Elizabeth’s Major: Music Performance

Program: UW Music in Italy, Summer

Academic Life: The classroom experience in Florence was a seminar and performance setting. Our professor lectured, and we participated with our feedback and comments, for about an hour every weekday. Then we would perform the piece we had been working on for the whole group. Students gave feedback about performances and what could be improved upon. The students were all from the UW Music in Italy program, so the performance setting was relaxed and not too high-pressure. The classes were always led by our composition professor, although every student participated a great deal every day.

What Elizabeth Learned About Herself: I learned that I absolutely love traveling with a large group, and I love having the independence to explore a new city and a new country with just a few friends or on my own. It was very liberating to not have to be guided through every step of making our way through Florence, and I loved getting to know the city on my own.

Advice for Students Considering this Program: I would definitely recommend Italy for study abroad - especially if you are studying the arts, as Italy has a rich cultural and artistic history and a thriving arts scene. My time studying abroad gave me much more insight into the process of composition and performance and the traditional Italian style of performance, both on the streets and in concert halls.

“I can show to employers how I have performed, taken lessons and studied in Europe, and that I am familiar with Italian and European traditions of performance.”