Hello, my name is ADAM (pictured left) and I am heading into my final year as a Politics and International Relations student.

I studied at Union College for a year as a credit replacement student during the 2020–21 academic year. Union College is a small liberal arts university about three hours north of New York City. Studying there meant I could experience a different style of teaching, with small classes being the norm over a combination of lectures and seminars. Thanks to its small size, it was easy to get to know professors and students alike and I quickly made lifelong friends. I also managed to travel during my time abroad, making it to eleven states plus D.C.

It was not all sunshine and daisies thanks to the pandemic, which meant my fall term was remote, and there were many organizational headaches trying to get to the United States. However, thanks to the support I received from Global Programmes and peer advisors and a bit of perseverance, all those problems were easily resolved. I know that a year abroad may seem like a challenge, but rest assured it is totally worth it. I would be happy to answer any queries or concerns that you may have about studying abroad, the US and any other random questions you may have.

Hi there, I’m HOLLY (pictured right). I’m in my final year studying French and German (with a year abroad).

I had such a brilliant experience working in Tyrol, Austria, for the first half of my year abroad as an English Language Assistant. I worked in two secondary schools, one of which was a tourism school, where I was able to take part in the cheese tasting and patisserie classes! During my free time, I loved to ski with my friends, travel to new places in Europe and brush up on my slightly rusty German skills.

Additionally, I worked as an intern at a conference centre in Annecy, France, which was, unfortunately, cut short due to COVID-19. However, I thoroughly enjoyed my internship (albeit brief!) and the opportunity to meet new people, travel and explore the beautiful city of Annecy.

I truly think that an international opportunity can be for everyone, as it is such an incredible, life-changing experience. So, please do get in touch if you have any questions or concerns— I am always here for a chat!
Meet our Peer Advisors

Hello, my name is ISABELLE (pictured left) and I am in my final year of my combined English Literature and Linguistics course.

During the academic year 2019–2020, I went on a credit replacing year abroad and I was lucky enough to study in two different countries. My first semester was spent in Hong Kong at the University of Hong Kong and for my second semester, I was at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.

My experience overall was so rewarding; studying in two different countries meant that I was able to explore a wide range of subject areas in my degree and I was able to meet so many amazing people from around the world. It also helped that both countries had sunny days for most of the time! Studying in Asia was a fantastic opportunity because it is very different in terms of culture from the UK and because of this, I felt that by the end of my experience I had grown as a person.

Although the experience was tumultuous at times, I left both countries feeling like I had a home away from home and I would encourage anybody who is considering spending time abroad to truly consider Asia as an option because it is an extraordinary part of the world! If you have any questions about studying Hong Kong, Singapore or Asia in general, I am happy to answer any questions you may have!

Hello! My name is LAUREL (pictured right) and I’m a third year French and Linguistics student.

In the September of the 2020–2021 academic year, I moved to Paris to begin my year abroad which was compulsory for my language degree at York. I was lucky enough to have a range of experiences during my time in Paris as I studied at the Sorbonne University for the first semester as well as undertaking two work placements in the second – one as an Admin Assistant in a French company and one teaching English in a primary school.

Despite all of the restrictions from the pandemic, my experience overall was very valuable and fulfilling. I learnt a great deal about French culture which I wouldn’t have been able to do without actually living in the country and communicating with the people! In addition to understanding more about French society, I also grew as a person because living in a foreign country can be challenging at times. However, those more difficult situations are outshadowed by the fantastic experiences and memories I have gained. During my time in Paris, I made international friends, travelled around Europe and even profited from a day off of University by going to Disneyland – something that I definitely wouldn’t be able to do in the UK!

I would thoroughly recommend studying or working abroad as the adventure is like no other and the memories will last a lifetime! If you have any questions concerning studying or working abroad in Europe, or Paris more specifically, please do not hesitate to contact me - I’d be more than happy to help!

Feel free to contact any of us via: global-peer-advisors@york.ac.uk
We hope to see you at future Global Programmes events!