

Student Profile

Name: Muradiye Kaya

Home Institution: University of British Columbia Okanagan

Country: Canada

Degree: Major International Relations and Minor in Fine Arts

Year you studied abroad? 2018-2019

Why did you choose to study at Lancaster University?

I wanted to be able to study both of my degrees and experience the British culture in a medieval town of the North-West.

What are your happiest moments at Lancaster University?

Being able to literally live in my studio, creating art, having my own space, the support I got from Dom during my art projects, the support I got from Pip and Anyka, meeting a lot of people and being able to travel.

What were the most challenging moments?

The education system was very different from what I was used to. It's more self directed and research-based in Lancaster. Having three terms was also different. I would say not being able to make my own timetable and having only one time-slot options for a module was difficult because most of my lectures or deadlines were clashing. I think having one course work and a final at the end of the year was difficult too.

Why would you encourage others to study abroad?

Even though having difficulties, I have learnt a lot and had the most fun! I have always wanted to experience living in the UK and this year felt like I was becoming a local. I think leaving the nest and being open to learn more about other cultures are really important. Leaving your comfort zone and not being able to find your family as your biggest support can lead you to overcome with the obstacles on your own which is such a big maturing and learning experience and very valuable.

How would you sum up your experience?

I have grown more mature, creative, inspired, never scared and more ready for my final year of university! I'm more prepared to face any difficulty that might come my way.



Muradiye Kaya - Photo



Student Profile

Name: Federica Parisi

Home Institution: Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi

Country: Italy

Degree: Business Administration and Management

Year you studied abroad? 3rd year

Why did you choose to study at Lancaster University?

I always wanted to study abroad and UK was one of my dream destinations. While filling the form for the Study Abroad program in my home institution I found out that Lancaster University reached a quite high position for quality of education in rankings and that it was actually a very good institution. This convinced me to include Lancaster in my top destinations.

What are your happiest moments at Lancaster University?

The happiest moments at Lancaster Uni are definitely the coffee breaks with my new international friends and the lectures with some of the best teachers I have ever had during my university years.

What were the most challenging moments?

As the first time studying in a different country the most challenging moment was the learning process, because I had to adapt to a different teaching and working method other than a whole different Country.

Why would you encourage others to study abroad?

I highly recommend a study abroad experience because it is highly formative, both from an academic but especially a personal point of view as you get to know students and teachers from all around the world.

How would you sum up your experience?

My experience was very challenging and exciting and it gave me the chance to explore and know more about the world and the different cultures. I also learnt better how to adapt and live in a different country.

Student Profile

Name: Vanessa Janisch

Home Institution: University of Graz

Country: Austria

Degree: English Studies

Year you studied abroad? 2018/2019

Why did you choose to study at Lancaster University?

I chose to study at Lancaster University because the courses offered were different to my home University's. I also wanted to live in a different part of England, as I have only been to the south before and Lancaster seemed like the perfect location for this experience.

What are your happiest moments at Lancaster University?

My happiest moments are all the amazing trips I got to go on whilst studying here, like Glasgow, Windermere, the Peak District, Blackpool and Harrogate and meeting so many people from around the world that I can now call my closest friends. I also loved taking part in the Rainbow Run in March.

What were the most challenging moments?

For me, adjusting to a new style of teaching and a different course structure was a bit of a challenge, but I got used to it quite quickly. Another challenge was dealing with being ill without being able to go to my regular GP and finding appropriate medication.

Why would you encourage others to study abroad?

Studying abroad is valuable for so many reasons. You become more independent, learn to adjust to a new culture and way of living and you get to meet some of your closest friends. Academically, it is a great way to learn or improve speaking a language and you get to experience how university is structured in a different country – in short, it pushes you out of your comfort zone and changes you for the better.

How would you sum up your experience?

My study abroad experience was one of the best things I have been lucky enough to do. I have found another place I can call home, got to meet amazing people and study at a great university.



Vanessa Janich - Photos



Student Profile

Name: Laura Korn

Home Institution: University of Technology Sydney (UTS)

Country: Australia

Degree: Bachelor of Environmental Biology

Year you studied abroad? End of second and start of third year

Why did you choose to study at Lancaster University?

Lancaster University provided the exact modules I required for my degree, studying abroad during the end of my second year and for the start of my third year meant my modules were specific to my degree as it began to narrow and specialise. It was great to have an exchange option that meant no issues for my degree layout. I saw the UK as an opportunity to experience and apply my knowledge to a varied environment compared to Australian ecosystems which contribute directly to my course. The UK also provides a gateway to experiencing the Northern Hemisphere e.g. cold climates – I had never seen snow before my exchange – and ease of travel to many different countries nearby and across Europe!

