

OSA AIHIE | GHANA, 2014

- Finance and Information Analytics at University of Denver
- Gained professional experience through internship at the Ghana Energy Commission
- Re-connect with and further explored West African Roots

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

Osa's internship with the Ghanaian Energy Commission gave him the opportunity to apply the knowledge from his educational disciplines to real world issues. During the internship, Osa was tasked with conducting research for Ghana's Poverty reduction strategy, specifically the access and dissemination of energy throughout the country. The goal of the internship was to assist in determining the best methods for obtaining energy given Ghana's physical infrastructure and resources. While in Ghana, Osa discovered his passion for complex global issues. He also had the chance to assist with several youth sport teams as a coach.

As a son of West African immigrants, Osa's time in Ghana provided him a window into potential career opportunities, the chance to connect with and further understand his own culture. These experiences as a Gilman Scholar unearthed his passion for cultural understanding and ultimately led to his acceptance as a fellow of the Congress Bundestag Exchange Program for young professionals.

"My experience abroad gave me an understanding of my past and insight to the person that I want to be."



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GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ALUMNI PROFILE

BENJAMIN BURNEY | ITALY, 2016

- Vocal Performance and Music Business at Anderson University in Indiana
- Increased Italian language skills and diction in the other romantic languages
- Gained professional experience through performing with the Coro Sinfonica di Milano Giuseppe Verdi



Gilman Alumni Ambassador

During his study abroad in Milan, Italy, Benjamin encountered new aspects of his career among the boundless opportunities abroad. Many of his studies focused on acquiring and utilizing skills in the Italian language, developing a professional and personal brand to make him more desirable in his field, and exploring the various tiers in producing and marketing concerts in local venues. He used what he learned in his private, vocal instructions to create an opera with his peers for the community of Milan. His love of traveling to different countries accompanied with his music aspirations is what is driving him to pursue an international career in opera.

Benjamin's time in Italy allowed him to find a new appreciation and understanding of multicultural competency. With Italy's rich background in several cultures and heritages, he was able find a sense of equality. This opportunity to study abroad has given him the skills and courage to pursue his graduate studies abroad. Since his return home, Benjamin auditioned for and has been cast in the upcoming 2017-2018 season for the Indianapolis Opera.

"My study abroad experience did not end when the wheels of the plane touched the runways of Chicago, it continues through word-of-mouth, in each performance I do, and the lives here soon to be forever changed when they click 'Submit' on their Gilman application."



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GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ALUMNI PROFILE

BROOKE LAPKE | SPAIN, 2017

- Shadowed doctors at a local hospital 40 hours a week for 4 weeks
- Increased Spanish language skills
- Gained professional experience through a medical fellowship with Atlantis Project
- Blogged about experience abroad



Gilman Alumni Ambassador

During her medical fellowship in Spain, Brooke had the chance to shadow physicians of multiple specialties, from multiple nationalities, operating under a different healthcare system which served to truly enhance her view of medicine. Since she was placed at a government-run hospital, Brooke saw firsthand the pros and cons of government-run healthcare and is now prepared to participate effectively in the debate surrounding the role of government in U.S. healthcare.

Brooke's time in Spain not only provided her a window into potential career opportunities, but also allowed her to gain insight into the progression of hospital life. The physicians and staff all demonstrated vital components of a physician's mental toolbox; she learned that ability and medical knowledge alone do not fully heal a patient. Rather, character, compassion, and understanding are what separate good doctors from great ones. On this trip, Brooke gained a sense of self-awareness as well as cultural appreciation. She was humbled and forced to recognize that her view of the world and healthcare are only as wide as her experiences. She learned not to compare and judge, but to investigate and appreciate the culture she was in, and by doing so, gained a tolerance of difference as well.

“Through experiencing the differences between U.S. and international healthcare, I am now able to distinguish the areas of overlap in these healthcare systems, clarifying the essential elements of medicine and the physician's role.”



