

## POLSI Student profiles

With over 4,000 international students from more than 150 countries, the University of Birmingham has one of the largest international student communities in the UK, so whether you are a UK student or travelling to Birmingham from overseas, you will work alongside fellow students with differing perspectives.

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### Latest student profiles



**[Michaela Butorova, Alternative Careers Fair, London \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/michaela-butorova-se-report.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/michaela-butorova-se-report.aspx)**

Thanks to Student Enhancement Fund I was able to participate in the "Alternative Careers Fair" that took place on 29th November in London and was run by Escape the City. The experience I gained was truly fascinating and helped me enhance my career prospects in various ways.



**[Ioana Cerasella Chis, MA Social and Political Theory \(2015\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/postgraduate/polsis/2014-15/ioana-cerasella-chris.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/postgraduate/polsis/2014-15/ioana-cerasella-chris.aspx)**

Upon the start of the MA course I was awarded a departmental bursary on the basis of my academic merit and potential to achieve academic excellence. Broadly, my academic interests lie in the interplay between the theory and praxis of political, social and ethical issues, with a particular focus on the sociology of technology and knowledge production, and the critique of neoliberalism.



**[Brian Yiu Lee, Sheffield MUN \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/brian-yiu-lee-se-report.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/brian-yiu-lee-se-report.aspx)**

At Sheffield MUN 2014, I participated in the Special Political and Decolonization committee (SPECPOL) as a delegate from the United Kingdom. This was challenging yet rewarding.



**[Joe Taylor, Sociology BA \(3rd year\) 2015 \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/joe-taylor.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/joe-taylor.aspx)**

I have fulfilled my full potential at Birmingham, had so many new experiences, met great people and really enjoyed my course. There are so many different opportunities available to students and these have helped me develop exponentially.



**[Hannah Grounds, Sociology BA \(3rd year\) 2015 \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/hannah-grounds.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/hannah-grounds.aspx)**

The Sociology programme has enhanced my academic understanding, whilst equipping me for future employment. I hope to pursue a career within the local government, specifically working with either the young or elderly population.



**[Sociology Society, Careers Conference \(2015\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/sociology-society-careers-conference.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/sociology-society-careers-conference.aspx)**

One of the main aims of the Sociology Society is to provide academic support to our members. Our primary aims were to inspire 1st and 2nd year students to start to think about possible careers as well as offer 3rd year students the opportunity to ask questions as well as gain application/interview hints and tips.

**[Zara Sultana, The Muslim Jewish Conference, Vienna \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/zara-sultana-muslim-jewish-conference-vienna-2014.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2014-15/zara-sultana-muslim-jewish-conference-vienna-2014.aspx)**

**[profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/zara-sultana-se-report.aspx](#)**

With the help of the Student Enhancement Fund I was able to travel to Vienna from 7 August 2014 to 14 August 2014 to attend the Muslim Jewish Conference (MJC). The fifth annual interfaith and intercultural MJC conference provides a framework for self-defining Muslims and Jews from all over the world to engage in dialogue about divisive issues.

**[Razan Al-Faouri, Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation 5 day conference with ICCS \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/razan-al-faouri-se-report.aspx\)](#)**

In April 2014 I undertook a training program called 'Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation', organized by the Institute for Conflict, Cooperation and Security (ICCS) at the University of Birmingham.

**[Ioana Cerasella Chis and Rory Scott, ESRC Research Methods Festival \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/ioana-cerasella-chris-rory-scott-se-report.aspx\)](#)**

Every two years, the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) organises the Research Methods Festival where researchers from within and outside academia showcase and discuss their projects, in order to exchange ideas and discover new possibilities for social research.

**[Razan Al-Faouri, MUNICE \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/razan-al-faouri-se-report-mun.aspx\)](#)**

Attending the Model United Nations Conference in Nice, France, was an amazing and unforgettable experience.

**[Patrick Pitts, Internship at the US Congress, Washington, D.C. \(Summer 2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/patrick-pitts-internship.aspx\)](#)**

My internship was by far the hardest experience I've ever underwent; when you're working for someone whose schedule frequently includes "meeting with POTUS" (President of the United States), you know that a lot is expected of you.

**[Michaela Butorova, Research of Co-working Spaces in Birmingham and London \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/michaela-butorova-se-report.aspx\)](#)**

Thanks to the Student Enhancement Fund I had an opportunity to conduct a research of co-working spaces in Birmingham and London. I visited 3 amazing co-working spaces, all of them operating on a different business model, and having different experiences with running such places.

**[Jennifer Brown, Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation 5 day conference with ICCS \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/jennifer-brown-se-report.aspx\)](#)**

I attended the ICCS Easter school training course in 'Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution'. This course was intensive and extremely interesting.

**[Melissa Dumont, The European International Model United Nations, TEIMUN \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/melissa-dumont-se-report.aspx\)](#)**

TEIMUN takes place at The Hague every year. I had the great opportunity to represent Sweden in the European Council. It has been a long week in which we managed to successfully pass two resolutions and a crisis decision.

**[Esther Naylor, Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation 5 day conference with ICCS \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/esther-naylor-se-report.aspx\)](#)**

During Easter 2014 the ICCS (Institute for Conflict, Cooperation and Conflict Transformation) organised a 5 day conference at the University of Birmingham to help educate and train students and professionals about the different types of transforming international, national and community levels of conflict.

**[Brian Lee, 5th Model Arab League Crisis Conference \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/brian-lee-se-report.aspx\)](#)**

The 5th Model Arab League Crisis Conference organized by the University of Birmingham United Nation Society was held between the 31st January and 2nd February at the University of Birmingham.



**[Pattarapol Kamosilp, Olympia Summer Academy \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/postgraduate/polsis/2013-14/pattarapol-kamosilp-se-report.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/postgraduate/polsis/2013-14/pattarapol-kamosilp-se-report.aspx)**

From 12th July to 23rd July 2014, I had one of the most memorable trips. I went to attend the summer program at Olympia Summer Academy. The institution was located in Olympia, Greece.



**[Megan Kohut, SRHE Conference 'Interrogating the Higher Education Research/ Policy Interface' \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/postgraduate/polsis/2013-14/megan-kohut-se-report.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/postgraduate/polsis/2013-14/megan-kohut-se-report.aspx)**

I travelled to London Metropolitan University to attend a conference put on by the SRHE Higher Education Policy Network entitled 'Interrogating the Higher Education Research/ Policy Interface.'



**[Ash Green, Professional Development Module - Case Study Birmingham Children's Hospital \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/ash-green-professional-development-module.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/ash-green-professional-development-module.aspx)**

Course: History and Political Science BA.



**[Evgeniya Chalakova, Professional Development Module - Case Study Chamber of Commerce \(2014\) \(/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/evgeniya-chalakova-professional-development-module.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/teaching/student-profiles/undergraduate/2013-14/evgeniya-chalakova-professional-development-module.aspx)**

Course: BA International Relations with German.

