

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

DOMINIQUE PERRY

Program: Massey University Exchange, Spring

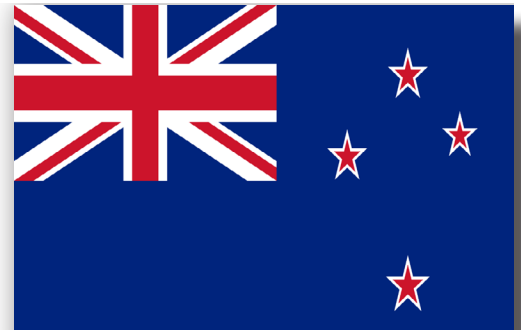
Dominique's Majors: Zoology and Italian

Academic Life: I found the classroom experience to be a lot different than my experience at UW-Madison. My biggest class in New Zealand had about 25 people, and sometimes my discussion sections at UW-Madison are bigger than that. Only professors taught the classes; there were no TAs. I found classes at Massey University to be a lot more relaxed than UW-Madison's classes.

Housing: I lived in a residence hall. Massey University-Auckland has a company-owned housing complex called Campus Living Villages. There were three dorm buildings and everyone got their own room. Many of my neighbors were international students. The buildings were only a two-minute walk from campus. There was also a social building open to everyone and that's where many of us made our friends.

Most Memorable Moments: I got to visit the Fiordlands National Park area, specifically a place called Milford Sound. I was with about 50 other people on a small cruise ship and we saw glaciers and many waterfalls. At one point the driver took us mere feet from a waterfall and we were all covered with water. We also got to see where the ocean met New Zealand and Australia's border. Looking really hard, we could see Australia on the horizon. Near the end of this adventure, a seal made a little wave at us.

Benefits of Study Abroad: The common saying about New Zealand is that it is the most beautiful country in the world. It's one thing to hear that, but it's a completely different experience to actually see it in person with your own eyes. I have also become a lot more independent and although I'm still introverted, I'm not as shy anymore.



Dominique at Hobbiton where "The Shire" scenes in *Lord of the Rings* were filmed.

"I was the happiest I've been in awhile in New Zealand."

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