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BROOKE TERKOVICH | CHILE, 2017

- Biology major and chemistry minor/pre-med track at Whitman College
- Increased Spanish language skills
- Gained professional experience through a month long independent research project
- Blogged about experience abroad as a Gilman Global Experience blogger

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

During her independent study project, Brooke discovered how even basic understanding and acceptance of cultural differences can improve the quality of a patient's care exponentially. Her research project focused on the community and traditional doctors' perspectives on the intercultural health care system in Putre, Chile. She used the information that she learned throughout her month long stay in Putre and the surrounding Andes towns to write a thesis on the potential for the current system in Putre to spread to other locations in Chile and around the world, as well as analyzing the shortcomings within the system suggesting some possible improvements.

Brooke's time in Chile not only provided her a clearer understanding of potential career opportunities, but also increased her adaptability and Spanish language skills. The time abroad equipped her with valuable personal relations skills, such as cultural awareness, sensitivity, and tolerance, that she will carry with her throughout her career and daily life.

"My time abroad equipped me with valuable personal relations skills, such as cultural awareness and tolerance, that I will carry with me throughout my career and daily life."



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CARLIN DAHARSH | ECUADOR, 2016

- Spanish and Political Science at Nebraska Wesleyan University
- Increased proficiency in Spanish
- Interacted with Indigenous communities in the Amazon Rainforest and Andean Mountains
- Received opportunities to intern with the Department of State



As the first person in her family to attend college and the first student to study abroad in Ecuador from her university, Carlin was traveling in uncharted territory. Through the Gilman scholarship, she was able witness the political issues she had read about, bringing an entirely different meaning to opinions she once held. Interacting with indigenous communities all over the country, observing the wonders of the Galapagos, and meeting Ecuadorean presidential candidates and the US Ambassador to Ecuador, Carlin feels more confident in her abilities to succeed after college.

Upon the completion of her study abroad, Carlin has been translating weekly articles for the Latin American News Digest and volunteering for a local nonprofit, El centro de las Americas, which assists refugee and immigrant families from Latin America. In addition, Carlin will serve the US State Department in spring 2018 as an intern for the Bureau of Western Hemispheric Affairs.

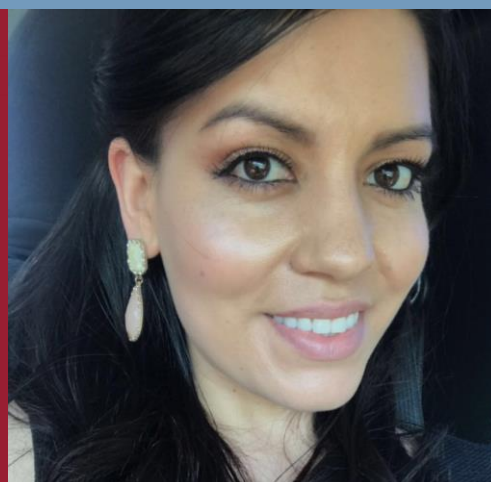
“Through the Gilman scholarship, Carlin was able to witness the political issues she had read about, bringing an entirely different meaning to the opinions she once held.”



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CAROLINA GONZALEZ | SPAIN, 2015

- Biological Studies at University of Valencia
- Increased Spanish language skills
- Volunteered at the Clinical Hospital of the University of Valencia
- Gained community development and outreach skills through health awareness projects
- Presented to several groups about experience abroad as a Gilman Scholar

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

As a volunteer, Carolina integrated herself in the community which allowed her to join groups to address the health disparities within Valencia. The community projects she worked on focused on the dangers of tobacco use and dangers associated with eating disorders among teens. Through these experiences she learned the importance of tackling health disparities within underserved populations through policy changes. Being immersed into a foreign culture allowed Carolina to become more independent, culturally sensitive and competent.

Since studying abroad, Carolina's career goals have been transformed. Currently, she is working to achieve a Master of Public Health. Her thesis will focus on rural residence and access to mental health care for children and adolescents after a suicide attempt. As a professional she will now be able to contribute multicultural perspectives at organizations she works with, which she would not have gained from staying solely in the U.S.

"The Gilman Scholarship gave me the opportunity for personal growth, professional development, and career assertion. Overall, I feel better equipped to contribute to society."



