

MOHANNAD SAFADI | JORDAN, 2015

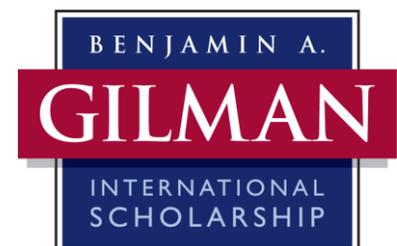
- Biology and Psychology at Illinois Institute of Technology
- Increased Arabic language skills
- Gained professional experience through volunteering with Syrian Refugees
- Lectured about experience and lessons abroad in local community

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

Mohannad Safadi has a strong passion to help others. Prior to studying abroad, he volunteered with underserved communities around the Chicagoland area. However, as a premedical student and a Syrian American, he knew he could not stand by while many refugees were in need of help. In Jordan, Mohannad had the opportunity to aid many displaced refugees. He did this through NGOs, such as the Syrian American Medical Society. He was also involved in teaching fellow classmates English at Yarmouk University.

His experience abroad made him fall in love with his heritage, but more importantly helped concrete his future career. Working with refugees, Mohannad made it his vocation to provide free healthcare for the many underserved communities around Middle East. This was an essential first step for a long future ahead of him. While volunteering in refugee camps, Mohannad encountered many unexpected situations. Handling these situations taught him patience, maturity, and adaptability. As he is applying to medical school, he continues to volunteer around the Chicagoland area helping refugees settle into their new homes.

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