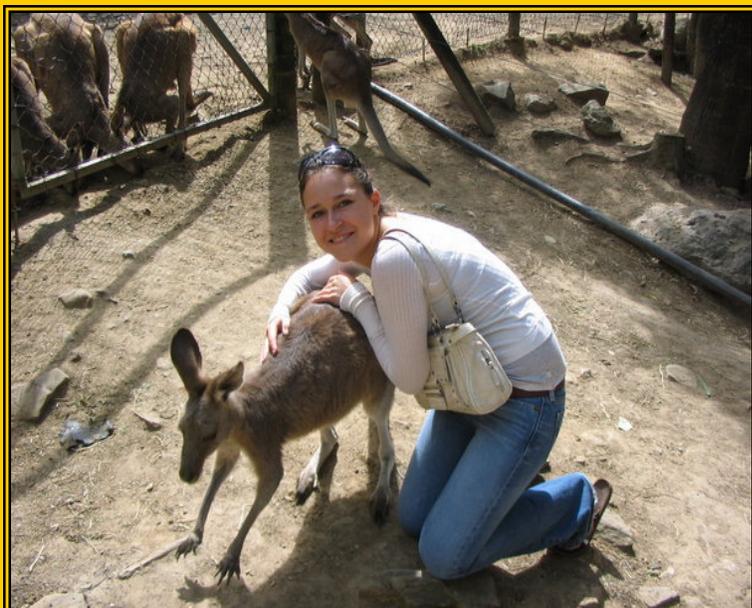


Off-Campus Study Student Profiles

Lauren Rackoff

Major: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Australearn: Brisbane, Australia



Program Highlights:

- At Heron Island, I snorkeled, participated in a night-dive, saw marine creatures including sharks, manta rays and enormous sea turtles.
- For avid climbers, must visit Jenolan Caves (near Sydney)!
- Opera House and Harbour Bridge.
- I can't sufficiently describe the beauty of Australia's landscape and waters.

Why did you choose your program and location in particular?

I knew that I needed to attend an English-speaking school so that I could take courses within my BMB major; I wanted to travel somewhere very far away; and I wanted to be able to experience new outdoor activities. Australia was the best place for me to study, because I was able to keep up with my major and have an incredible wilderness experience.

What courses did you take and how did you like your courses?

I took four courses at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia: Popular Music, Ancient Roman Civilization, Australia's Marine Environment, and Biological Chemistry. Ancient Roman Civilization was a standard history course and I learned the basic history of Rome. Popular Music was very interesting because the majority of the music and the history that we learned was American, but it was taught by an Australian. I actually learned more about the 60's and 70's in that class than I have in many American classes. Australia's Marine Environment was my favorite class. I learned about all the different ecosystems in and around Australia and I went on a research field trip to Heron Island. I would suggest taking a course about the country that a student travels to. This way, you can learn about the country from a native's perspective. Biological Chemistry was the equivalent to Wooster's Biochemistry.

Australearn: Brisbane, Australia

Terms of Study: Fall Term (July.-Nov); Spring Term (Feb-June); Full Year (Feb-Nov/ July-June). The University of Queensland has won more Australian Awards for University Teaching (AAUT) than any other university and was awarded the maximum five-star rating in six major categories, including student demand, positive graduate outcomes, staff qualifications, and research intensiveness, by the Australian Good Universities Guide 2007. UQ was recently ranked 45th in the world in a recent ranking compiled by the prestigious Times Higher Education Supplement. More than 37,000 students, including 6,332 international students from 120 countries, study across three superb southeast Queensland campuses....UQ St Lucia – the university's largest campus - is situated in Brisbane, a dynamic capital city known for its excellent climate, high standard of living, and secure quality of life.

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