

ROBERT DAVIS | GREECE, 2013

- First-generation college student, Global Studies major at Arizona State University
- Learned the inner-workings of a U.S. Embassy
- Engaged with revered American diplomats and Greek foreign government officials and business leaders
- Encouraged first-generation college students to study abroad



Gilman Alumni Ambassador

Robert served as the Economic Section Intern at the U.S. Embassy in Athens, Greece. The U.S. Department of State Student Internship Program provided Robert with the platform to network and engage with leading officials in American foreign affairs. These experiences included running a 5k marathon with embassy staff, meeting Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker during her high-profile visit to Athens, and preparing the comprehensive briefing materials for the new incoming ambassador.

Upon returning to the United States, Robert presented a portfolio at the annual School of Politics and Global Studies International Experience Consortium. As a Dorrance Scholar, Robert is connected to a network of first-generation college students who he was able to share his personal experience with and how he overcame certain obstacles to study abroad.

Robert plans to pursue a lifelong career with the U.S. Foreign Service, but not before earning his master's degree from a reputable international affairs program. Now an avid traveler, Robert also considers himself to be a 'global citizen' and life-long advocate for study abroad.

"I lived the life of a foreign service officer, observed high-level negotiations, and witnessed the art of diplomacy first-hand."



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The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship is a program of the U.S. Department of State, supported in its implementation by the Institute of International Education (IIE). The Program offers grants for U.S. citizen undergraduate students of limited financial means to pursue academic studies or credit-bearing, career-oriented internships abroad. Such international exchange is intended to better prepare U.S. students to assume significant roles in an increasingly global economy and interdependent world.