Student Profile: Zoe Sivelle

Programme: **Law with French (/undergraduate/courses/law/law-french.aspx)** Year of Study: **Year 4**

The year abroad

When I applied for the Law with French degree at Birmingham, the year in France seemed a long time in the future, but the first two years flew by and I suddenly had to decide where to spend my year. The prospect of moving to another country was daunting, but the opportunity to live and study abroad was unmissable.

I chose to attend the Faculté de Droit, Université Robert Schuman in Strasbourg, France. My initial fears about moving abroad were quickly dispelled when I arrived and participated in an introductory week at the university which was packed with both academic and social events. The Erasmus group was filled with people of various nationalities, and I now have friends from all over the world. While I was in France I took the opportunity to travel around Europe. I also found that Birmingham Law School had prepared me well for the academic work at the French university.

Careers

I've gained so much from this opportunity to discover another culture, and becoming fluent in another language has really helped me in interviews with law firms. Another language is a skill that large law firms in particular look for, but they are also looking for the independence, maturity and insight that you will gain from a year abroad.

I've just completed my final year back at Birmingham. I am enjoying the French I study as a break from the law. I really miss speaking French every day, and have integrated myself in the Erasmus community here in Birmingham, allowing them to improve their English and me to keep up my French"

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