

Laura Holtham: University of California, Irvine (Semester 1, 2011)

UQ Program: Bachelor of Science/Arts

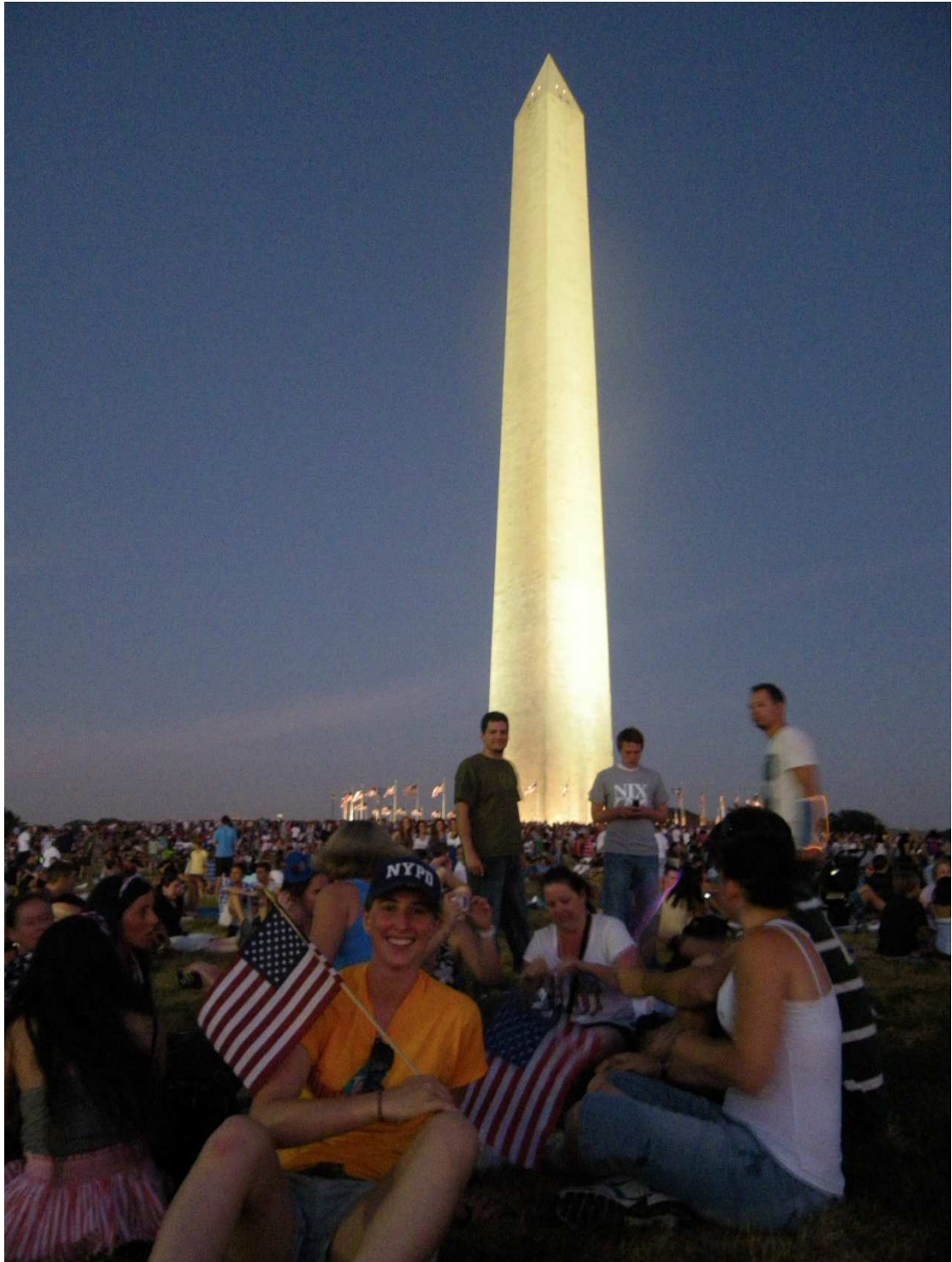
Going on a study exchange to the United States of America has definitely been the greatest experience of my life and one I would highly recommend to everyone.

I am currently a third year at UQ, completing a dual Bachelor of Science and Arts. My three majors are Criminology, Archaeology and Chemistry. While studying in California I mainly focused on the Criminology aspect of my degree, taking full advantage of some of the great courses offered by the University of California, Irvine. Some of the most interesting courses I got to take were Classic Crime Cinema and Organized Crime. I also enjoyed learning about American law and corrections.

While the academic part of my exchange was interesting and enjoyable, without a doubt the best part of my exchange were the friendships I made. My roommate and fellow housemates were amazing people and we had a ton of fun together, each teaching the other about our countries. I taught them about Vegimite and Australian wildlife, while they taught me about smores and Broomball (it's like Ice Hockey but with no skates, two balls, a ton of people and no rules).

As well as being able to experience life at an American college, I also got the chance to travel a lot throughout the States. Some of the highlights of my travels include: seeing it snow at the Grand Canyon, being in Washington D.C for the 4th of July and eating dinner in Central Park, New York in the summer.

From day 1, my exchange exceeded my expectations and only continued to get better. I have seen amazing things and met some even more amazing people. An exchange is an opportunity for learning, adventure and excitement and something I would recommend to everyone. You won't regret it.



Washington D.C: Waiting for the Independence Day fireworks next to the Washington Monument.