

Studying in London in times of political change



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Studying abroad not only means engaging intensively with new subjects; it means getting involved in one's host country – politically and culturally.

With this in mind, it bears mentioning that the United Kingdom is currently going through exciting times. Whether one reads about it in the daily newspapers or encounters another protest on a walk through London, the implication is clear: the United Kingdom's post-Brexit relationship with the European Union remains a defining issue of our time, because the debate sets a decisive economic and political course for the future of all parties involved.

The LL.M. programme at the London School of Economics ties in seamlessly with these events as numerous courses deal with current political and legal issues relating to Brexit. For example, there are courses that examine questions such as: In which direction is the relationship between the EU and the United Kingdom moving? How are the exit negotiations shaping up and what legal obstacles exist for future trade agreements? Being able to witness this political transformation, first hand, and to discuss it in class from a legal perspective has been an exciting and unique experience.

I also found the approach to teaching in the Master's programme at the LSE highly enriching. Discussing legal problems with the lecturer and other students from various jurisdictions in groups of sometimes only 10 or 15, and being able to develop and defend one's own theories in class, are things that I have not yet experienced in German university education.

The university also offers a variety of opportunities outside of academic studies, such as getting involved in one of over 200 student societies. I decided to join the LSE Entrepreneur Society, where I, along with other members, organised various events around entrepreneurship, including events on how to run a venture. This ranged from a small group discussion with a well-known venture capitalist on financing a start-up to a moderated lecture by a successful entrepreneur in a large auditorium. This co-curricular activity provided a welcome and stimulating contrast to my legal studies in the Master's programme.

All these impressions were rounded off with the liveliness and cultural diversity of London. Whether you visit one of its various museums, take a walk through Covent Garden or enjoy a snack in Camden Market, London offers numerous opportunities to make your free time eventful and enjoyable.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the BCCG for their generous support during my stay abroad in London, which has contributed to making all these experiences possible. |