

Alicia Maynard Briones

Gilman Program Alumni Ambassador
South Korea, 2022



“I see everything as a learning experience. There is always something you can learn from any and every experience. I now take as many opportunities that come my way and engage in as much learning as I can.”

Alicia studied abroad as a Gilman scholar during the summer of 2022 at Korea University in Seoul, South Korea. Her time in South Korea helped her get out of her comfort zone and be open to new experiences. She now feels more comfortable in unfamiliar surroundings and confident in her abilities to interact with people from diverse backgrounds. The Gilman Program made it possible for Alicia to go abroad for the first time and to learn about cultural differences and the importance of language learning. She is now passionate about learning as many languages as she can and is looking forward to doing lots of traveling and interacting with people from those host communities so she can learn from their perspectives.

Alicia credits her Gilman Program experience with influencing what she is currently doing and what she hopes to do in the future. She is looking into graduate programs and would like to work in outreach or as a language teacher upon graduating. She is also looking at the possibility of working as a foreign service officer in the future.

Alicia is a senior at Arizona State University (ASU) where she is majoring in communication and minoring in Japanese and Korean language. She works as an activities assistant for ASU’s Global Launch to help international students settle in and improve their English. She also works as a student recruiter in ASU’s Global Education Office to provide resources and any help necessary for students to study abroad. Alicia is excited to be a Gilman Alumni Ambassador and to get as many students as she can to be a part of the Gilman Program. She also wants to serve as an example for students who may be from low-income families or are minorities to show them that they deserve such opportunities and to provide the resources they need to access those opportunities to study abroad.

- Hometown: Parker, Arizona
- Pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and minoring in Japanese and Korean language at ASU
- Activities assistant for ASU’s Global Launch and student recruiter for ASU’s Global Education Office
- Received a Gilman Critical Need Language Award to study Korean language

