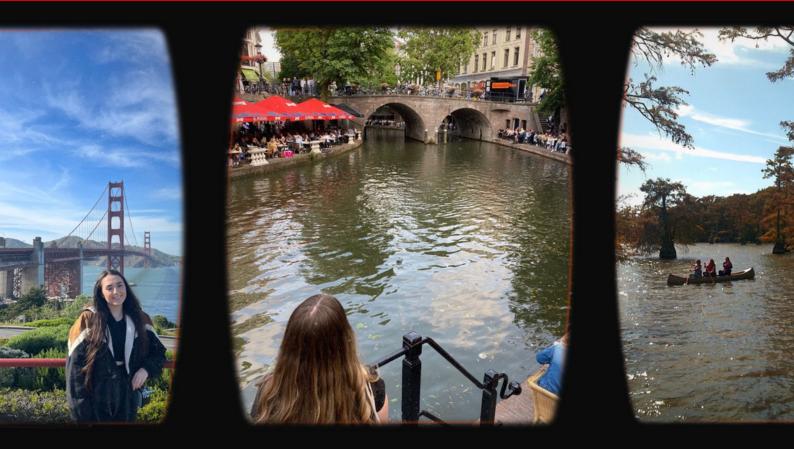
## **Welcome to The Liftoff W** Global Opportunities newsletter!



We're excited to support and guide you as you begin your study abroad journey!

Our students say it's one of the best decisions they make during their time at Queen's. At present we are working to nominate you to your host universities, so keep an eye on your Queen's email for more information.





Come along to our social mixer event on 18 April at 12.30-2pm in The Cube, One Elmwood, where you can meet other exchange students and ask questions. RSVP using this link <u>go.qub.ac.uk/LiftoffMarch</u>

Each month, our Go Global Ambassadors share tips for your study exchange. This month, both Grace and Nelly shared their advice on their global experiences. Let us introduce you to Grace, a final year French and Spanish student who had an amazing experience studying abroad. Here's what she has to say:

"Hey, I'm Grace! From 2022 to 2023, I had the opportunity to study at the University of Alicante as part of the Erasmus programme, and let me tell you, it was the best experience of my life. Planning ahead was key to making the most of my time abroad."

"First things first, I made sure to start the planning process early. I selected the university I wanted to study at in November 2021, and by mid-February 2022, I received confirmation of my place. This gave me ample time to start making all the necessary arrangements." "One of the top priorities was sorting out my visa. I highly recommend taking care of this as soon as possible to avoid any last-minute stress."

"Next up, I focused on finding accommodation. Personally, I wanted to live in student halls with local Spanish students to immerse myself in the language and culture. I found various options through the university's mobility page and secured my accommodation in April."

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"Another tip that worked wonders for me was arriving early. I made sure to reach Alicante in August, giving myself plenty of time to settle in, explore the city, and make friends before classes started in September." "Social media played a big role in my study abroad journey. I joined Facebook groups specifically for Erasmus students and connected with the local Erasmus Student Network. This allowed me to meet other international students and get valuable insights into the city and university."

"Lastly, I want to emphasise that it's important not to panic. Studying abroad can be overwhelming at times, but with proper planning and a positive mindset, it truly becomes an incredible experience. So, take the time to plan ahead, embrace the adventure, and make unforgettable memories!" "Hello, I'm Nelly, a BSc Geography student who experienced an exchange in Amsterdam, and I learned five key skills during my time abroad:

1. Adaptability: Adjusting to a different academic climate teaches valuable lessons.

2. Organisation: Stay on top of tasks like health insurance and visas.

3. Independence: Embrace the challenge of navigating a new culture.

4. Confidence: Studying abroad pushes you out of your comfort zone.

5. Appreciating the little things: Enjoy every moment in your new city."



## Your Next Steps

- Complete the funding application form (5-10 mins)
- Complete the risk assessment form (30 mins)

Check out the links communicated to you by email if you haven't already!



For assistance, email <u>goglobal@qub.ac.uk</u> or book an appointment with our team.