Dylan’s Majors: Genetics, German

Program: University of Bonn, Spring

Academic Life: I took German culture classes through the University of Bonn’s international office. The classes were taught in German by professors who specialized in teaching other international students. The other students in my classes were international students, but there were many other opportunities to meet Germans outside of classes.

First Impressions: When I first stepped off the plane and exited the airport in Germany, I was immediately impressed. The airport was surrounded by small villages with houses from the middle ages. Leaving the airport made me feel like I had entered a Grimm fairy tale.

Study Abroad and Dylan’s Future Aspirations: I’m preparing for a career in the biotech industry, and studying abroad gives me a great advantage when applying for jobs in the future. Science is becoming increasingly international with researchers around the globe collaborating to solve scientific problems. By studying abroad, I have gained language skills that will help me communicate with other scientists in Germany, a world leader in research.

Tip for Students Considering Study Abroad: Anyone who is considering studying abroad should do it despite the barriers that may prevent them. As a science major, I have a very strict schedule that made studying abroad difficult; however, with proper planning I was able to study abroad and still plan on graduating on time. My semester abroad was truly the highlight of my college career, and I recommend that anyone with interest in studying abroad should attempt to do so. The experiences and memories from studying abroad are truly life changing, and all students should take advantage of this opportunity.

“Even though it took a lot of planning, studying abroad was well worth it.”

Dylan at historic Heidelberg during an excursion.