

Engineers Abroad

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Mechanical Engineer

EAP Engineering
Abroad Mentor



EAP Engineering Abroad Mentor Edition

When & why did you decide to Study Abroad?

"I studied abroad at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) in Sydney, Australia fall quarter of my junior year. I wanted to study abroad because I enjoy travelling and I wanted to test myself & see if could do things alone in a country where I had no connections."



The Great Barrier Reef, Australia



Camping Ground, New Zealand Coast

What location & program did you choose? & Why?

"I chose UNSW because of its location & its focus on technology which made finding engineering classes that I needed very easy. Being ranked among the best in the world, it offered a lot of engineering related events outside of classes that I tried to attend as often as possible."

Did you receive any credit towards your major?
Yes! I received credit for MAE 130A & MAE 117, both fulfilling requirements for my major."



Was it difficult to study abroad as an engineering student?

“No. I felt like I studied the same amount at UNSW as I do at UCI. The only difference between UNSW & UCI was the hands-on projects & labs, which made learning fun. I had one big project where my team and I had to design a solar panel system for an apartment in Beijing. Thanks to this project, I felt like I had a better understanding of the course material & how to best apply it in a real world setting.”

Were you able to visit other cities outside of Sydney?

“Yes! I traveled to Melbourne and Cairns during the semester. Once I was done with my semester, I had a month of winter break so my friends & I rented a camper van and drove around the coast of New Zealand. I then went to Beijing and Taiwan to visit friends and family.”

Would you recommend studying abroad to other engineering students?

Yes! After you come back from studying abroad, you have the mentality of being able to accomplish anything because you were able to survive in a foreign country all by yourself. As an engineer, you learn to work with people with different views, adapt to new environments & are given opportunities that are not available at UCI. For example, at UNSW they had a student organization called Create that is project oriented. Because of Create, I learned how to build my own quadcopter and became comfortable with using an Arduino, which helped me in my UCI courses, specifically MAE 150L and MAE 106.



Mount Cook, New Zealand



Sydney Opera House, Sydney, Australia

What advice would you give to engineering students who are considering studying abroad?

“My advice would be to try it! It is definitely an irreplaceable experience! Don’t be afraid of taking the path less traveled! I would also recommend students to start applying early! Most programs require that you apply six months or more ahead so it is important to start planning early especially when you want courses to be approved & count towards fulfilling major requirements.”



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