



Hanusia Higgins

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador
Madagascar, 2017

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In Madagascar, Hanusia studied the impacts of natural resource and biodiversity conservation. She learned how conservation works on a global level and how the desire to conserve natural areas in nations like Madagascar impacts the people who live there. Living in a homestay for six weeks allowed her to learn more about Malagasy culture and form a strong connection with her host family.

Hanusia had the opportunity to spend a month designing and carrying out a research project. She surveyed the populations of three invasive plant species in a nature reserve and used her findings to create a recommended management plan. This invaluable experience reaffirmed her career goal to continue conducting ecological research that applies to real-world conservation work. Hanusia will begin graduate-level studies in natural resources at the University of Vermont in the fall of 2019. She looks forward to sharing the opportunities provided by the Gilman Scholarship with students at her new institution.

- ★ Studied biology, ecology, and evolution at Washington University in St. Louis
- ★ Gained language skills in French and Malagasy
- ★ Conducted monthlong independent study project surveying invasive species in a natural reserve
- ★ Promoted study abroad and the Gilman Scholarship to students in her hometown

 Gilman Scholarship[★]

