STUDY ABROAD PHOTO COMPETITION

2016/17
Emily Bolding, LLB Law, University of Queensland (Australia)

“I chose this photo of sunset over Uluru to reflect my year abroad as it encapsulates the uniqueness and beauty of the Australian outback in a glance. It highlights the amazing opportunities that I had to travel within Australia's abundance of historical and one of a kind landscapes and will forever remind me of the amazing experience that I have had”
Imogen Guppy - BSc in Biology, University of Queensland (Australia)

"Aviation Australia- the Whitsunday Islands and Great Barrier Reef. True natural wonders."
“From green trees to autumn leaves, autumn leaves to cherry blossoms and back to the greens, the most gorgeous moment was the cherry blossoms bloomed on the two sides of the road in my host university. Being in Japan during the cherry blossom season was what I have wished for so long. I was surprised that the bloom of cherry blossoms only last for one week. However, the one week didn't burn out people's enthusiasm but showing more of their joy.”
Calvin Kwan, BA Media and Cultural Studies, University of Oslo (Norway)

“22 km and 14 hours for a round trip to the top of the world”
"Of all the photos I’ve taken on my year abroad at ASU this one holds best to encapsulate my experience. It was taken at Horseshoe bend just north of the Grand canyon where the Colorado river encircles the deep gorge. I took a moment to enjoy the canyon and relaxed with my feet up. We drove four and a half hours after a spontaneous decision that we had planned the night before. My best advice would be to explore everything you can while you can. Some of the best adventures are half the world away."
Amro Mahmoud, BSc Business and Management, University of Mannheim (Germany)

“Panoramic views of Frankfurt from the Observation Tower! Simply Stunning!”
Ellen Whitcutt, BA History, University of Ottawa (Canada)

"Within all the exciting new opportunities and adventures of being abroad, one of my favourite things to do on my study exchange in Canada was to catch a sunset in whichever new city or environment I was in. Taking an hour to step back and appreciate my surroundings allowed me to really value my study experience. Toronto and its stunning skyline quickly became my favourite place to visit."
Marguerite Frisby, BSc Economics, Fudan University Summer School (China)

“This photo was taken whilst on a trek into the tea plantations in Hangzhou, China. We would drink fresh, herbal teas at every meal. In the distance you can see West Lake, which we visited after the trek. We crossed the lake on a small rowing boat, then visited a very traditional tea house. I’ve come back to England not only with a strong desire to return to China and to be immersed into such a beautiful scenery again - but also as an avid tea drinker.”
Jake Bonci, BEng Mechanical Engineering, Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)

“For me, doing a year abroad was primarily about stepping outside of my comfort zone. This photo was taken on top of the oldest Mosque in Delhi, a quiet spot in the otherwise most chaotic and interesting city visited during my travels.”
Josie, BA Geography, The University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)

“Before I went out to Hong Kong, I promised myself two things: firstly, that I’d try and learn a little Cantonese, and secondly, that I would try to befriend locals - not just other exchange students. Whilst my language skills leave much to be desired, joining both HK University’s- and HKCC Rugby clubs put me in prime position to see and experience life as a local. The beach 5s rugby tournament in January was just one of the numerous hilarious, ridiculous and exhilarating fiascos I was lucky enough to get caught up in as a result!”
Rebecca Calderbank, BA English Lang and Lit (YAB), Renmin University of China Summer School (China)

“As part of my Study Abroad trip to China, I adventured to do some volunteer work with the Panda base. It was a fascinating experiencing learning all about Panda Husbandry and China’s conservation efforts. It was good to practice my Mandarin while I was out there as well as learn my subjects at the University (which were in English). I’d recommend a study abroad, even if you don’t know anyone else doing it. I always thought that doing something like this was out of reach for someone as anxious and introverted as me. It’s good to just go for it and I am so glad I did”.
Jessica Hubbard, BA Int Rel and Dev, Singapore Management University Summer School (Singapore)

“This photo was taken from the roof of Singapore Management University, Singapore. I feel it best represents my time there and the city. Singapore has become highly developed as a city state. Due to a high population density, Singaporeans build upwards and live in small apartments. The skyscrapers in the photo could also be considered synonymous with Singapore's status as a developed nation. Even though it is late, the city never sleeps. If you look carefully, you can see trees lining the photo. Singapore has more trees than any other city, they are very concerned about preserving green spaces.