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DEVDHARM KHALSA | MOROCCO, 2012

- Philosophy and Studio Art at the College of Wooster
- Gained professional experience in journalism while abroad in Morocco
- Promoted study abroad through campus presentations and study abroad fairs

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

In Morocco, DevDharm had the opportunity to translate his photography skills into action through a series of interactive journalism assignments guided by a professional journalism mentor. As part of this experience, DevDharm had the opportunity to produce a full-length photo essay on Morocco's endangered Barbary macaques alongside a Moroccan journalism partner, which later became published in Ensia Magazine (a US based environmental publication).

Traveling across the country, living with both urban and rural homestay families, poachers, forest rangers, monkey handlers and more, DevDharm was able to hone his creative abilities through real-life interactions with people he otherwise would not have had the opportunity to meet, learning critical professional and life skills in the process.

Today, DevDharm uses skills gained during his semester abroad on a daily basis as a Media & Outreach Specialist for the National Park Service in Alaska, where he collaborates with park scientists, researchers, and rangers to communicate the important work being done to protect and preserve Alaska's most pristine ecosystems. In addition, he assists in the development and production of a series of digital storytelling workshops for Alaskan youth in underserved communities. DevDharm continues to advocate for study abroad and global citizenship as a meaningful way to not only prepare for a career, but for life as a whole.

"Without the extensive hands-on experience gained through study abroad, I would not be where I am today."



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DYLAN CAMPBELL | HONG KONG, 2016

- Government and Business Administration at The University of Texas at Austin
- Increased knowledge of global business practices
- Gained professional experience through business case work with real companies in Hong Kong
- Developed relationships with professors to provide professional and academic recommendations post-graduation

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

During his studies at the School of Business at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Dylan took courses in both marketing and management. For one of his classroom capstone presentations, Dylan created a marketing plan for a local amusement park to fight competition and stimulate sales for the company. Additionally, Dylan was able to meet with representatives from the company outside of the classroom to discuss his ideas and receive feedback and recognition for his work.

Dylan's time in Hong Kong not only provided a new window into the practices of Asian business, but also how to find and build upon similarities in Eastern and Western practices to establish new, professional relationships. These experiences and interactions allowed Dylan to analyze the portfolios of domestic companies and potentially new international markets. Dylan will be working with a consumer products and goods company exploring areas to increase foreign direct investment in its products abroad.

"The most significant attribute I gained from my experience abroad was the ability to not only appreciate our differences amongst global cultures, but to build upon our similarities as well."



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GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ALUMNI PROFILE

ERIS HANSON | FRANCE, 2015

- International Business & Health Science at Boise State University.
- Increased French Language Skills
- Gained first-hand international business and marketing experience through hands on courses taught by industry professionals.
- Utilized new social platforms and technology to expand cultural and social experience.



Gilman Alumni Ambassador

While studying at the Catholic University of Lyon's ESDES School of International Business, Eris was able to complete courses in international business, marketing, law, and cross-cultural communication, while being taught by European industry professionals. At ESDES, Eris was able to bring together her passions for business and marketing, the French language, and international learning. These passions developed into the skills necessary to be recruited for her first job into a higher education research and consulting firm in Washington D.C., before her graduation date.

Eris' time abroad was an eye opening, life changing experience. She developed cross-cultural communication and competency skills, dabbled in multiple languages, and made lasting friendships. She was able to travel to twenty European countries, observing the amazing cultural differences that make Europe so unique. Eris continues to work with her home university, promoting international learning and inspiring others to take the leap.

"International learning ignited my wanderlust and allowed me to find my true passion for bringing together cultural exploration and education."



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ESTHER SSOZI | BOTSWANA, 2016

- Providence College Graduate
- Studied Public and Environmental Health in Botswana
- Conducted extensive research on how much of the government budget is spent on health care
- Shadowed healthcare personnel in local clinics and interned at a health care nonprofit, BOFWA



Esther spent six months in Gaborone, Botswana studying Public and Environmental Health and conducted extensive research pertaining to government spending on healthcare in Botswana and the impact it has on the overall health of the Tswana people. She had the opportunity to shadow in local clinics, where she spent six hours per week observing healthcare professionals.

Esther's time in Botswana provided her a unique opportunity to gain a global perspective and the experience has encouraged her to become an advocate for the programs and NGO she volunteered with. She hopes to work abroad and is also seeking out long term volunteer opportunities where she can continue to contribute to healthcare in developing countries.

