

# Liam Mass – UF in Beijing Internship

Major: Finance | Minor: Information Systems and Retailing

Blog: <https://ufinbeijing.wordpress.com/category/liam/>

## I studied abroad because...

I wanted to experience true culture shock, I find that exciting!

## One of my biggest challenges abroad was...

Having no concept about what Beijing would be like made it difficult to get things prepared for studying abroad (such as money, phone plan, flights, etc.)

## A typical breakfast I had while studying abroad was...

Jianbing - a scallion pancake street food breakfast for less than \$1

## My favorite spot in my host city was...

Beihai Park was my favorite spot because it was an escape from the concrete jungle. I got to take a boat on the lake, it was a great way to see the nature and ancient Chinese architecture.

## The weirdest food I tried while abroad...

Donkey burgers--and I ate them quite often.

## One volunteer opportunity I had...

With CRCC, I went to a few volunteering events, such as a cultural event at an orphanage!

## The most unforgettable thing that happened...

I saw a group of tourists from a Chinese suburb trying to sneakily take a picture of us, probably because they haven't met Westerners before. I went up to them and held my camera up to them to pretend I was taking a picture of them back. They were embarrassed but they asked me to pose for a picture with them, and they gave me a traditional Chinese fan to thank me!

## Something I took away from my time abroad is...

Even though worldwide cultures are very different, we are all somewhat the same--humans at heart.

## The most surprising thing about studying abroad is...

How easy it was to transition and feel at home in China.

## Lastly, I would like to tell you...

Don't be afraid to step outside your comfort zone!