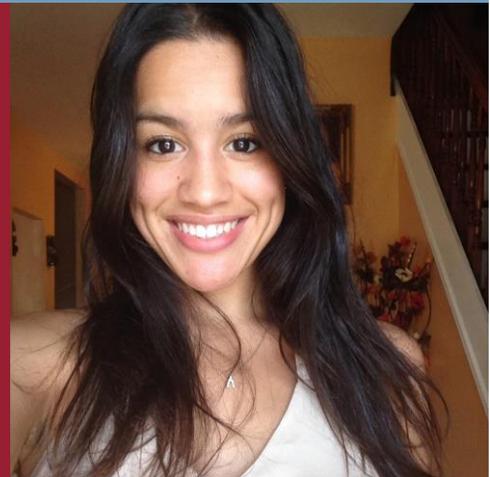


ROSYBELL MARIA | MOROCCO, 2014

- International Relations and Diplomacy, French, and Arabic at Seton Hall University
- Increased Arabic language skills
- Gained a deeper understanding of Moroccan culture and traditions
- Led a panel discussion on the importance of minority students studying abroad

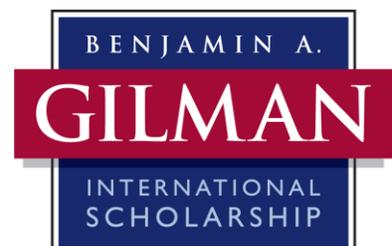


Gilman Alumni Ambassador

During her study abroad experience in Rabat, Morocco, Rosybell participated in an Intensive Summer Arabic program where she studied Modern Standard Arabic and Darija, the Moroccan dialect. While in Rabat, she lived with a host family where she experienced various Middle Eastern traditions first-hand and fully immersed herself within the Moroccan culture. The daily conversations and interactions she had with her host family reinforced her ability to establish cross-cultural connections and strengthened her intercultural communication skills. Her experience abroad further inspired her to pursue opportunities that promote the importance of global leadership and cultural awareness.

Rosybell not only gained a new perspective on the complexities of the Middle East region, but also networking opportunities to continue working in the international sector. Upon returning from her program abroad, Rosybell worked as a U.S. Student Ambassador for the World Expo in Milan, Italy in 2015. Utilizing the professional skills and experience she gained abroad, Rosybell worked as an agent for public diplomacy and engaged corporate executives, political leaders, and the general public in an effort to advocate for various human rights issues.

“My experience abroad as a Gilman Scholar reinforced my ability to establish cross-cultural connections and strengthened my intercultural communication skills.”



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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.