"My program in Botswana challenged my beliefs and my boundaries in so many ways and taught me how to persevere."



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GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ALUMNI PROFILE

FREDDIE ALMAZAN | RIO DE JANEIRO, 2014

- Graduated from University of California, Los Angeles
- Acquired Portuguese language skills
- Gained professional experience by volunteering as an English instructor at Proyeto Parque Vivo and Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro



Gilman Alumni Ambassador

During his experience as a volunteer English Instructor in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Freddie acquired a broad range of experiences he had previously not expected. He obtained the ability to work effectively with a wide range of students and professors of various backgrounds, he improved his knowledge of the Portuguese language, and he developed a forever lasting belonging within the Brazilian community. It was because of this life changing experience that Freddie chose to continue improving his Portuguese language speaking skills upon his return to the U.S., to pursue a career working with the low-income community, and to persevere towards opening his own non-profit organization.

In his own words, Freddie believes that his experience abroad initiated a chain of events that set the foundation for a beautiful and wonderful life. It is because of the insights that he gained from his experience abroad that he wishes to work as a writer and a speaker, in addition to running an NGO, in order to share his experience, speak to the hearts of his listeners and initiate a movement that will allow others to gain the same insights and experiences that he has.

“I cannot emphasize enough how my Study Abroad experience changed my life. My experience abroad gave me a sense of confidence and reassured me that I can overcome any obstacle that comes my way.”



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HALEIGH HOSKINS | ARGENTINA, 2016

- Studies International Studies at Spelman College
- Increased Spanish verbal/written skills
- Gained further insight into intended field of law through her program of Social Movements and Human Rights
- Completed research focusing on the hyper-sexuality of Afro-descendent (Afro-Dominican) women in Argentina in relation to the overlapping diaspora

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

"I hope to use my future law degree as well as language skills to focus on immigration law so I may 'pay it forward' to those who have helped me along the way."



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During her time in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Haleigh focused her studies on Social Movements and Human Rights. She spent much of her time traveling the country; meeting with different human rights groups and studying the overlapping diaspora of indigenous-people groups. Her insight led her to develop a research project focused on inclusion as it relates to the hyper-sexuality of Afro-descendant women in Buenos Aires. This not only aided in creating discourse of racism and sexism within the country but gave many Afro-Dominican immigrant women a louder voice. In addition to her travels and research, Haleigh spent much time working with Agrupación Afro Xangô, a human rights group in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Haleigh's time spent in Argentina helped her not only learn the importance of cultural awareness but also allowed her to discover the next steps in her future career. Haleigh plans to attend law school in the fall of 2018 and hopes to use her degree as well as language skills to focus on immigration law so she may "pay it forward" to those who helped her along the way.

HARVEY MEZA | SPAIN, 2013-2014

- Juris Doctor from the University of California, Irvine School of Law
- Bachelor of Arts degrees in Criminology, Law & Society and Political Science from the University of California, Irvine
- Increased Catalan and Spanish language skills
- Gained professional experience through an internship at the Catalonia Department of Juvenile Justice

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

Harvey Meza's internship at the Catalonia Department of Juvenile Justice in Barcelona, Spain, allowed him to implement mediation alternatives for youth accused of committing crimes. During Harvey's internship, he conducted award-winning research on comparative mediation alternatives for alleged juvenile offenders.

Harvey's internship reassured him of his passion in becoming an attorney. Because of his internship, Harvey was a competitive law school applicant who ultimately gained admission to various prestigious American law schools all throughout the United States of America.

Due to Harvey's experience abroad, he has been able to develop and foster several professional business contacts with strong ties to Europe. Harvey has now graduated from law school and will continue to use his experience abroad in his professional legal career in California.

"Many doors will open for those who seek out opportunities that challenge their everyday reality."



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GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ALUMNI PROFILE

HÉCTOR HUYKE VILLENEUVE | SPAIN, 2016

- Hispanic Studies, at University of Puerto Rico
- Improved creative writing skills, French language and classical guitar
- Learned to teach Spanish as 2nd language for native-English speakers
- Published poems written abroad, part of book in progress.



