

MADELINE RIDER | NEW ZEALAND, 2015

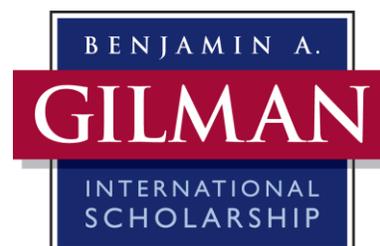
- First-generation college student, American Indian Cultures and Political Science majors at The Evergreen State College
- Interned & conducted research with the indigenous Maori people
- Represented the Gilman Program at the National Indian Education Association Convention & works with TRiO to increase Native American student retention



Madeline studied abroad in Aotearoa, New Zealand, where she interned with the Indigenous Maori tribal government and conducted comparative research on indigenous decolonization of the Maori people of New Zealand and the Indigenous people living in the Pacific Northwest. This research expanded her knowledge and she applied it to her home university program on “Native Decolonization in the Pacific Rim.” She chose the program due to the relevance to her family’s own history of colonization, as she is a descent of the Anishinbaabe tribe in North America.

When Madeline returned, she presented her research at the Pacific Northwest Regional Conference of the Associate of American Studies. She also began working with the TRiO program to plan a summer bridge program to increase retention of Native American students at her university, where she has incorporated her research on and experience with indigenous community relationship-building.

“I feel that my [experience] has been the catalyst for what will most likely end up a career for me – serving underrepresented populations of Indigenous people by helping them understand and strengthen their connections to their diverse and unique communities.”



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