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University 101

 One of my biggest goals of my college career is to study abroad for a semester in London. I’m not sure when I’d go, but probably my second semester of sophomore year or my first semester of junior year. I’ve wanted to go to London for years. It’s always been a place that just seems interesting to me. There are so many different things to do there, in London and the country of England as a whole. It’s got the modern, trendy parts, but there’s also so much history there. It’s been a place that I’ve wanted to visit for years, and I figure there is no other time in my life where I’d get the opportunity to live in this city and experience all it has to offer.

 That being said, the odds are against me for actually going to London. I’ve been trying to do research on it, and it is not cheap. It’s not like I thought it would be inexpensive, but oh my god it’s really expensive. It’s like $16,000 expensive. Although I wouldn’t be living in the dorms here, that’s only saving me about $6,000. That leaves $10,000, and I definitely do not have that kind of money on me right now. My parents have told me that they would not be able to help me if I wanted to go, so I’m completely on my own. I’ve got money in a bank account that my parents have saved for me that could probably cover a good portion of the cost, but that money is for me to use after I graduate when I have to pay rent and pay off student loan debt. Loans really are the only option for me if I want to go to London, and I am fully ready to go into debt to make my dream come true. The other issue I have is that I do actually have to complete all my classes here to get my degree in four years. I only came into college with 6 credits from high school, which means I’ve got to fit in 122 credits, and I’m taking 17 this semester and 17 next semester. That means I’ve got to take 88 credits in six semesters, which is doable, but I also have to do internships and get a part time job and have a social life and do all that other stuff. I don’t know if I can take a semester to go to London and take 12 or 15 credits that won’t count towards my major or minor. It really sucks to know that London is pretty far out of my reach, but I’m going to try my hardest to make it happen, even if it’s just for a three-week summer semester thing. I’m not giving up that easily.