

## Emory to St Andrews – Updates

**Jason Ehrenzeller** - These months in St Andrews as a Bobby Jones Scholar have proved to be full of the degree of personal and intellectual growth I hoped to achieve since finding out that I had been awarded this incredible opportunity precisely one year ago. Academically, I've become deeply immersed in the Critical Securities Studies subfield of International Relations that I did not even know existed before arriving in the UK. This semester, I'm very excited about my module selection including one on the global politics in everyday life which is part of the University's Entrepreneurship initiative for its employment of alternative scholarship practices and another that examines the spaces of securitization from airports to outer space. Outside of lecture, I host a Spanish- and Portuguese- language radio show through STAR Radio, just joined the Surf Society, have become an Old Course regular, and am taking full advantage of travel opportunities with the Bobby Jones Mobile to cruise the Scottish countryside and Ryanair flights to explore the Greater-Europe corridor. Recently, during the inter-semester break I spent five consecutive weeks traveling through Spain and Portugal where I reconnected with friends and host family and covered nearly the entire peninsula and some of its islands where I witnessed a plethora of phenomena from migration movements to national media discourses which I wish to explore through the upcoming dissertation. I am beyond excited to share with everyone the exciting updates in the weeks to come.



**Jhénéelle Elder** - It is hard to believe that so much of the year in St Andrews has already gone by. I have learned so much about myself by being out of my comfort zone and experiencing a whole new part of the world. By engaging in interesting and sometimes heated intellectual discussions, both in class and over meals, I have gained an even greater appreciation for the interdisciplinary approach to learning here. This has helped me foster meaningful connections with professors and guest lecturers in the field of global health, as well as friendships with some of my classmates. In gaining this better understanding of global health while building these social networks, I have begun to hone in on the type of career path I want to chart following this year in St Andrews.

Apart from the academic side of my time here, the Bobby Jones scholarship has given me the opportunity to travel within the United Kingdom to finally meet and reconnect with some of my extended family. Through my travels, I have not only been able to experience different parts of Scotland, but also various regions of England, including Bexhill-on-sea on the southeastern coast, Henley-on-Thames in Oxfordshire and the city of Nottingham in the Midlands. My winter break travels concluded with my first solo holiday to the beautiful and historic country of Malta where I, fortunately, got to experience the opening event of their year-long cultural celebration in their capital of Valletta. Needless to say, the past six months have been formative in numerous ways and I look forward to the new adventures to come.

**Julianna Joss** - My time at St Andrews is marked by unforgettable new experiences, fascinating course content, important new friendships, and a great deal of joy. My degree program in Sustainable Development has given me the opportunity to study some of the most complex economic, environmental, and social issues facing our world today. A degree highlight thus far, I took a course in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and for my final project, I created a suitability map for potential housing locations in Atlanta using multi-criteria evaluation and other spatial analysis techniques. I have fully engaged myself in several aspects of St Andrews life. I serve as a Social Secretary for our residence of Deans Court and on the social committee for the postgraduate Sustainable Development program – organizing events to build camaraderie in these communities, which range from Formal Dinners to Christmas celebrations to a Harry Potter Week. I was also elected as the Postgraduate Coordinator of the University of St Andrews Charities Campaign, in which it is my job to bolster enthusiasm and facilitate programming among postgraduates for the student philanthropy surrounding our three nominated charities. I have also found a new hobby in reeling (Scottish palace dancing), engaged consistently with the Jewish Society, and work weekly in a couple of community gardens throughout St Andrews. In addition, I have found an amazing yoga studio, Hot House Yoga, and have enjoyed hiking as much as possible in the gorgeous Scottish landscape. My goal is to complete the UK Three Peak Challenge this summer.

My time here has also been marked by great adventures. During breaks, I have traveled to Copenhagen, Lisbon, Porto, Barcelona, and Tenerife, as well as many trips within the UK. These range from trips to London,

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Edinburgh, and around Fife, as well as some serious road trips in the trusted Bobbymobile. The Bobbymobile and I drove to Oxford, England and back to St Andrews, stopping to see and hike as much as possible in the chilly UK winter, as well as traversing through the stunning Scottish Highlands. Most notably, in January, I completed the Race2 Charity Hitchhike. In this wild, unforgettable journey, two of my sustainable development course mates and I hitchhiked from Edinburgh to Barcelona. Team Hitch Me If You Can did not spend a penny and traveled thousands of kilometers by hitching rides with ten remarkably kind strangers over the course of two and a half days, while also raising thousands of pounds for the Charities Campaign in the process. Remarkable friends from all over the world have made every single one of these mentioned experiences even more significant and full of light. I am incredibly grateful for all that has happened and I look forward to savoring every moment ahead.



**Ekaterina Koposova** - If possible, my second semester as a Bobby Jones scholar at St Andrews has been even better than the first. I am fully settled in, and I feel at home in Scotland. My classes are going well, and I am learning exciting new things about the representations of the human body in art as well as manuscripts from Europe and the Islamic world. I look forward to working on a painting by Rubens for my class on the body, continuing to increase my knowledge and written work on the art of this painter, as well as to further my study of a French book of emblems by Maurice Scève I first encountered during my studies at Emory for my class in manuscripts. I am continuing my studies of German, which are going very well, and I have begun taking classes in ballroom dancing.

My fellow Bobbies and I have been exploring the castles and sights of Scotland, which have been a true exploration of beauty. We are planning an exciting trip to the Isle of Sky. I am also pleased to say that I have been awarded a place at the École du Louvre study abroad program in Museology. I will be one of three St Andrews Art History graduate students who will be attending this summer course sponsored by the Erasmus+ exchange. We will be based in Paris for several weeks, exploring the ways in which different museums of France operate. We will have lectures by curators, conservators, and other museum specialists about varied aspects of operating a museum as well readings and practical visits. I couldn't be more grateful to have all of these phenomenal opportunities!

**Lamija Grbic'** - - In my time as a Bobby Jones Fellow, I have been immersed in a vital and challenging intellectual environment that has helped me grow both academically and personally. Through the course of my first semester, I completed modules that introduced me to the contemporary issues in analytic philosophy. This semester, I am taking modules more closely targeted toward my interests, such as global justice and the philosophy of law.

I've also had the opportunity to enjoy many events and functions beyond the classroom that the St Andrews Philosophy Department has to offer, ranging from attending the Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs (CEPPA) Graduate Conference this winter to the St Andrews Philosophy Society. I'm currently in the process of developing a dissertation topic, which I hope will focus on the inter-relationships between human rights and civil rights, as well as considerations of citizenship and obligations of the state to fulfill the duties corresponding to these rights.



I'm enjoying my travels around Scotland's castles and picturesque hiking trails, and I also had the opportunity to visit family in my home country of Bosnia and Herzegovina over the winter break. I've also appreciated learning new styles of dance through the St Andrews Ballroom and Latin Dance Society. I'm very grateful for the experiences I've had thus far and look forward to the months ahead!