Kyle's Majors:  Neurobiology, Psychology

Program:  UW Global Health Ecuador Field School, Summer

Academic Life: We received credit for Spanish and Population Health Sciences 645. Before going abroad, we were required to take a PHS course that gave us information about global health, how to approach certain cultural situations, and provided an opportunity to learn about Ecuador and get to know our fellow program participants. Participants ranged from graduate students, including veterinarian, medical, and pharmacy, to upper level undergraduates. In Ecuador, we started Spanish classes which continued for about three weeks. We were separated into groups with similar language skills. For the PHS course, we would have class in the afternoon to discuss various readings topics including Shamanism, parteras (midwives), ethnophysiology, and others. During class, the faculty director would briefly give an overview of the article, but the bulk of the class was discussion of the articles and our experiences in Ecuador.

Study Abroad and Kyle's Future Aspirations: The main advantage of my program was that it was structured as a Global Health program. The program intertwined problems related to medical health and animal health. For my future aspirations as a health care professional, the program gave me the foundation to be cultural aware and sensitive to the needs and wants of different cultural groups. Also in the program, were students from UW-Madison pursuing careers in veterinary sciences, pharmacy, nursing, and others, and I built connections with these students who are able to give me advice about their various disciplines. This One Health approach where all of the health care professionals are intertwined provides opportunities to improve health across the world.

“I have learned to be more social and make deep connections to people of various backgrounds, professions, and lifestyles.”

Kyle climbing Fuya Fuya Mountain.