What are your happiest moments at Lancaster University?

Definitely hanging out with all of my new – and lifelong – UK and international friends within my course and across the university as a whole! The small moments of connecting with people and feeling right at home regardless of being away from my home country were probably my favourite parts of my exchange. I particularly enjoyed being part of Lancaster University Canoe Club (LUCC)! These guys were more than just my friends, they became my family and I wouldn't have wanted it any other way. Plus, being involved in such a way at the university through this club meant I always had something to do, whether it be socialising, competing against other universities and travelling across the UK for leisure. Getting to experience living on campus was also a treat as most, if not all, students live off campus in Australia. The events organised by each college, such as extravs (end of year celebrations), and the University were also fun to take breaks away from studying throughout the year and connect with friends.

What were the most challenging moments?

I would say having to adapt to the lack of assignments and higher weighted exams for all of my modules was most challenging. The highest weighted exam I had sat at my home university was 45% compared to Lancaster with 67% so that was difficult in regards to having to really focus my study during exam revision. I also completed third year modules during the end of my second year so struggled slightly with some of the content being taught, as I had not entirely completed all pre-requisites. However, that was quite easily rectified by communicating with my lecturers and asking



for help where needed. Many of my peers experienced homesickness, however, by keeping myself busy with multiple societies/clubs and by taking every opportunity to integrate myself into the community I really felt at home and barely missed home.

Why would you encourage others to study abroad?

Coming on exchange has been the best experience of my life thus far! I have grown so much as an individual by relying on myself and forcing myself to step out of my comfort zone. I would, and do, encourage others to study abroad as I know how invaluable it has been for me.

How would you sum up your experience?

AMAZING! Being able to study abroad via my university and exchange partners, such as Lancaster University, was an integral reason for why I chose to begin my degree and I am so happy I took the immediate steps towards my exchange experience from my first day at university. I am glad I seized this once in a lifetime opportunity, and if I had the chance to do it all again I would!

Laura Korn – Photos



Student Profile

Name: Mirco Caselli

Home Institution: Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3

Country: France

Degree: Langues Etrangères Appliquées (Applied Foreign Languages)

Year you studied abroad? 2018-2019

Why did you choose to study at Lancaster University?

I did not choose Lancaster University as it was not among my preferences, it was my sending institution who decided to send me there. The reason why they sent me there was because Lancaster is one of the best-ranked universities in the UK and, as my average in my sending institution was high, they thought that Lancaster was the best reward for my grades.

What are your happiest moments at Lancaster University?

The first one is the Welcome Week, where I met the Global Experience Team and my college staff. The other one is all the events organized by the Global Experience Team, where I met other international students.

What were the most challenging moments?

Classes and assessments.

Why would you encourage others to study abroad?

Absolutely yes for the following reasons. Firstly, experiences as such make you open-minded. Secondly, this kind of experience helps you to find your weaknesses and to make you stronger. Lastly, with such an experience you can meet new people and make new friends from other cultures and nationalities, thus creating a unique personal network.

How would you sum up your experience?

This has been one of the most beautiful experiences I have ever had in my university career and in my life in general. Obviously, I had some difficulties at the beginning because I did not know the university system in England and because some of the modules I chose were quite difficult.

However, thanks to my hard work and motivation, as well as to all the support I had from my family, my friends and from the Learning Developers at Lancaster University, I managed to overcome my difficulties and to get high grades. Moreover, this experience helped me to find my strength and weaknesses. In conclusion, my experience at Lancaster University is absolutely positive and, in the future, I would love to study or to work in England or in another English-speaking country.



Mirco Caselli – Photos



Student Profile

Name: Gabriella Kass

Home Institution: University of Florida

Country: United States of America

Degree: Criminology and Sociology

Year you studied abroad? Lent & Summer 2019

Why did you choose to study at Lancaster University?

They offered exchange programs through my home University and the campus looked beautiful online.

What are your happiest moments at Lancaster University?

Meeting and getting to know the other students in my accommodation as well as the other international students from all over the world.

What were the most challenging moments?

Learning what was expected from me in each of my modules. There were lots of long essays and not many other assignments.

Why would you encourage others to study abroad?

It was the best experience of my life and it gives you an opportunity to meet amazing new people and see different cultures.

How would you sum up your experience?

Studying abroad at Lancaster University was the best decision I ever made. I would not leave if I didn't have to.