

Siena, Italy

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Program: Intensive Italian Language, Summer 2017

Major: Kinesiology



Earning the Career Development Badge:



Earning the Career Development badge through studying in Italy provided me with knowledge that will be essential to my future career. Studying abroad in Italy taught me about cultural differences and diversity. Even within Italy, each city has its own unique traditions and formalities. I hope to become a physician and I believe that learning abroad was essential in developing skills to treat people of any background. Italy has changed my perspective because the people clearly emphasize community and interpersonal connections over material possessions. I believe this is a crucial aspect of being a doctor: being able to relate to others and supporting your community.

Earning the Language Immersion Badge:



Earning the Language Immersion badge by living in Siena helped me develop a passion to learn about more cultures and languages. Since the Spanish and Italian languages have similarities, I hope to apply my knowledge of Italian to learn Spanish as well. Learning abroad provided me with proficiency in the Italian language in order to be able to travel independently and communicate with people of other countries that were at the same school. I believe these language skills will be a valuable asset in my future career as well. I hope to continue to develop these skills and return to Italy one day.

Transferable Skills:



It has been difficult to apply the language skills that I've learned since Italian isn't a very common language in Utah. However, it is extremely rewarding when I can recognize words and phrases if I run into anything related to Italy. I have been practicing my Italian language skills through listening to music, watching movies in Italian, and talking to students who were also on the same learning abroad program. Additionally, learning abroad altered my perspective by demonstrating the importance of interpersonal connections and strength of a community. I've used these ideas and skills to improve my communication skills and develop better connections with people at school, home, and work. Living in Italy also encouraged me to become more involved in my community.



“Learning abroad was the best experience of my college career because it was a wonderful adventure that helped me develop language skills and altered my future outlook. Not only was it exciting to see so many beautiful cities, but it also provided me with skills valuable to my career.”