

Kelly – Global Assistant

Hey! I'm Kelly and I'm a final year Politics, Philosophy, and Economics student here at York.

Last year, I had the best year of my life so far studying in Australia at the University of Sydney. Here I had the opportunity to study a wide range of courses from Experimental and Behavioural Economics, to Aesthetics and Art, to an elective in German. Having the freedom to explore so many different modules that I would not have been able to study in York while also navigating a different style of teaching and assessment hugely broadened my academic horizons.

The most enriching parts of my exchange definitely came outside of the classroom, however. Some highlights include competing at the Australian National Cheerleading Championships on the Gold Coast, road tripping down the Great Ocean Road, exploring all of Sydney's beautiful beaches, and spending a weekend at Surf Camp Australia.

During the year, I was fortunate enough to fit in travels that genuinely changed my life. I backpacked along the East Coast of Australia with my new friends where we dived on the Great Barrier Reef, slept on a boat in the famous Whitsundays, and spent Christmas Day playing volleyball on Fraser Island just to name a few highlights. I also spent a month wild camping on the South Island of New Zealand where I hiked the most beautiful mountains I've ever seen, and lived in a small village on Wayasewa Island in Fiji where locals took us snorkelling with sharks, spearfishing, and taught us how to cook traditional Fijian dishes.

A year abroad is the best way to experience life in a different country and it's something that I will always recommend to people. I will forever cherish the friendships I made and the experiences I was so lucky to have. It truly was a once in a lifetime experience!

If you have any questions about any international opportunity that York offers please feel free to get in touch via email global-assistants@york.ac.uk, or by popping into our office hours Monday – Friday 11:00 – 13:00 in the Centre for Global programmes next to Derwent Reception. Make sure you're following our Instagram [@goglobaluoy](https://www.instagram.com/goglobaluoy) for updates on any events we are holding.

