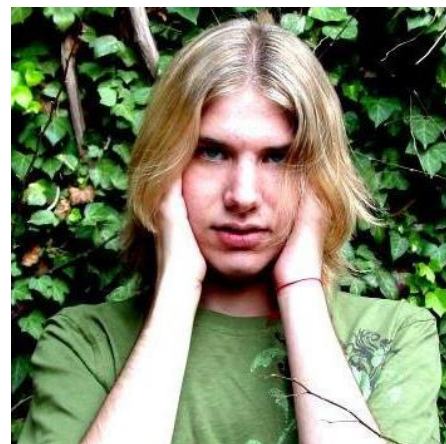


Student Story

Name:	Mr Jeffrey Palmer
Nationality:	American
Course Studying:	BA (hons) Music



I chose to study at Bath Spa University for a variety of reasons. As a music student the prestigious reputation of Bath Spa's music programme was certainly enticing as was the enthusiasm and commitment evident in the lecturers when I was able to interview with them. The students are always put first and the lecturers are always willing to go out of their way to help and assist anyone who is having trouble with coursework or who may need to approach the assignments from a different angle. Another attractive feature about Bath Spa was its beautiful campus, Newton Park, where all of my lectures are held. The serene and pastoral surroundings are perfect for anyone studying the creative arts as they easily provide inspiration whether you're composing, painting or writing. Then there is of course the exciting and interesting material covered within my course. As a music student I have studied all kinds of music from medieval Gregorian chant to modern day pop. The importance is put on understanding and appreciating the actual music covered rather than simply writing about it or hearing one person's opinion on it. There is also much time spent on learning about the art of performance which I particularly find quite invaluable.

As an American student I have felt nothing but welcome not only by the International Office but also by my fellow music students and students from other courses that I have met and befriended. I share a flat with six other students at Waterside Court, student accommodation in town, and have gotten along with them extremely well. The student body as a whole just seems to be very supportive and good-hearted. I adjusted quickly and easily to British life. It has been fascinating for me to actually be a part of the culture which spawned much of American culture in the first place. Bath is such a wonderful place to live as well with its beautiful Georgian architecture and rich Celtic and Roman history. There is a thriving arts scene in the city and a festival for something seems to always be going on. The city is full of green parks and gardens and on a sunny day you can certainly see how Bath got its reputation as 'The most elegant city in England.'

Another plus to living in the southwest of England is the easy access to many other lively and interesting places from Bath. The thriving capital city of London is only an hour and a half by train and other large cities such as Bristol and Cardiff are even closer. Smaller towns such as Wells and Glastonbury are well worth a visit as they paint a more quaint picture of traditional English country life and provide a fascinating look back into both the historical and mystical aspects of England. Travelling is very easy and reasonably affordable and all students, especially those from abroad, should take advantage of their rich cultural surroundings while staying in Bath. I feel so fortunate to be living here and studying at Bath Spa University and encourage all internationals wanting to study in Britain to most definitely consider it.

