

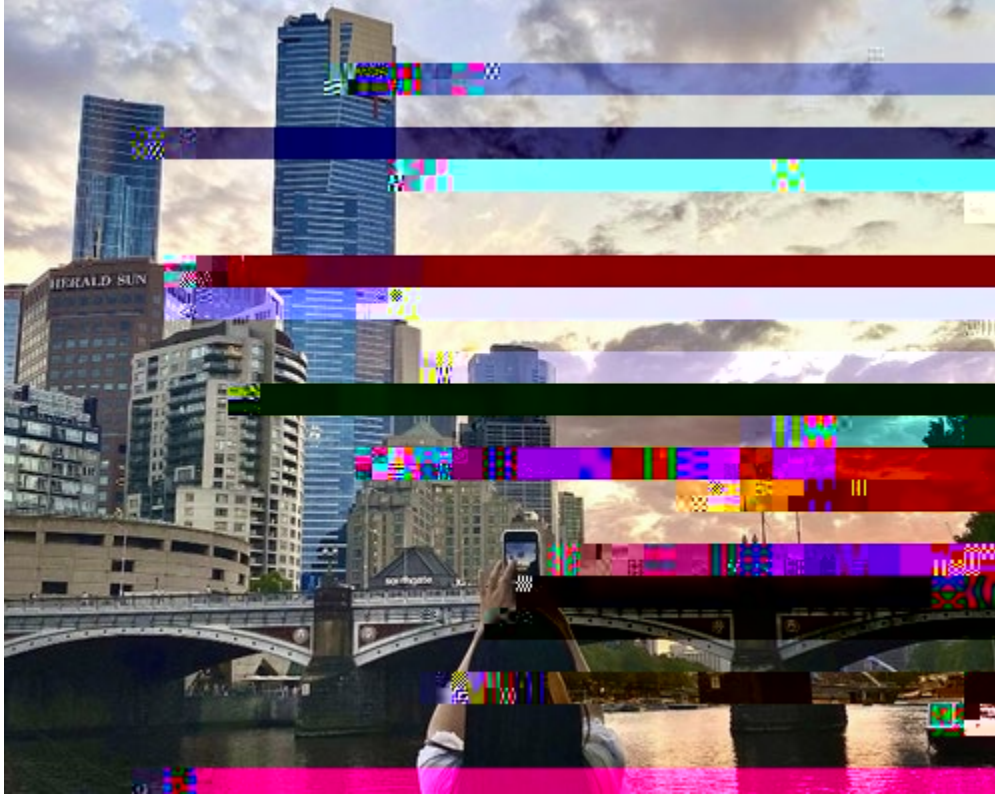
SFU Student Undergraduate
Arts + Social Sciences › Criminology
Peer Education › Career Peers, Athletics + Recreation › Recreation

Initiative: Global Skills Opportunity
Program: Study Abroad › Exchange
University: Monash University
Location: Melbourne, Australia
Story Faculty: Arts + Social Sciences

Studying abroad was something I knew I wanted to do, but when I landed in Melbourne last month in smoldering 40-degree temperature, I wondered whether Australia was the right choice. I'm currently one month into my exchange in Melbourne, and I can confidently say that I have no regrets about my decision. This city and its people are vibrant, full of life, and culturally diverse. The teaching approach for my courses at Monash University involve lots of application and interactive discussions, which took some getting used to, but I find it refreshing and enriching.

I have experienced more personal growth in my first month here than a year living back at home. I had never lived by myself before going on exchange, let alone 13,026 kilometers away from my comfort zone, my family, and my friends. It was tough for the first two weeks, but I met so many amazing people, experienced so many new things, and even picked up a few new hobbies and catchphrases. Now, all I can think about is savoring every single day that I have left. I feel much more prepared for anything that comes my way, and it has become very clear to me what I want to do when I'm back home. I can't stress enough how valuable this past month has been for me, and I'm excited for what the next three will bring. I already know that I will be talking about my semester abroad for years to come.

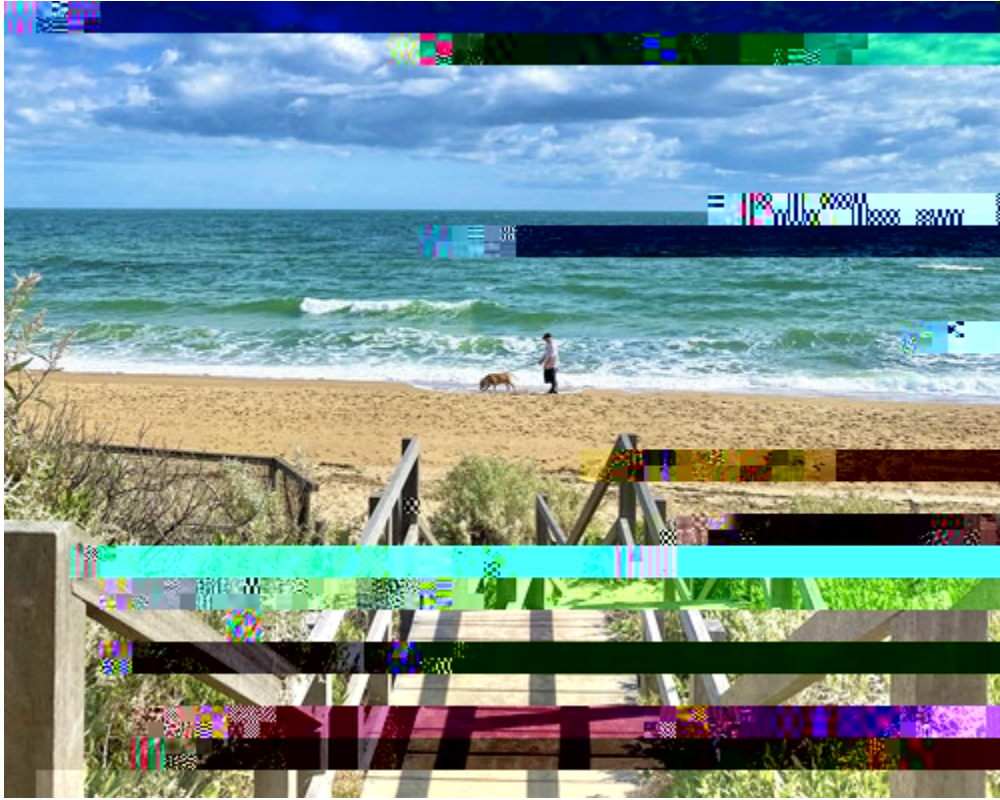




Yarra River



Flinders Street Station



Mordialloc Beach