GO ABROAD

Studying abroad as part of your degree

www.ncl.ac.uk/mobility/newcastle
There are many reasons why students choose to study or work abroad as part of their degree. Here are just some of them...

- Gain life experience
- Stand out in the graduate job market
- Return more motivated, independent and confident
- Acquire new or improved language skills
- Become more self-reliant
- Gain a new perspective on your academic subject
- Gain greater knowledge of other cultures
- Gain a global mind-set
- Learn more about yourself
- Gain an international network of friends

And it’s a fun and challenging experience!

When I was studying abroad, I had to adjust very quickly to the different style of work, and this taught me to be a lot more focused. I wanted to travel so I had to juggle that alongside my course work. Travelling taught me to be a lot more independent, and I stayed in some old hostels and travelled to big cities like New York - travelling while studying abroad taught me to be a lot more independent and aware of my surroundings.

I enjoyed travelling so much, and I tried to do some every month. I would recommend this to other students, but you need to be aware of the costs of studying abroad, as well as the costs of travelling. I worked three jobs over the summer to pay for my time abroad and to ensure I was allowed to travel but it was worth it!
Funding for placements in Europe is available via the Erasmus+ Programme, which is an EU-funded scheme. The UK government has confirmed that it will underwrite payments for Erasmus+ Programme contracts that are signed while the UK is still a member state, even if payments continue beyond the point of the UK's EU exit date.
Study ABROAD

OPTIONS

OUTSIDE OF EUROPE

We have over 50 partner universities outside of Europe at which students can choose to study.

Canada, USA, Peru, Brazil, South Korea, Japan, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia
George // Combined Honours BA Honours

Destination study: University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia and University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

My time abroad was an incredible culture experience; I really enjoyed meeting new people and exploring with them. From barbecuing on the beach in Sydney to hiking up Victoria peak staring down at the illuminated Hong Kong concrete jungle, it was an incredible opportunity to get to know places I probably never would have visited otherwise. I have been engrossed in amazing and exceptionally different cultures and met incredible people from all over the world.

‘AWE-INSPIRING’

Going to a new university you learn in new and different ways. I’ve had the opportunity to study subjects outside my degree (Politics and Economics), which has given a new dimension to my learning. Moreover it has definitely given me direction when it comes to my dissertation topic. Halfway through second year I had no clue what I wanted to do career wise, which was exceptionally scary. Now I have a clear focus – my experience has really reinforced my desire to pursue a career as an ambassador, and my year abroad was paramount in helping to decide my future career direction.

The experience definitely broadened my horizons and really helped develop my communication skills, so as a student I have really expanded my knowledge base and become more inquisitive and analytical. I also think I’ve matured immensely – if you think going to university has a maturing influence, you have no idea what studying on two completely new continents does! Everyone I talk to I recommend doing a study abroad programme.

I think that my spoken language has improved considerably and I am more confident using my languages. It’s really interesting to visit some of the places that we have learnt about while studying at Newcastle.

I have changed a lot since starting my year abroad. I am more confident in my language ability and I believe that I have become more independent as a person, being forced to organise things and complete certain requirements for staying in each country. This year has been a great opportunity to travel and experience many different cultures. Although it can be challenging at times, especially studying at a different university, it’s very rewarding when you can solve a problem.

Michalina // Modern Languages with Linguistics BA Honours

Destination study: Coimbra University, Portugal and Staatsliche Kunstammlungen Dresden, Germany

I would definitely recommend this experience to other students, especially language students. Having studied at a different university and talked to local students we are very lucky that we are given this opportunity as part of our course. I think the year abroad is a great chance to travel to places which you may never have had the opportunity to go before and to show yourself how resilient you can be.

‘CHALLENGING YET ULTIMATELY REWARDING’

As I am not sure what I want to do in the future I took this year as an opportunity to try different career paths. First I worked in Austria as a teaching assistant, teaching English. Then I went to Spain to study in the translation and interpreting faculty. I have found both experiences to be useful and they will be undoubtedly useful when I am applying for jobs.

I spent my year abroad studying in Portugal and doing an internship in Germany. Both experiences were tough but I would still say it was one of the three most (positively!) life-changing experiences in my life. I enjoyed experiencing different cultures – not only witnessing it but truly living it. Most of the people I met were very friendly and willing to help, show me around, explain things, and even feed me! I had the pleasure of being invited to a traditional Portuguese family dinner (this means it took hours and finished about 2am) and this is something you can experience only by living abroad.

The first step to learn and grow is to leave your comfort zone – and living abroad is a perfect way to do it. I was forced to face many different situations and thanks to this, I saw how I feel about various things, what really matters to me and what’s not so important.

Living abroad made me more aware of what I am like, how I react, think and behave. I’ve learned a lot about myself and now I can apply this knowledge when choosing my career. Without it, making certain decisions would be more guessing than deciding.
Students participating in our exchange programmes receive guidance and support throughout the whole process including:

- Financial advice
- Safety advice
- Wellbeing advice: help us to make your time abroad a success by informing us of your individual needs well in advance of your trip
- A designated Student Mobility Team to guide you through the application process and support you while overseas
- A designated academic subject co-ordinator to provide you with academic advice
- Compulsory pre-departure sessions
- Pre-departure social events
- Free travel insurance
- Membership of our online support community
- Guidance and support from the Exchange Programme Student Ambassadors, who have previously studied or worked overseas
- 24-hour assistance line while overseas

At Kyushu University on Japan’s southernmost island, I studied Japanese language, culture and sociology with 50 other exchange students from around the world. The exchange programme was as much about cultural events as academic study; we had host families who we met up with and every few weeks there were trips to different places around Kyushu. We’ve been to harvest rice and meet sumo wrestlers! My Japanese is still fairly basic so it’s been a challenging experience that has pushed me to be more independent and confident. It’s changed how I think about my future. I know that I’d like to work abroad and it’s opened my eyes to so many new career options. Studying abroad is definitely an experience I would recommend. It’s very different from studying back in Newcastle – it really gives you practical experience and resilience. I had no idea what to expect from living in Japan but it’s been amazing.
This publication is intended as advance publicity for information and guidance purposes only. Details included are correct at the time of going to press in June 2017. The most up-to-date and detailed source of information at any time is the website www.ncl.ac.uk/mobility/newcastle.

Full details of the University’s terms and conditions, including reference to all relevant policies, procedures, regulations and information provision, are available at www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival/regulations.

We would like to thank the following for use of photography: the students featured in profiles; iStock.

Designed by Aspire Design.
Printed by Potts Print (UK).

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The University of Newcastle upon Tyne trading as Newcastle University.