Clara’s Major: Nursing

Program: UW Global Health Ecuador Field School, Summer

Academic Life: For the first half of our program, we had local Spanish classes and group discussions on assigned readings with the Bellarmine professor who traveled with us. For the second half of our program, our discussions focused on comparing our experiences while visiting various communities and health-related locations in Ecuador with the US. Then, we made connections to the assigned readings. Only people from our program were in the classroom, which included 8 UW-Madison students. Our Spanish classes were taught by Ecuadorians, and we were split into groups of 3-4 people for more individualized attention.

Advice for Students Considering this Program: Be aware what part or parts of the country you are going to and what weather to expect there. The climate varies greatly across Ecuador, with ranges from 50-70 F or 70-90 F. If you’re going to be moving to different regions, as we did on our program, you will need to pack a variety of clothes.

Study Abroad and Clara’s Future Aspirations: Study abroad will be an advantage for me in future career aspirations because it has helped me develop and hone my skills in interpersonal relations, adaptability, and perspective-taking. It has also increased my fluency in a language that is common both in the US and in many countries, and has exposed me to many career options that I didn’t know existed previously.

“Be open, come in with a few broad personal goals, but let your experience take you where it will. Some of my best experiences were ones that had never crossed my mind before.”