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My academic interests have diversified greatly, and this is purely down to the wide range of modules available at my host university, including topics not covered at York, such as Japanese philosophy, Lexicography, and History of France and Belgium. I now feel like I have a wider base of knowledge which will stand me in good stead for a future career.

I now feel much more comfortable travelling alone, and organising my own finances and documents. It's really true that you come back a true adult! I've been able to improve my language skills due to the multilingual environment that Belgium is. I can now converse in Dutch and have really perfected my French skills to a professional level.

My advice to future study abroad students is to explore the full breadth of options. Find local organisations, charities, and events, or even sports clubs and interest groups. It's not just about studying, it's about being immersed in a different society.

