Jack

Fraunhofer IIS, Erlangen, Germany

During the year I changed and matured, both personally and professionally. The work experience and academic opportunities allowed me to extend my knowledge and skills far outside the scope of my course at York, giving me insight into other disciplines, subjects and areas that may be of interest to me after graduation. It has also given me some interesting final year project experience and ideas, with which I can make the most of my placement year.

Unsurprisingly for me, the language barrier was the hardest thing about living abroad. My skills have improved a great deal from when I arrived! The year abroad has definitely been worthwhile, and has provided me with incredible travel and social opportunities.

Timothy

Fraunhofer IIS, Erlangen, Germany

Working in a research organisation is great. Being able to communicate with professors at the top of their field and work on cutting edge projects is brilliant. It is motivating to think that my work will influence future technologies. Living abroad has been a great experience. I have battled with Crohns disease and anxiety throughout the placement but this hasn't stopped me enjoying myself. I have had the chance to travel for only a small amount of money and see my favourite places frequently. The environment at work is relaxed and self organised. This is a breath of fresh air from the busy uni life.

I would highly recommend all students to do a placement abroad. You learn life skills and meet great people from around the world.