to try new things. Furthermore, outside of University life – the move to Australia gave me a fantastic opportunity to travel; something I've always been desperate to do and even more so after a couple years studying Anthropology. Thanks to the flipped summer holidays I made the most of being situated on the other side of the world by and had invaluable personal experiences by traveling around Australia, New Zealand and parts of Asia.



#### Did the exchange influence your future plans?

It hasn't set anything in stone but has definitely broadened my horizons for the future.

