

Steven Escobar-Mendez

Gilman International Scholarship
Alumni Ambassador
Jordan and Nepal, 2020



“It is beautiful to get an education, it is even more beautiful to expand that education to a new horizon. That is what the Gilman [Scholarship] allowed me to achieve”

Steven studied as a Gilman Scholar in Nepal and Jordan during the spring of 2020 through the SIT Study Abroad Human Rights program. He was inspired to study human rights as a result of his previous work with migrants from Latin America. Steven established close bonds across cultures while also completing academic work. During his time abroad, he learned about the context of global politics and economics, the UN system and international law in connection with human rights.

Since completing his Gilman Scholarship program abroad, Steven has sought to continue his experience in the field of international studies and human rights. He is currently doing research on COVID-19 and communities of color while also volunteering virtually for a nongovernmental organization in Colombia. He hopes to continue this course of work into law school and study international law.

- Received the Gilman Scholarship while attending Lehigh University
- Served as a Reach the World correspondent
- Conducted independent research on Indigenous rights in Nepal and Jordan
- Kept a research book during the program documenting political, social and economic changes due to the pandemic

20 YEARS
★ with **Gilman**

