

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Study Abroad: Clarkson University 2010

### Greetings from Clarkson,

I'm just sending a quick note to tell you we're having a fantastic time here in upstate New York. We're all settled into American college life and it has been an incredible experience for us all so far.

The international staff have been really helpful and organised a number of events to help us get settled in. Marty met us on arrival to Clarkson and gave us a tour of the place. Registration was very efficient and we were set up very quickly. We are living on campus in the 'Woodstock' apartments. They may be old but they

are functional and very well heated during winter months. Potsdam is a small rural college town and the area is known for winter sports. It is something you will not likely experience on a regular trip to America! The campus is small and intimate so you always see someone you know on the way to class. It's a great environment for both learning and meeting people. The majority of students live on campus and the academic buildings are designed with a social, group aspect in mind. Clarkson has quite a contagious atmosphere of ambition and motivation. It is something I hope to keep with me for a long time to come.

Our classes in supply chain management, operations management, data warehousing and entrepreneurship are small and we are getting lots of practical hands-on experience. They are very focused on group work, continuous assessment and public speaking. The professors are very approachable and we are adapting well to the changes. All of our classes are held in Snell Hall, which is a five minute walk from our apartments.

We have made some great friends here with people from all over the world. We travelled, in groups, on fantastic trips to Montreal and New York City. There are lots of opportunities to go travelling throughout the semester. Destinations like Lake Placid and Niagara falls are only a few hours away! Going to Boston for St. Patrick's Day would be the obvious choice for anyone Irish. Luckily, it's right in the middle of spring break!

I never expected to be regularly walking the snowy pathways of a prestigious New York university, standing at the top of the Empire State building, or experiencing the magnificent scenery of Montreal as a direct result of choosing BIS at NUI Galway. My advice to 1st year students is that this is the opportunity of a life time, don't pass it up!

It will be very difficult to say goodbye to the place!

Alan

P.S. Check us out on

<http://www.youtube.com/bisinclarkson>



### Partner Universities

- University of Maryland, Baltimore County, MD
- Clarkson University, NY
- American University, DC
- University of Massachusetts, MA\*
- Lehigh University, PA\*

\*Currently under negotiation

