Stories from Abroad

London, England

Meet Robert Black, a program manager at the Global Gateway in London. Robert is from Dublin, Ireland, and he is passionate about promoting cultural exchange and education. He oversees undergraduate academic programming at the London Global Gateway in Ireland, providing pastoral, academic, and administrative support to students in the program. Robert has been working at the Global Gateway for nearly two years and has had the opportunity to travel and explore many of the different cities with his students. He loves the diversity of students in the program and the chance to return to the UK someday, but for now, he has some pretty great memories. He shares his thoughts on the program and some of his favorite memories with Notre Dame students virtually.

London Global Gateway

Meet Maggie Essner, a junior at Notre Dame, London, England. Maggie shares her thoughts on what it’s like to study abroad in London! Despite the semester getting cut short, she was able to travel to five different cities with her friends and explore a ton. She had to see theatre productions, take guided tours, and visit some pretty impressive museums. Hopefully, she’ll have the chance to return to the UK someday.

As a Notre Dame alumnus, Robert is blessed by the familial community around him. He loves watching students grapple with Ireland’s complicated and often misunderstood history, identity, and culture. Robert also organizes immersive cultural programming to encourage Dublin Domers to encounter Ireland outside of the traditional diasporic experience. He loves shaking the chandeliers teaching Irish ceili dancing to students at O’Connell House.

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