

LSE Summer School Report

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THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
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Dear Tazaki Foundation

Thank you so much for your tremendous support to our GLP-GEfIL program. It wouldn't have been possible for us to study abroad in UK without your scholarships and support. It was truly a privilege to study at one of the most prestigious universities in the world and explore London. I was able to broaden my academic interests and develop as a person through this once in a lifetime experience.

My experience at LSE

Course

I took a course named “The Wealth and Poverty of Nations: Global Economic Development Past and Present.” This course looked at the history of global economic development from Neolithic Period to the Present. I chose this course because I had a strong interest in the inequality between rich and poor countries.

One of the many topics covered in the course which I found very interesting was the “Great Divergence.” The “Great Divergence” refers to a point in history at which the Western World overcame the growth constraints and surged ahead economically while the rest of the world was left behind. In this course, we examined a wide range of factors such as Industrial Revolution, colonialism, gun technologies, wage disparities, availability of resources, military competition, etc. to analyze the causes of this divergence in economic development. The course helped me answer one of the questions I had had: Why was China, a country that once surged ahead in science and technologies, not successful in economic development while countries in Western Europe were? One of the most important reasons discussed in the course was a lack of military competition in Asia. I will stop here because I can go on forever, but this course broadened my perspectives on economic development and strengthened my interest in global inequality.

The course was very demanding in a sense that it assigned a lot of readings and involved two-hour discussion sessions every day. However, the discussions and readings helped me gain critical perspectives as I was able to hear and read a wide variety of discussions from both classmates and the readings.

I also liked the diversity of students. There were students from North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa. There was also one student who works for Brazilian government, and it was very interesting to hear his experiences.

Social life

LSE Summer School organized many social events where I made countless unforgettable memories. The summer school started with a welcome reception party and ended with a farewell party, both of which I really enjoyed. I also watched “Lion King” and “Les Misérables” through the social events. My favorite social event was the night cruise party on Thames River (the picture on the right). I was able to enjoy the beautiful night view of London while having drinks and dancing with friends from summer school.

I also got to explore London as well as other cities such as Cambridge and Dover. This summer school was truly a life-changing experience which I will never forget.

