Jaclyn Gellings
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Division of Intercollegiate Athletics Scholarship Recipient

Jackie's Major: Biochemistry, Global Cultures Certificate
Sport: Women's Soccer

Term Abroad: Summer

Why did you decide to study abroad? I have always wanted to go abroad, and for my global cultures certificate, studying abroad is highly recommended.

Were you able to continue training while abroad? I could only do pickup games and do workouts on my own. It was a little difficult to get in tough enough workouts in a big city, but finding places to play was very easy because soccer is so popular in Argentina.

Describe the academic experience. I earned six credits and took two classes, with the option of taking a third. All the credits transferred towards my certificate but they also counted as specific Spanish classes in the UW curriculum.

What impact did studying abroad have on you? Before I studied abroad, I really had no idea about life in South America, and now I have a new appreciation for simple things I have always taken for granted in the United States, like how much food choices there are in the grocery stores.

As a recipient of this scholarship, do you have any tips or suggestions for others considering applying for the scholarship? I would encourage everyone to apply for the scholarship because it covers basically everything but the flight. The overall costs of the program were very affordable, mostly because food is extremely cheap in Buenos Aires.

What advice do you have for other student athletes who are considering studying abroad? Go for it! I highly recommend studying abroad to everyone if you can figure it out with your schedule. Just look into programs, even short one or two week ones, if you cannot make an extended commitment.

“My study abroad experience has inspired me to go back to South America and also to travel to other parts of the world.”

Jackie studied abroad on the summer IFSA Butler program in Buenos Aires, Argentina.