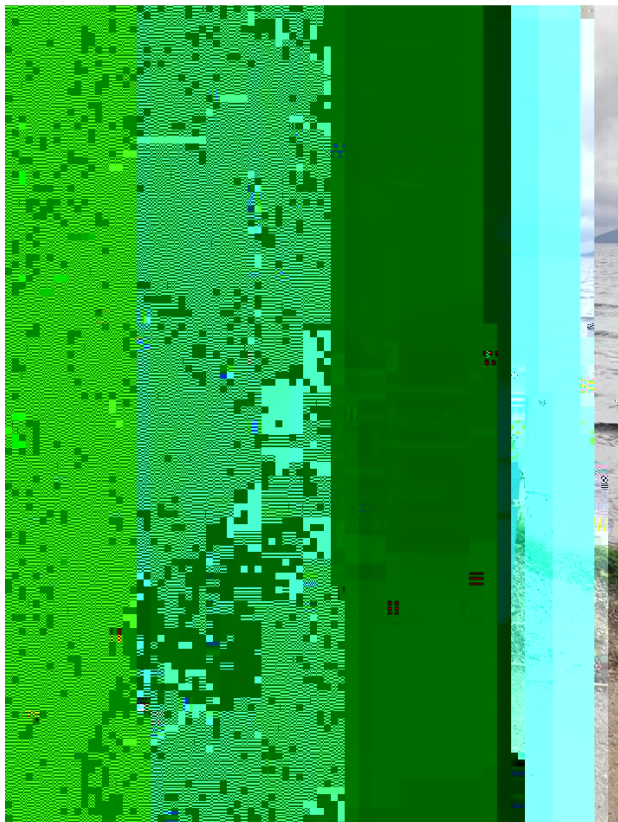


Semester abroad at the University of Stirling in Scotland

studying in as you physically can. I loved getting to see other countries such as Italy, Ireland and Scotland. Take advantage back. There are so many opportunities to get out and see your host country either through your university or booking tours. In my case, our host university had a partnership with a specific time and going on that tour to the Highlands was easily one of the best decisions I made abroad.



If you plan on studying in Europe the best advice I can give is to have as much money saved up as you can. European countries are very expensive. The two things that I would encourage prospective study abroad students to take into consideration are conversion fees and exchange rates. Do some research ahead of time on how much money you will actually have in the currency of the country you are travelling to. That is something I wish I would have done. Due to those two things it can be hard to estimate how far your money in Canadian dollars will take you. I think this would have been helpful to me in the budgeting stages too. Another thing that I think really helped while I was abroad was opening a foreign bank account. A lot of other students that I met who were also studying abroad were just using their debit cards from their home country to withdraw funds. I found that making a one-time transfer from my Canadian account to my UK account probably saved me money due to both ATM fees and conversion rates. Every time I needed to use my Canadian debit to withdraw funds the bank

new people, but some of those events really limit you to only meeting other people that have come on exchange. Joining different clubs and societies at the university really helped me to meet locals with common interests and passions. Befriending locals really helped me fully immerse myself in Scottish culture, and I made some lifelong friends who share some common interests! I joined the musical theatre society, and not only did I meet people that I ended up spending a ton of time with outside of the club, I was also able to participate in the performance a student produced cabaret.

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and met people from all around that I otherwise never would have gotten the opportunity to meet. It was truly an enriching experience to my post-secondary career.