

Jonathan Banasihan

Gilman International Scholarship
Alumni Ambassador
China, 2019



“The best way to learn and appreciate a different culture is to immerse yourself in it.”

As a Gilman Scholar, Jonathan spent the summer of 2019 participating in an intensive Chinese program in Beijing. Beyond language and cultural immersion, he also participated in a cross-cultural dialogue on social media use with Chinese university students at the United States Embassy in Beijing.

His time abroad allowed Jonathan to complete his bachelor's degree at American University with a minor in Chinese. He is currently working with an aerospace corporation as part of their Global Ethics & Compliance team, applying the skills and patience he learned abroad. Jonathan intends to pursue graduate school to study U.S. foreign policy.

- Received the Gilman Scholarship while attending American University
- Enhanced Chinese language competency and cultural awareness
- Promoted study abroad at Student Veterans of America's 2020 National Conference (NatCon) and The Washington Center and with American University's Office of Merit Awards

20 YEARS
★ with **Gilman**

