Nicholas Lang

TOKYO, JAPAN

Nicholas’ Major: Japanese and Economics

Term Abroad: Academic Year

Academics: At Keio University, I took all my classes within the Japanese Language Program. The classes was composed entirely of international students and focused on intensive language study. We were also given the option to take university courses with students from the university.

Most Memorable Moment: While studying in Japan, I also worked as a waiter at a restaurant. One thing that I will never forget is the fifth anniversary celebration that our restaurant had in early May. Everyone greeted me by name, called me over to their tables for brief conversations, and some even invited me to eat with them. It was that moment that I realized that I had fully become a part of that restaurant.

Advice for students considering study abroad: The one suggestion that I would give to those studying abroad, especially to those who are in a language intensive program, is to really take the initiative and try to make friends with as many native speakers as possible. It was hard at first...but for me, finding a local café to hang out at opened the door to meeting new people outside of school who I never would have had the opportunity to meet otherwise.

“DO IT! Studying abroad at Keio University has been the best experience of my life thus far. Not only was I able to achieve my goal of improving my language skills, but I learned a lot about Japanese society, made life-long friends, and in the process of everything, learned a lot about myself and learned that one can only learn in a foreign environment.”