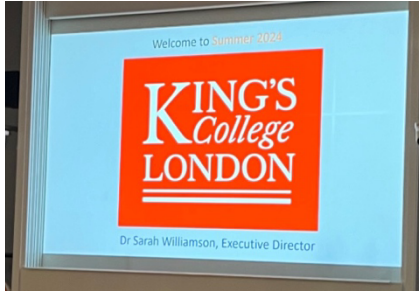


Study Abroad Report

King's College London Summer School 2024 (2024/7/15-2024/7/26)

GLP-GEFIL 9th, Satomi KAI

- Study Life in KCL



In this summer school, I participated in the course on Media, Culture, and Gender, which aligns perfectly with my academic interests. I gained three main insights from this experience: a deep understanding of fundamental concepts, access to rich academic and cultural resources, and the exchange of opinions in a diverse environment. Firstly, the introduction to various notions about gender and media studies was invaluable because, despite encountering these topics in academic articles, I had never systematically studied them. The lectures were always tied to specific examples, which helped to organically consolidate the knowledge. Secondly, the field trips were incredible. As a class, we visited Queer Britain and the Vagina Museum, both of which were incredibly stimulating for me. In Japan, such activities are more hidden, as far as I know. Exposure to a large number of primary source documents challenged and updated many of the ideas I previously held. Thirdly, I enjoyed discussions with friends from different backgrounds. The course content, which balanced lectures and interactive discussions, provided ample time for group assignments. I realized that gender issues vary from country to country, depending on the cultural background, yet it was interesting to find commonalities among us, even though we live on opposite sides of the earth.

- The experience of studying abroad

This summer school was my first experience studying abroad. Thanks to the Tazaki Foundation, I was able to create unforgettable memories in the UK. Initially, I was nervous because I didn't know anyone and had no Japanese peers at KCL, but looking back now, it was a wonderful opportunity for me to grow and become more independent while exploring a new world. Beyond the academic aspects, KCL provided numerous opportunities for socializing. I often attended events such as museum tours and cinema outings, trying to make the most of this precious opportunity. London, renowned for its cultural and historical heritage, and KCL, with its long tradition, provided an ideal environment to study and meet many new friends. I am deeply grateful for all the support from the Tazaki Foundation. I intend to leverage this summer's experience to play an active role in the international community as a person with a broad perspective.

