Rachel’s Major: Spanish, Pre-Occupational Therapy

Program: CIEE Liberal Arts, Fall

Academic Life: At CIEE we all took a two-week intensive class to start the program. My class was titled the Cultural History of Spain. We would spend half the time learning about the history of Spain and the other half visiting historical sites around Seville. During the regular session I took four classes at CIEE with other CIEE American students and one class at the University of Sevilla with other American students in different study abroad programs. The classes were all taught in Spanish!

Advice for Someone Considering this program: Practice Spanish before arriving, as well as reading a little bit about the history in Spain. Their history is very important and relevant to the culture today. Knowing more about the history will help to understand why Spaniards interact the way they do, and will give some insight to their traditions.

Housing: I lived in a home-stay with a señora, her son (19), and her daughter (11). We lived in an apartment in the city center of Seville. It was a perfect location because it was close to just about everything. At my home-stay, my señora provided three meals a day, which was really nice. This housing option was also great for practicing Spanish because the family did not know much English.

“When I stepped off the plane in Seville, I immediately knew I was about to start the best four months of my life. I was in awe of how beautiful Seville is and I still am to this day.”