Gilman Alumni Ambassador

Héctor had many unique experiences during his time in Granada, including receiving a scholarship to attend *FLECOS*, a food and language festival where he had the opportunity to meet writer John Carlin. This experience influenced Héctor's approach to journalism and upon returning to Puerto Rico he interned as a writer for the Emmy award winning show *Laboratorio de Comunicaciones Científicas*.

While in Granada, he also took workshops on Spanish as a second language and learned how to teach Spanish more effectively to native English speakers. This experience was an essential component of his follow-on project, where he aided incoming international students with their Spanish and navigating around the University of Puerto Rico.

Héctor recently completed an internship at the Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico and plans to begin work on a Master's in Hispanic Philology in fall 2017.

"Through my guitar teacher in Granada, I learned the value of discipline, persistence, and patience through daily practice, high expectations, and arduous but attainable goals."



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GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ALUMNI PROFILE

HUNTER ZHAO | GREECE & BELGIUM, 2016

- History and Sociology at the University of Michigan
- Studied the complexity and challenges within the governance of irregular migration
- Learned firsthand from humanitarian assistance and migration stakeholders
- Presented about the ongoing European migration crisis and the role of international education



Gilman Alumni Ambassador

Arriving in Greece in the summer of 2016, Hunter found himself in a country under enormous pressure due to unprecedented migration and financial crises. Through the International Center for Hellenic and Mediterranean Studies, he studied the nuances of irregular migration as well as different models of governance and response. While abroad, he traveled to the island of Lesbos where he visited Kara Tepe refugee camp and also to Brussels where he spoke with officials from the European Union.

Consulting various actors – but most importantly, meeting migrants and refugees – his experience abroad reaffirmed his passion for migration studies. Though the economic benefits of migration should be considered, policies must be, above all else, humane. Hunter has worked as a journalism intern focusing on migration trends in Bosnia and Herzegovina and has interned for the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration in the US Department of State. Finishing up his final year of undergraduate, he sets his sight on graduate school for migration studies.

“With the support of my community and the Gilman Scholarship, I can proudly say that I am both the first person in my family to attend university and to study abroad.”



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HUSSEIN MOHAMED | MOROCCO, 2016

- Beginning Arabic Studies and Islamic Society and Politics at ISA Meknes Study Center
- Increased Arabic language skills
- Integrated with the religion, culture, and diversity of Morocco
- Traveled to and filmed nine different cities within Morocco

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

Hussein's experiences traveling the country during his five-week long program in Morocco broadened his perspective of the diversity in certain regions of the country. He credits the connections made with other students as one of the most important aspects of his study abroad experience.

Hussein's time in Morocco inspired him to continue his role as a global citizen, and since returning from his program he has become a member of the United Nations Association through which he lobbied for the interests of the United Nations on topics such as refugee immigration, sustainability, and international affairs to his congressional and senatorial representatives from Arizona. He has worked with Arizona State University to create a coalition of sustainability clubs, and recently began working at Halsten Enterprise, an organization that promotes projects articulated into the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

"There are incredible stories of human courage and sacrifice that motivate us to greatness, so we should share those stories."

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JENNIFER KALLIO | NEW ZEALAND, 2014

- Studied Anthropology and History at American University in Washington DC
- Gained experience with archaeological methods
- Increased knowledge of Maori language
- Blogged about experiences with depression while abroad upon return to the U.S.

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

During her time in New Zealand, Jennifer participated in an archaeological field school off the coast of New Zealand. The field school provided her with her first experience in archaeology, and following the field school she engaged in a semester long research project on obsidian tool usage in pre-contact Maori settlements. She is currently using what she learned in field school and her research to identify human remains and stone tools in pre-contact Native American burial sites. While abroad, she also took a Maori language class, which served to reinforce her passion for language learning. She is currently pursuing her love of languages through independent study of Japanese and Dakota.

Jennifer's time in New Zealand not only provided insight into what she would like to do professionally with archaeology and language learning, but also encouraged her to reflect upon her experience with depression and anxiety while abroad. By viewing her time in New Zealand holistically, she was able to identify resources to help herself and others who are struggling with depression. These experiences motivated Jennifer to feel comfortable sharing her story and helped her grow immensely on a personal and professional level.

