

Tom – Department of Politics

Western University, Canada

After being in Canada for four months I feel much more like a local I use slang which is more common to the people here and people are really accepting. Overall I feel that Western has become a home of sorts to me. The biggest challenge so far has been the different method of tests at Western they frequently examine you to determine your end of term grades and this



can be an exhausting process as it seems never to stop. However I have gotten use to this method of grading and can better prepare for the frequent exams and tests. Things that I have done that have made me feel more like a local have been to get stuck in and involved in University events like Home Coming and watching Canadian Sports like Football etc. This has allowed me to interact with the locals culture more and spark up more conversations that are in touch with the residents. Finally I think the experience so far has made me a more inclusive and rounded individual who understands the North American culture better.

Ella – Department of English and Related Literature

Western University, Canada

As someone who doesn't get particularly homesick, I have felt comfortable the entire time I have been at Western. It was easy to make friends as Canadians are very welcoming and kind, and there are also a lot of fellow British exchange students who I have become really good friends with over the past few months. I have done a fair amount of travelling, frequenting Toronto several times and now feeling like a local every time I visit. I was also extremely lucky to visit New York, which has always been a dream of mine, and it completely exceeded my expectations. Next on our list is



Miami, where we are going for five days during reading week. I'm very excited to get some much needed sun, something which has inevitably been lacking in the -13 weather here in Canada. The snow fall is like I've never seen before, but the cold isn't as biting as you might think. It's bearable. During my time here, I have definitely become a more confident and outgoing person, and have experienced such a variety of people and cultures. Things that made me feel like a 'local': ice hockey games, becoming used to the snow how us Brits expect the rain, and accidentally adopting some of their most used slang. Although, I've made sure to teach the Canadian's the best British slang and there's always the Irish bar downtown if I'm in need of some rowdy, British karaoke eh?

Laura – Department of History

Western University, Canada

I feel very much so at home since coming to Western University. I have made some of the greatest friends that I have ever encountered. Coming to York I met many likeminded people, but coming to Western I have met so many more. I feel like I am becoming much more mature and independent and a lot better at managing money since I cannot call my parents and have them do things for me ASAP. The biggest challenge for me, although it may sound trivial, is adapting to the foods out in Canada. They cook things very differently here and a lot of my home comforts are not available to me here. I wrongly assumed, as this is a western country, food would not have been an issue for me.

Money was also an issue for me as things cost a lot more out here, but the longer I spend here the more I get used to this and, aforementioned, I am getting a lot better at handling and spending my money. I have been doing a fair bit of traveling, including local places and even New York. This semester I have two trips planned to Miami and New Orleans (to escape the snow!)

