London, United Kingdom

Colin Hancock

Program: Theatre, Fine Arts, and Humanities in London, Summer 2019

Major: Chemical Engineering

Earning the Career Development Badge:

During my experience, I was earning the Career Development Badge. In retrospect, there was a lot we did during the program which gave me skills that will help me develop my career. In my line of study, there is little room for interpretive or subjective associations and analysis. This program gave me the opportunity to approach topics, works, and issues with an artistic paradigm. I was able to get some perspective on how others approach situations and discuss problems; this ability to not only understand other viewpoints but temporarily possess them will certainly aid me in achieving future career goals. In addition, being able to quickly adapt to busy and fast-paced surroundings was a skill I am grateful to have developed. Not only will I now know how to approach suddenly living in a new location, but I will know how to efficiently adapt to completely new schedules. I also honed in skills of planning and directing regular transportation and finding my location in a new place, which will certainly be helpful if I ever find myself developing my career in new environments. In general, being able to maintain my emotional intelligence even when in new and stressful surroundings and being able to take lead in uncertain situations, both abilities of which I had to utilize while abroad, will help me when moving forward in my career and proving myself to employers.

Transferable Skills:

In my study abroad program, it became much more clear that confidence and the act of taking leadership in unfamiliar situations is a very effective way to engage people and achieve my own goals. Because of this, I have avoided staying quiet and introspective in classes as much as possible. I now am much more comfortable in offering assistance and asking for help because I understand that showing confidence in typically-awkward situations makes it a much more positive experience for everybody. I am also approaching school assignments with a more open mind and an expanded interest in exploring new ideas. There are also many other smaller things I do now as a result of what I have learned abroad.

“This enriching program provided me with an in-depth look into the art, theatre, history, and modern culture of the United Kingdom. It has offered me entirely new, artistic, and interpretive ways to look at the world and its inhabitants and I am forever grateful for it.”