



Knightly Adventures Abroad

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Complete this Sentence:
If I could do it over, I
would...**STAY LONGER**

Major(s): Nursing

Years/Term Abroad: Fall 2008
(Australia's Spring Semester)



Nature's Window, Murchinson
Gorge, Kalbarri National Park

Name of program and why you chose it: Exchange program with Curtin University. Nursing students are limited for semester options, and I knew a summer wouldn't be enough.

Describe the Housing Situation: I lived in a flat on campus with seven other people. We had four boys and four girls. Our flat had its own kitchen, and there were no meal plans on campus.

Best Memory: Once school let out, I loved the freedom to travel around Australia. Wherever I wanted to go, I went! Everything was amazing, and there wasn't enough time to do it all.

How has this experience enriched your Bellarmine educational experience? This experience has greatly enhanced my view of the world and other cultures. It has also helped to enrich my critical thinking skills by exposing me to different ways of thinking.

Greatest Challenge: Arriving in a new country and getting used to the idea of five months away from anything familiar, but this ended up being one of the most rewarding aspects of my trip.

Experiences with Culture Shock or Reverse Culture Shock: I had no major issues with culture shock or reverse culture shock. Being prepared helps a lot, as does stepping back and taking things in without being judgmental.

What you know now that you didn't know before going abroad: I know MUCH more about Australian culture, history, and many of the events that shaped Australia. I have a better understanding of how other countries view America. I am also surer of myself, as I was sometimes the only thing I could count on.

Advice to future study abroad participants: **Focus on having fun. See and do as many local things as you can WITH the locals.**



Uluru-Kata Tjuta National
Park, Northern Territory

Studying abroad provided me with one of the best experiences of my life.