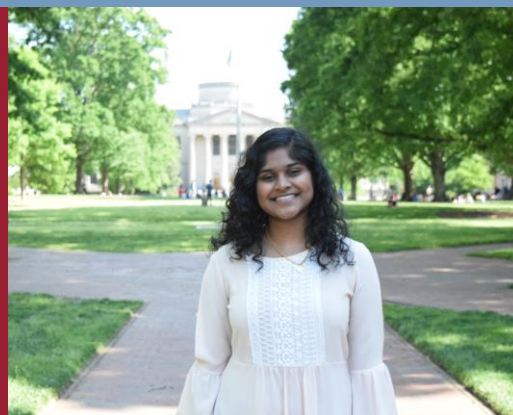
"The most significant aspect of my experience abroad was a deeper understanding of myself and increased ability to self-reflect on my experiences."

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GILMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ALUMNI PROFILE

JESSICA JOY | COSTA RICA 2016

- Molecular Biology, Genetics, and Intermediate Spanish
- Increased Spanish language skills
- Gained knowledge about the biodiversity of Costa Rica



Gilman Alumni Ambassador

During her studies at the University of Costa Rica, Jessica was presented with opportunities to learn about the vast biodiversity in Costa Rica. Her studies were geared towards learning about the extensive research conducted at UCR. She used what she learned from guest speakers and a visit to an ecologically beneficial coffee plantation to further her knowledge about Biology. She also took Spanish classes to enhance her communication skills, which were bolstered through her homestay program.

Jessica's time in Costa Rica allowed her to embrace new challenges and learn how to thrive in a new environment. Seeing the extensive research that the professors conducted have influenced her to pursue research in biology. Her advancement in the Spanish language resulted in her joining various programs around campus where she inspires fellow students to study abroad in order to augment their communication and professional speaking skills.

“ Studying abroad is about the journey of adapting, learning professional skills, and seeing things in a new perspective.”



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JEULANI GAHIJI | CHINA 2016

- Global Business Management & Global Emerging Markets
- Increased Chinese language skills through immersion
- Gained knowledge of international business relations through courses at East China Normal University

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

During Jeulani's study abroad program at East China Normal University, she was able to be immersed in the Chinese language and culture. She knew she always wanted to be a CEO, and being exposed to business operations in a powerhouse country like China helped her learn an additional important piece. She was also able to work with Chinese students as a language partner to aid in their knowledge of the English language and vice versa.

Jeulani's time in China provided her with more than she anticipated. Upon her return home, she was confident in her ability to succeed no matter what environment she was in. Being in a country that placed her completely out of her comfort zone opened her eyes to her true capabilities and aided in her continued success. With her newfound confidence, she was able to go after a position in Higher Education and receive a graduate assistantship at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

"Being in a country that placed me completely out of my comfort zone opened my eyes to my true capabilities and aided in my continued success"



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KEVIN LODER | BRAZIL, 2015

- Public Relations graduate from the University of Oregon's School of Journalism & Communication
- Gained professional experience through internship at Rio EnCantos, a grassroots tour & exchange agency.
- Lived in Rio de Janeiro for two months.
- Increased Portuguese language skills.

**Gilman Alumni Ambassador**

Kevin planned to go to Brazil after learning the country would host the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Summer Olympics. When he arrived in Rio de Janeiro he witnessed a city in transformation between two major international sporting events. During his internship with Rio EnCantos, Kevin utilized a variety of online and in-person public relations tactics to promote the tour agency. This included social media management, Google Analytics, online review websites, and he created a website presentation of an educational tour experience package. He communicated online what he experienced in person throughout a variety of tours, from the beaches, city, and an urban rainforest.

Kevin demonstrated his ability to maintain a productive mindset when his overall internship project changed. "The difference between expectations and goals became clear to me. I expected my internship project to be one thing, but when that changed, I was able to adapt thanks to my goal-orientated mindset." His international internship helped him develop more personal & professional goals.

"I expected my internship project to be one thing, but when that changed, I was able to adapt thanks to my goal-oriented mindset."



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