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Program at UQ: Bachelor of Regional and Town Planning

What can I say about my experience in Sheffield that would do it justice?

Whilst I only studied one semester abroad, I learnt so much that has contributed to my degree and my future profession. There was added appeal in that *'the University of Sheffield department of regional and town planning doesn't believe in exams'* as being the most comprehensive method of testing students' abilities. As you can understand, this gave me quite a lot of free time come study block and exam period to devote towards my personal goals and endeavours.

Recreational opportunities in the city of Sheffield are not abundant but you can be guaranteed that if you live at the Edge (the university dorms) you will be within a 5 minute walk to a pub. Nothing beats the satisfaction of knowing that at any given time, you can walk, play a casual game of pool, and grab a pint...or two.

If you're going to Sheffield as a base for your travels, keep in mind that the myths that you've heard about the 2 dollar flight are true. Yes, they are true. Destinations all over Europe are within a 2-hour-or-so flight and will cost you the change in your pocket. Most importantly, do not be apprehensive about travelling too much. My one regret is not travelling more and experiencing Europe while I could. However, that would literally be my one regret.

It goes without saying that you're going to meet a whole bunch of 'cool people that have changed my life forever' rah rah rah. I opted to participate in the Study Abroad orientation program which meant that for the initial week, I was in the midst of other exchange students in the same situation as me. It was essentially an extended one-week booze-fest with complete strangers that, looking back, would become like brothers and sisters to me.

So in essence, there is nothing I can say in words that will do justice to my overall experience (bet you didn't see that coming). I have learnt so much about my degree and more importantly, myself. Whilst this was intended as a sell for the University of Sheffield, please see this as a sell for study abroad. It doesn't matter where you choose to go; you're going to have a blast of a time. I cannot stress that enough.



This is me standing next to the entrance to The Edge on a beautiful winter's day. I forgot to mention how scenically beautiful Sheffield is.