Finally, the centrepiece of this photo, the church-like structure, represents the coexistence of old and new architecture in the city; a sign of its speedy growth, in more ways than one.”
Andy Mackay, BSc Marketing and Management, EGE Rabat Summer School (Morocco)

“I went to Rabat in Morocco for a month to study Arabic. After already studying Arabic for 2 years at University of Sussex, I was keen to test out my ability. Sussex University offered me a £500 grant which covered almost all the cost of the course. The University EGE Rabat, Morocco, was a small university with small class sizes. Classes were from 9am – 1pm, Monday – Friday. The teachers were lovely and gave us opportunities such as extra classes and activities if needed. On the weekends, we were able to explore Morocco further, travelling to Marrakech, Fez, Merzouga (Sahara Desert), Chefchaouen and Casablanca.  
The intensive course allowed me to gain comfort in my Arabic abilities and rekindled my passion for learning the language. I would recommend Morocco, for the culture, food and friendly people!”
Natasha Hoare, BA Anthropology, Doshisha University (Japan)

“I think that my strongest memory of Japan won't be a certain place, or a person, or an activity - it will be the colour green. The green of rice fields, pine trees, bamboo, and the meticulously looked after beds of moss pictured in this photo. As the little Buddhist deities smile suggests, it has a wonderfully calming effect.”
“Tokyo is a large and fast paced city. Even if you think you have visited everywhere and experienced everything, there is always something left to see or something new to experience.”
Libania Dias, BSc Biomedical Science, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Hong Kong)

"Hong Kong was an amazing place to do my study abroad at. From the bustling city life to the peaceful nature hikes, there is inspiration to be found everywhere."

Lily Henry, BSc Biomedical Science, Chinese University of Hong Kong Summer School (Hong Kong)

“The Pavilion of Harmony, found at the top of the CUHK campus, shows the calmer side of Hong Kong. It’s not all skyscrapers.”
Olivia Tilley, BA Anthropology, Doshisha University (Japan)

“Embracing the kimono life, matcha ice cream ...and the crowds on a spring day in Gion, Kyoto.”
Vanessa Turner, M pharm Pharmacy, Taylor’s University Summer School (Malaysia)

“The picture was taken whilst on the Taylor’s University campus and depicts the lush beauty of Malaysia as well as their vibrant culture as portrayed by their coloured buildings and intriguing sculptures. Everything was in order from the checked lawn, positioning of the vegetation and buildings. There was a general sense of peace and tranquillity which echoed throughout the whole campus.”
Alasdair Hall, BA Int Rel and Dev, Humboldt University Summer School (Germany)

“I took this spontaneous street snap in a market in Alexanderplatz, Berlin. This photo reminds me of the warmth and eccentric charm in Berlin, through things such as the hearty and hospitable expression on the street performers face, the vivid colours of the bubbles, or through her unique outfit. Berlin to me epitomised the truest meaning of a modern city: an infinite assortment of individuals pursue their passions, no matter how quirky or unconventional they may be.”
Olivia Myers, BA English Lit, Simon Fraser University (Canada)

“America’s endless landscapes. Taken in the Utah desert, 35 mm film.”

