

Courtney Howard

Stepped out of comfort zone, which led to new skills and opportunities

Australia, 2013



“The Gilman Scholarship Program made me excited about exploring a foreign country and connecting with others.”

Courtney’s Gilman Scholar experience in Australia impacted what she knew about learning. She realized that educational systems differ from country to country, especially accessibility. She observed that the Australian system accommodated students who learned differently from the masses and often tailored content to students’ needs, different from the system she had encountered in the United States. She also developed critical public speaking and presentation skills that made her feel more comfortable embracing her full self in spaces composed of people who look different from her. From this experience, Courtney learned to be more intentional in listening to different perspectives and opinions without judgment.

The communication and empathy skills that Courtney gained while abroad instilled a passion for connecting with others and their perspectives. She employed these skills during her work in receiving her Juris Doctor.

- Earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Economics from Howard University
- Earned a Juris Doctor from Samford University
- Currently works as an Attorney with the Contracts Group at Protective Life Corporation

