



# Errienna Mckenzie

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni Ambassador

Tanzania, 2017

*“Studying abroad allowed me to observe first-hand the unique challenges faced by those on the front line of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, strengthening my passion for a career in public health.”*

While abroad, Errienna completed both microbiology and history coursework with a focus on HIV/AIDS in Tanzania. She had the opportunity to take a course in Swahili and collaborate with local students on an independent research project. She used her research on the use of traditional medicine in the treatment of malaria, often found concomitant with HIV, to better understand the epidemic in the region. Errienna’s time in Tanzania piqued her interest in a career in public health, all while developing invaluable communication, problem-solving, and leadership skills. She has been able to use these skills to transition from student to professional.

- ★ Biology and Pharmaceutical Sciences double major at The Ohio State University
- ★ Conducted an independent research project on traditional medicine
- ★ Partnered with the Office of International Affairs to host study abroad information sessions
- ★ Observed the impact of USAID-PEPFAR in rural sub-Saharan Africa



The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and supported in its implementation by the Institute of International Education (IIE).