

# Off-Campus Study Student Profiles

## Elizabeth Stroud

*Major: Mathematics*

**IFSA-Butler: Essex, UK**



### Program Highlights:

- Traveling into London for the day with two other Americans. We got to walk all around London, and stopped by St. Paul's Cathedral and some museums. We finished the day by seeing Phantom of the Opera. It was great, because since we were on our own and not with a large group or tour we could take as much time as we wanted at the different sites.
- Celebrating Thanksgiving with my 13 flat-mates. There was one other American living in the flat, so we explained Thanksgiving and our flat-mates decided that we should all try to make Thanksgiving dinner, so we spent a whole afternoon cooking. Then we all sat down and enjoyed the meal together.

### *Why did you choose your program and location in particular?*

I always knew that I wanted to study abroad in England somewhere, and IFSA-Butler offered a wide range of programs in England. I chose to study at Essex because of its location close to London, the length of the program, the size of the campus (there were less than 10,000 students so it was bigger than Wooster but not as big as some schools) and the fact that the area of the university's campus was a really beautiful setting.

### *What courses did you take while you were abroad?*

Life, the Universe & Everything; The Principles of Modern Science; A beginning computer programming course; Introduction to U.S. History; British Culture and Society in the Twentieth Century.

### *How did your experience fit into your major and your Wooster education?*

To me, getting a Wooster education is all about expanding your horizons, and doing things you might not normally do. There were so many things I saw and did while I was in England that I never would have had the chance to do at Wooster. My study abroad experience showed me that although taking all sorts of courses in your major is good and can help you out, sometimes it can be really beneficial to take classes while you are abroad that aren't offered here at Wooster. If I had taken all math courses while I was at Essex, I would probably have become a more rounded math major, but by taking the courses I did, I was really able to expand my knowledge of other subjects. The whole semester I spent studying abroad was really a learning experience. It helped me get more out of my Wooster education than I would have gotten by simply staying on campus.

### IFSA-Butler: Essex, UK

Essex has fifteen academic departments grouped into four undergraduate schools of study: Humanities and Comparative Studies; Social Sciences; Law; and Science and Engineering. Many of the science departments offer courses for students majoring in the arts or social sciences who want to earn science credit hours. These courses are offered to students who have some background in science and mathematics but have not carried their studies to an advanced level. Being a university town, Essex offers a mixture of activity that creates a friendly and cosmopolitan campus.

Come to the IPO or check out <http://www.ifsa-butler.org/programs/england/essex/index.html> for more information!