

Catching Up With Our Current Scholars & Fellow Emory to St Andrews



Since our arrival in St Andrews, the Bobbies have kept busy with in-town activities and trips around Scotland. Two weeks ago we hiked East Lomond in Falkland—chatting with a few locals at the top who climb the (very steep!) hill daily—and last weekend we drove into Edinburgh to cheer the Saints on to victory in an annual varsity rugby match against the University of Edinburgh, a sports rivalry that dates back 150 years. While in Edinburgh we **also visited the Scottish National Gallery, where we lingered to discuss Rubens's Feast of Herod, and stepped inside St Margaret's Chapel, the city's oldest building, on a tour** around Edinburgh Castle. Back in St Andrews we have enjoyed regular walks along the Old Course, the Fife Coastal Path, and the East and West Sands. We have had a wonderful time discovering the beauty and warm sociability of St Andrews and look forward to exploring more of the UK in the months ahead!

Laila Atalla - Since arriving in St Andrews, I've been enjoying getting to know the community and environment, spending time the beach and exploring the walking and cycle paths around town. I'm amazed at how diverse the backgrounds of my classmates in the Sustainable Development program are; I'm sure I'll learn just as much from my peers as I will from the coursework. Outside class, I got involved in Transition, St Andrews' grassroots sustainability group. I've been helping take care of their community gardens as part of the Edible Campus initiative and (as the Environmental Representative for Deans Court) working with my housemates to start a new garden in our courtyard. I was also adopted into an academic family and am looking forward to participating in university

traditions with them. So far it's been a wonderful experience, and I'm grateful to be here!

Hannah Rose Blakeley - I have had the most wonderful time since arriving in St Andrews! In addition to my modules (which I love) on (1) late-nineteenth/early-twentieth century European art and (2) the University of St Andrews Photographic Collections, I am taking weekly golf lessons; have been elected co-social secretary of Dean's Court with Adam (carrying on the tradition established, I believe, by Blake and Steph); have joined the Art History Society; have been adopted into an academic family; and auditioned for and was offered a spot in St Salvator's (Sallies) Chapel Choir, "the flagship choir of the university." The choir's schedule is demanding, and it includes a tour to Sweden in the spring and the recording of a CD. In addition to concerts, we sing at weekly services and at major university events. I have also tried fencing and rifle shooting but have decided to stick with golf as my sport while at St Andrews. Last weekend the four Bobbies, along with some St A postgrad friends, climbed East Lomond Hill (photo attached). We've all finished our driving lessons, and Adam and I shared the driving to and from Falkland.

Adam Goldstein - St Andrews has been absolutely magical so far. I've taken full advantage of the student rate at the St Andrews Links courses, and have made my way through 5 of the 7 courses they have here. I've joined the golf society as well, and look forward to playing other Unis around Scotland as well. We are in the third week of classes over here, and I've thrown myself into working to understand how housing--government subsidized and private market---functions to ensure that folks have access to shelter. I'm in one class that focuses on residential segregation in Britain, and another on geographic information science, which will hopefully help me learn how to visualize some of the housing-related issues here and back in the states. Apart from all of that, the Bobbies made good use of the car last weekend and hiked in Falkland, about 45 minutes outside of St Andrews. We'll be spending the day tomorrow in Edinburgh, doing some sightseeing before attending the varsity rugby match between St Andrews and the University of Edinburgh tomorrow evening.

Lucky Khambounehuang - Since arriving in St Andrews, I have **started my master's program. Although the program is very rigorous** (classes every day, three presentations per week, and weekly essays!), I have found time to join a couple of societies, including the Volleyball Social club, St Andrews Service Volunteer society, and STAAR Tango Society. Hopefully soon, I get to start volunteering with the Marie Curie Helper organization, which will allow me to work with people with terminal illnesses. I am very excited about connecting to the St Andrews community through the manner of service and building meaningful relationships with the locals. I am sure that others will have mentioned this, but our Bobby Jones group were able to take on our first hiking adventure to the East Lomond Hills.

Bryan Reines - A few things I have done: read a lot, joined the handball team, studied for the Isat (taking it tomorrow!), and walked all over town and the east and west sands. Unfortunately I can't say I've done that much more because of my study schedule, but I'm having a wonderful time and I'm very excited to be able to focus on Scotland soon. Send my greetings and gratitude to everyone for this amazing opportunity.



