“The most impactful part of my experience was being able to share in daily life with my host family and experiencing the reality of life in communities on the north coast.”

During his internship in the Dominican Republic, Kilian was able to work with patients in mobile medical clinics run by the Kerolle Initiative for Community Health. He supported patient care for people living in underserved communities while piloting independent research on sustainable access to clean water and the prevalence of waterborne infectious disease. The majority of his time was spent assisting the healthcare team in clinics, conducting community health surveys, and facilitating a study abroad group from Newberry College.

This experience greatly influenced Kilian’s trajectory for his education and career path. His time abroad became the cornerstone of his graduate school applications. He begins a dual master’s program in applied anthropology and environmental health at Purdue University in the fall of 2019. He hopes to use this continued education to pursue a career synthesizing anthropological field methodology with public health practice.

- Studied anthropology and biochemistry at the University of South Florida
- Learned about ground-level community health practice and sustainability
- Gained Spanish language skills and an appreciation and understanding of Dominican culture
- Led presentations and workshops at USF to share his experiences from abroad