Alistair Hornsby (pictured) studied Anthropology for the year at OSU, myself English Literature at SFU. After, we travelled for a couple of months in a camper van, covering over 8,000 miles of America. In doing so, we encountered vast landscapes of desert, mountain, ocean and forest, to name a few.
Robert Gyorgyi, BA Music, Yamanashi Gakuin University (Japan)

“Going to Japan for a year was the second best decision I have ever made in my life (the first one was choosing Sussex). Whilst I was exploring the culture, the language, and the beauty of the country, I also had a chance to simply use Japan as an Asian headquarters: I visited Indonesia, Thailand (twice), South Korea, Cambodia, and many other places as it is super cheap to travel between Asian countries. During the long winter break, the other students from Sussex also explored South-East Asia: they went to Myanmar, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Laos. I definitely fell in love with Asia and after my studies, I am planning to go back to explore that magical continent once again. This picture was taken of me in Bali where I went during the so-called Golden Week, an entire week of public holiday in Japan, when people do not work and when there is no teaching. I wish I could re-live my Study Abroad Year experience. I am not sure if I could make it even better than what it was: an unrepeatable adventure of (self)exploration.”
“It was hard to choose which photo best captured the incredible year I had in Sweden, and although this was not the best quality, or the most beautiful, I felt it best summed up what an adventure the year was. I arrived in a new country with new anxieties and feelings, and ended the year feeling like a different person and completely in love with a country I had not known before. When I sat on this snowmobile in the middle of the arctic in -20 weather I was terrified. I can’t drive, let alone in these conditions! I almost didn’t take part, but once I got the hang of it I couldn’t believe what I was doing, it was incredible and the adrenaline I had throughout was so wonderful, and that’s a sentence that could just as easily apply to my year abroad.”
“View of Hong Kong Island from the Pavilion of Harmony (天人合一) at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Personally, what I particularly like about this picture is not only the view itself - which is breath-taking - but it has a particular meaning since it reminds of one of the best experiences of my life.”
Hugo Wolfe, LLB Law, University of Adelaide, (Australia)

“The friends you make will always be more beautiful than the places you travel to.”
Frederick Christie, BA Anthropology and History, Waseda University (Japan)

“Screens, neons and shiny helmets glitz through Shibuya every evening. This beating heart of electric Tokyo is one of the most vibrant places on earth. And so, I still find it both astounding and hard to believe that I could once say; “this place is my town, my home.” Arigatou Tokyo!”
Agnes Rowe, BA American Studies and English Lit, University of Texas (USA)

"My year in America defied expectations. Politically and personally, a rollercoaster. But the biggest surprise of all - I found my fit amongst the madness."
Eliza Day, BA American Studies and English, University of Texas (USA)

“My favourite part of New York City, the Brooklyn Bridge taken by me, January 2017”
Rachel Arthurs, BA Sociology, Humboldt University Summer School (Germany)

“This is a photo that I took on the green at Humboldt University in Berlin. The photo shows my two friends who I met on the course. On the left is Kat from Sussex university whom I had never met despite being so close and the other, Phebe, came from all the way across the world in Sydney Australia. For me, this photo captures my experience of studying abroad because at the time we were on our lunch break from class and we were just getting to know one another over frozen cappuccinos when I decided to get out my disposable camera I had brought with me. When I got the camera film developed and saw this photograph it reminded me how this course gave me the chance to enjoy an amazing city and meet people from all over the world in an extremely diverse class of people with such different experiences to my own. The girls in this photo are now close friends of mine and we are all planning our international reunion as we speak (as soon as we decide on a country) and I’m certain I’ll never forget this experience and the memories left behind which wouldn’t have been possible without study abroad.”
Olivia Lanham, BA Anthropology, University of Copenhagen (Denmark)

“The pictures of the boats were taken at a place called Faaborg on the island of Funen. I had been travelling from Copenhagen, and came across the Faaborg by accident. The area had beautiful castles, churches, medieval houses and countryside. The flags on the boat very literally represent Denmark, but the scene itself embodies the Danish way of life. Behind me tens of vintage cars were parked by the harbour, alongside a sausage dog who lived on top of the first boat. Water is such an integral part of Danish living, and I got used to swimming in harbours like this in Copenhagen weekly. It is these reasons that encapsulate the spirit of studying in Denmark.”