

Dear Prospective Student,

My name is Kristy Mai and I am a first-generation Senior at Chapman University majoring in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing and a minor in Computer Science. I was determined to study abroad because traveling has always been a passion of mine, and living abroad for 5 months was the dream. I was born and raised in Southern California, so I knew I wanted to study abroad somewhere I can experience a real Autumn and Winter, and have exposure to the outdoors as well as the city atmosphere. I had the opportunity to study at the University of Glasgow in Scotland and the Glasgow School of Arts during the Fall of 2015.

Studying abroad has been one of the highlights of my college experience. It gives you the opportunity to step out of your comfort zone and discover things you won't learn in a classroom setting. Studying abroad exposed me to be open to a variety of cultures, how to adapt to different situations, and a new sense of independence. It was amazing to see what I learned in textbooks come to life—right before my eyes. Being truly on my own for the first time, in a different country, has taught me how big the world is and how much there is left to explore!

I truly enjoyed my program because I had the chance to do both a homestay with a Scottish family and then live in a flat with housemates from Australia, Washington, New Zealand, and Canada. It was also refreshing to be exposed to a large university, and go to classes compiled of nearly 300+ students—whereas my classes at Chapman never exceeds 40! I took an accounting and business management course abroad as well so it was interesting to compare the different teaching styles.

While studying in Scotland, I made lifelong friends, traveled to 9 other different countries, tried new foods, and saw snow for the first time! I took a fair share of photos (over 600), bought a hefty amount of souvenirs, but the most valuable takeaways are experiences you gain and the relationships you make. The best piece of advice I can give to someone is to be open to step outside of your comfort zone because it gives you the chance to seek out new opportunities!

Sincerely,

Kristy Mai



Cliffs of Moher



Highland cow in Scottish Highlands



Loch Ness