



Department of Economics Student Profile - March 2018

Paula Struk Jaia, Undergraduate, Economics B.Sc.

In the spring of 2017, after travelling more than 6,800 miles from Uruguay, South America, I came to Memorial University of Newfoundland as a transfer student to pursue a B.Sc. in Economics.

I have always had an interest in Economics. Being able to develop models of behavior to predict responses to changes in policy and market conditions is particularly interesting to me. I am intrigued by the possibility of furthering my understanding of the linkage between Economics and other social sciences such as Sociology, Political Science and Psychology. By pursuing a B.Sc., I have the opportunity to

take courses from different fields and complete a Minor in Psychology.

Studying abroad has always been one of my desires. I am happy coming to Memorial has enabled me to realize this dream. Attending Memorial University was a big change for me, culturally and studying in a different language was extremely challenging.

My experience is that the education system here is better than back home, I was particularly excited about being able to take part in classes that are very small in size. This allows me to ask questions during class and to really engage in long discussions on the subject matters. At home, with classes of at least 50 people, interactive discussions were hardly possible. In addition, I needed to show up to class an hour before it started to secure a seat.

Not only are the economics classes at Memorial amazing, but the Department of Economics is fantastic. Professors, secretaries and the department head are always there to assist you. Moreover, Professors' enthusiasm and passion for their subject areas has made me enjoy every course. I feel forward to learning more and studying about the various economics courses offered within the department.

As well, I appreciate having had the opportunity to get a MUCPEP position that has allowed me to tutor first-year students in the Department of Economics Help Centre. In that capacity, I help students with their first-year courses and assist professors with different tasks. This allowed me to review my knowledge and I am proud of it.

I always look forward to meeting people from different backgrounds and cultures. Fortunately, at Memorial there is a huge variety of people from different places in the world that I have had the pleasure of meeting. In addition, I was amazed at the beauty of the University and its surroundings. The people here are very kind and helpful.

Finally, I would like to share one quote that I like: *“ The great virtue of a free market system is that it does not care what color people are; it does not care what their religion is; it only cares whether they can produce something you want to buy. It is the most effective system we have discovered to enable people who hate one another to deal with one another and help one another.”* Milton Friedman