Nichole’s Majors: Marketing, International Business

Program: UW Intensive Chinese Language, Summer

Academic Life: Class was every weekday, over the summer I took Third Year Chinese, Business Chinese, and a one credit independent study. The class size was small with less than 10 people in lecture and less than 5 people in my discussion. Most of my classmates were people I had taken Chinese courses with previously. The coursework involved a lot of homework and quizzes. For the independent study, I was assigned to pick a specific aspect about Chinese culture, write an essay, and present my topic to the rest of the program. I picked a mountain trail that my friends and I hiked along. Everyday we were also required to spend one hour with an assigned tutor. My tutor was so great. She really helped me with my homework and became a good friend. Even though the coursework was difficult, I have seen a large improvement in my Chinese this summer.

Study Abroad and Nichole’s Future Aspirations: Because I want to do business internationally, studying Chinese and having experience in China will give me an edge over those who have not gone abroad. Studying abroad gave me new perspectives and allows me to see things in multiple ways.

Tip for Students Considering Study Abroad: Make sure to talk to someone who has been there before. They can give you tips on what to bring. I would not have thought to bring things if someone who had gone to Tianjin had not told me.

“This has been one of the best experiences of my life. It may seem a bit overwhelming, but looking back on the summer, it was all worth it.”