## My Year Abroad Experience in Japan

SOAS University of London Eleanor Corker k2490062

I have really enjoyed my year as an exchange student. Studying at Ochanomizu University has given me the opportunity to experience Japan in a unique way and living and studying in a place so close to the centre of Tokyo has been an unforgettable experience. The university campus has been beautiful in every season, and walking through campus on the way to class has felt calming because of this. Everyone I have met at Ochanomizu University was kind and helped me a lot. The teachers have also been very kind and understanding, and the classes are very enjoyable.



During my year as an exchange student, I was able to make many friends. I also joined a university club, and the members were all very welcoming. It was fun to make friends with Japanese students, and I learned a lot from them. Even if I made a mistake, they would correct me and tell me not to worry. As an exchange student, I met people from many different countries who are also exchange students. It was interesting to learn about the

various countries and cultures of the world from my exchange student friends here. Studying at Ochanomizu University has also given me the opportunity to learn about Japanese culture and other countries, which was an unexpected bonus. Thanks to this, I have been able to gain a deeper understanding of Japanese culture and my own culture.

As an exchange student, I have learned that I know very little about the world. By meeting various people, learning about Japan, and exploring Japan, I have been able to gain a better understanding of the world. In the future, I would like to learn even more.

Studying at Ochanomizu
University also taught me that
students all over the world are the
same. They have the same
motivations and worries, and they
also want to have fun in the same
way. It made me realise that
university life is a lot of fun, for
example meeting my friends every
day, studying and hanging out with
each other, and it has been great
to experience that in Japan.



During this year abroad I also made some small discoveries

about myself. For example, I discovered that I like living on my own, that I like cooking Japanese food, and that I enjoy travelling with friends and alone.

Thank you to my Advisor Mr. Lee Ji-won, for helping me with everything at the start of the year. Thank you also to the people at the Otowakan administration office, for helping me when I was in trouble or didn't understand procedures. Thank you to everyone at the International Education Centre AA, for always planning fun cultural class activities. They were always a lot of fun to participate in. Finally, thank you to my tutor Hiro, for chatting with me explaining various things to me.