Catching Up With Our Current Scholars St Andrews to Emory

We have been having a fantastic time since arriving in Atlanta in the heat of August and, as well as getting to know Emory and getting used to life stateside, each of us has also been getting involved in our own interest areas across the University. We have received a very warm welcome from previous scholars, as well as trustees, and feel very much at home. Some highlights of our time together so far have been the Music Midtown Festival, the Labor Day Stone Mountain Laser Show and dinner with the St. Andrews Society. We all also had an unbelievable time at the PGA Tour **Final at East Lake, and of course, the Fall Reception. We've enjoyed exploring the different areas of the city and the wide variety of cuisine on offer. We are really looking forward to attending the opening night of the season at the opera, the Highland Games and upcoming trips to Savannah and Nashville to see more of what the South has to offer. Needless to say, we are very excited for what the rest of the year has in store!**



Kyle Blain – I am currently taking a number of classes within the linguistics department, including one on how and why language changes over time. I am also enjoying my class on the sociology of happiness – **I don't have the secret to a lifetime of happiness quite yet but maybe I'll have the answer by the end of the semester. I am involved in a number of extra-curricular groups including Table Talk and TEDx Emory, and have just started work with Emory Reads which has me assisting in High School classrooms across Atlanta. After travelling to Savannah and Tybee Island with the other scholars recently, I can't wait to see more of America over the next few weeks and months.**

Sophie Cadden - Since arriving in August, it has been a whirlwind. I have met many incredible people related to the scholarship and had many interesting experiences. I have been enjoying my classes in African American studies: particularly Black Images in the Media and Art and Social Change, where I have even went a field trip to see a wonderful African Art exhibition at Spelman College. My fellow Bobbies and I have been exploring Atlanta, enjoying some of the Southern cuisine and nightlife, and getting involved in extracurricular activities. I have joined Emory Reads, where I have been tutoring elementary school children in reading. Further, we have even ventured to the South Carolina border where we spent the day with a friend. I have also been to see my first American Football game, the Falcons v. the Panthers. I was lucky to witness the Falcons winning by a mile! The highlight so far was the golf championship at East Lake and the drinks reception afterwards. I look forward to more events with those related to the scholarship.

Max Graham - While I feel I could spend every free moment in Atlanta just enjoying the fantastic climate and cuisine, there is so much to be involved in. I have joined the Philanthropy Committee of the Latino Student Association to combine charitable work with practising my Spanish - I've also been taking advantage of the events hosted by the Spanish Department and Casa Emory to do the same. As a beginner studying Arabic, I've found it very useful to go to events hosted by the Arab Cultural Association too. Of course, being in the USA for this extraordinary election season is fascinating, so I'm getting involved in some political campaigning too. Another event I attended which was unlike anything we have in the UK was Dragon Con - a huge convention for science fiction and fantasy fans, which was great fun. Atlanta really does have something for everyone and I feel privileged to be able to call this my home for the year."

Natalie Jones - In only 6 weeks my experience at Emory has already far exceeded my expectations when I was applying a year ago! I am taking a curious mix of classes (Photography, Journalism, French and Weight Training) which are ensuring my days are varied, interesting and sometimes a little tiring. I have spent many afternoons taking advantage of the pool at Clairmont and have been busy training for a Thanksgiving Half Marathon. I have enjoyed getting to know the Atlanta area, experiencing things like the Lantern Parade and the laser show at Stone Mountain. This weekend some of us will be heading to Charleston and Savannah which I look forward to capturing on my black and white film camera for my class! Apart from travel and classes I have thoroughly enjoyed the incredible opportunity of playing golf at East Lake and seeing the final day of the Tour Championship. So many of the activities we have enjoyed so far have been linked in some way to the extensive network of the Bobby Jones community so I would like to thank everyone who has reached out to us in some way - we have felt incredibly welcomed.

Bethany Sikes – I have had a wonderful time since arriving in Atlanta at the end of July! My time at Emory began with the Masters of Development Practice (MDP) "Bootcamp", which was a rude awakening from the post-exam relaxation I had been enjoying since May! Bootcamp was essentially an introduction to development theory and included classes on Atlanta's history and development, **which I found very interesting. Since the beginning of the semester proper, I've been busy with my many MDP classes, which range from research methodology, an introduction to global health, environmental economics, and, my favourite, logistics in complex humanitarian emergencies. Outside of class, I've been building friendships with my classmates, many of whom are also new to Atlanta and explored the Atlanta Aquarium and Stone Mountain with them. I have also joined a church community at Trinity Anglican in Decatur and have been taking advantage of the many opportunities Emory University has for extracurricular learning, attending talks on peace building (Jason Carter), the Haitian earthquake response (General Ken Keen) and others. Over the next few weeks I have**

trips planned to Alabama and Washington DC, and I'm excited to start exploring the United States!



Callum Woolley – Having taken the majority of my classes last year, the second year of my masters will be oriented toward the thesis. I've spent the past few months solidifying my thesis topic and undertaking extensive research in the field of poststructuralism and ideology as they relate to complex media narratives. The first chapter is almost finished, and I'm in the stages of planning out my second chapter, to be submitted by the end of this semester. Outside of the classroom I have explored a new area of interest: business startups. I've become a part of a team that has exposed me to more scientifically focused communities at Emory, particularly that of neuroscience. This experience has not only been a welcome break from the intensity of the thesis, it has been formative in shaping my outlook on life after Emory. As a result, I'm extremely grateful to both the Bobby Jones Trust and the Emory community for giving me such a diverse and exciting experience at graduate school.