



Rachel Wong

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni
Ambassador

South Korea, 2017

“Being abroad as a Hong Konger American gave me clarity about my own intersectional identity through conversations about American society.”

While abroad in Seoul, South Korea, Rachel studied at the world’s largest women’s higher education institution, Ewha Womans University. Surrounded by academically driven and empowered women, she completed coursework in the Korean language and East Asian history, politics and economy. Outside the classroom, Rachel had the opportunity to visit the Korea Demilitarized Zone and the Panmunjom, which gave her firsthand experience regarding the physical divide between the two Koreas.

The Gilman experience significantly altered Rachel’s career trajectory, leading her to consider a career in international affairs or the United States Foreign Service. After graduating from Macalester College in 2019, she received an English Teaching Assistantship from the Fulbright Association and lived abroad in Yunlin County, Taiwan, for 11 months. Rachel will begin studying for a master’s in international affairs in fall 2021.

- ★ Majored in international studies and minored in geography/Asian studies at Macalester College
- ★ Gained knowledge of the geopolitical dynamics among East Asian countries
- ★ Volunteered as an English conversation tutor for local Korean students
- ★ Promoted study abroad experiences to Macalester College students who were Black, Indigenous, people of color and first-generation

 Gilman Scholarship[★]

