

"Studying abroad was four of the best months of my life. I got to live in a foreign country with four people that I had never met before in a random apartment in the city. I only had one class everyday Monday-Thursday and no class on Friday, which is very different to how things are done here, with multiple classes a day and a focus on academia. I ate pasta and drank wine almost every day for the four-month entirety I was over there. I did have the stereotype that Europeans smelled bad. Luckily, I was wrong about this negative stereotype and they did not in fact smell badly. For the majority of nonverbal communication for me, it was similar to here in the US, guys and girls mainly just shook hands when meeting for the first time."



CHRISTIAN NEELON
FLORENCE ITALY
FALL 2016



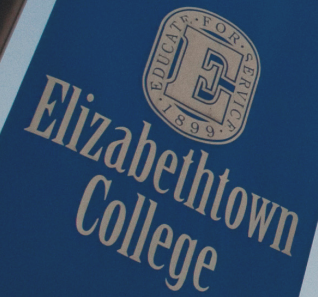
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“Right when I got off the plane, I heard the Irish accents, but as I traveled throughout the country during my two week experience, I noticed that the thickness of accents would change as well as some jargon the people would use, it was definitely culture shock. By going for only two weeks I was able to save money, but was still able to experience so much. In some ways Ireland still felt like America and I think that it would have been a lot harder for me to adjust to the country if it had been a non-english speaking country, which is how I felt in Germany. The overall non-verbal communications what similar, with less touching and hugging like in America. I would recommend anyone to go on this trip, it was truly life changing and made it possible for me to discover so much.”

“I’m going to Ecuador because of the spanish language. I want to be immersed within the Spanish culture as well as a new culture I have not experienced. I expect to become more proficient in speaking Spanish and understanding it. I hope to experience a new culture and be placed in new situations and have experiences that I may not get, had I just traveled there for a week or longer on my own. I expect to see a lot of cultural differences. For example, everyone’s a little more friendly there, so I expect to greet people with hugs or kisses instead of how you would in the US with a hi or handshake. I expect to see other cultural differences such as how they view time (being on time, etc.) and the different dynamics within the family or how their culture interacts with each other, which will be interesting to see because I will be living with a host family.”

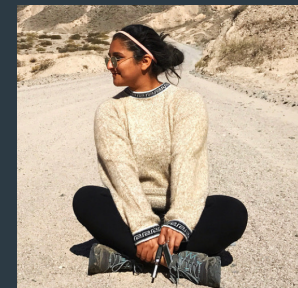
“The biggest culture shock I experienced was food. In Argentina, they eat a very light breakfast and light lunch. They don’t eat dinner until 10 pm and it is usually really large. The food is also more bland than food in America. I would miss somethings in a conversation because they talk with their hands a lot similar to the way Italians do. Sometimes I wouldn’t realize they were being funny or sarcastic because I could not read they hand gestures. Portenos (pronounced: por ten yos) are the people who live in Argentina. They don’t know how to dance tango despite the heavy emphasis on it when you’re traveling there. I expected everyone to know how to tango but in reality only a few people know how to tango.”



KIM MORRIS
IRELAND
SUMMER 2018



KATLYN KRIETZ
ECUADOR
FALL 2019



JAMIE LEES
ARGENTINA
2017-2018

