**Program:** University of Queensland Exchange, Fall

**Tori's Major:** Dietetics

**Academic Life:** My classroom experiences were all very different from classes in America. I took two high level nutritional science classes, a political science class, and management class. Each had one lecture per week that lasted two to three hours as well as a tutorial/discussion session each week that lasted about an hour each. The other students in my classes were highly diverse and international, with about half being from Australia. The professors were also from all over the world -- India, France, Germany, and Australia.

**Advice For Someone Considering Australia:** You better do it. It will be a time of anxiety, fear, growth, hard work, fun, adventure, thrills, relaxation, and disbelief. You will work so hard to get organized, prepare, and build funds for your time abroad, but the payoff is more than worth all the worry and nervousness you could possibly experience. Everyone experiences their time abroad differently, but no matter what, you will come back with something that those who haven’t studied internationally cannot understand. And not only will you meet people from Australia, but from everywhere around the world. It is quite amazing to share one unique experience with people from such different backgrounds and to make connections with people from across the globe.

**How Studying Abroad Sets Tori Apart:** My experience has set me apart from other students for many reasons. I have stretched far from my comfort zone by moving to an entirely new country on my own. I have become more confident and more proactive in my own life. I have developed cultural sensitivity, and although the Australian culture is not incredibly different from ours, being surrounded by a different way of life, even if only slightly, really allows you to see how differently others view the world. This attribute especially has changed the way I act in both personal and professional settings and will allow me to connect with and more quickly understand people from all around the world.

**Studying Abroad As A Transfer Student:** I was very concerned that I wouldn’t have an opportunity to study abroad since I was a junior transfer student when I entered UW-Madison. A few international students and friends of mine at UW-Madison encouraged me to look at my options. It actually turned out that BECAUSE I was a transfer student, I only needed one more class for graduation: an international studies Gen Ed. My advisor and I agreed that it would be perfect for me to spend a semester abroad!