

LONDON, ENGLAND

JUSTIN RUDER

Program: UW in London, Spring

Justin's Major: Economics

Academic Life: The classroom experience was very interactive and fun because the size was small and the teachers engaged students in group conversations. We also traveled the cities and explored old towns, museums, exhibits, and famous districts that were essential in the history of London. The academic component was very similar to that of UW-Madison in that we were given weekly assignments and tested on the material we studied. However the classes were much more mobile and assignments forced you to travel the city. I took classes in finance, history of London, British life and culture, and a travel writing class.

Internship Abroad: I worked for a startup tech company that provides users with an online way to rent or buy office spaces. I gained a better understanding the of the real estate market abroad. The functions are so different but the techniques are the same. I was able to go on tours, space plans, and see how contract negotiations work between hosts and potential buyers.

New Perspectives: I think a major culture shock was the transportation. London is a city that relies so heavily on its public transport. It was incredible to travel around the city and see the millions of people who use public transport as a part of their daily lives.

Benefits of Study Abroad: My global perspective and work experience will set me apart from my counterparts. I have worked in a field internationally that I wish to pursue back home. That is an invaluable advantage because I have experienced different global markets and how to deal with different people. I got a different perspective on cultures and international relations that I could not receive otherwise.



Justin looking toward The Shard (of Glass) in London.

“If we allow ourselves to open up to new situations, we can become well-rounded as individuals.”

