

QUITO, ECUADOR

CADEN LAMBIE

Program: Ceiba Tropical Conservation Semester, Spring

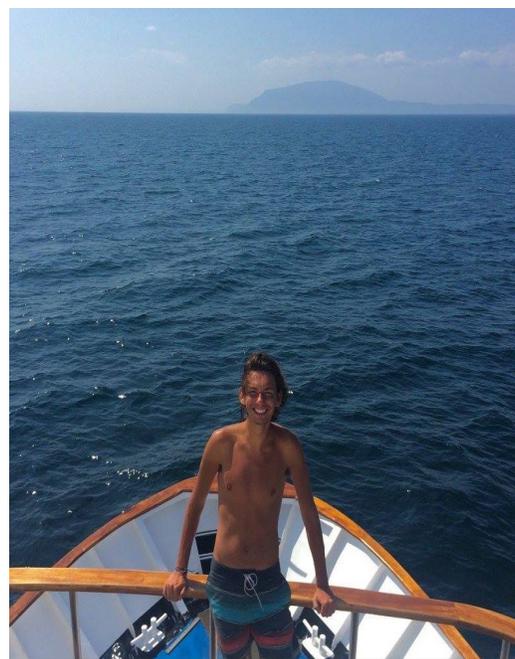
Caden's Majors: Biology; Spanish

Academic Life: The first month of classes were held at the University of San Francisco of Quito, and after that lectures are held intermittently in a classroom setting. Most of the learning is held in the field in the many environments visited throughout the semester. Classes encompassed terrestrial and marine ecology, conservation biology, and a conservation internship. It was an incredible semester filled with incredible experiences.

Interning Abroad: My internship was held on the island of San Cristóbal, in the Galápagos Islands. I was charged with conducting sea lion and marine iguana population surveys, supervising outdoor activities such as camping and kayaking with the children of the island, and also starting an organic garden associated with one of the elementary schools. It's an incredibly enriching experience and can be a terrific opportunity to practice your foreign language skills, as well as make connections to others interested in your area of study that may provide future job opportunities or research positions.

Memorable Experience: Living in the Galápagos Islands. The wildlife that we saw, including blue whales, humpback whales, hawksbill turtles, and much more! The lifestyle there was laid back, and the island is literally an island paradise. It's also a plus that the university is right across the street from a beach! I can't pinpoint the exact moment that made me realize that Ecuador is a second home, but I feel as though I've always belonged here.

Life Lessons: I have definitely changed as a person through participation in this program. I have become more aware of my surroundings and other cultures, as well as the stresses we put on the environment through our everyday lives. My lifestyle has changed from the food I normally eat, to the way I communicate and interact with others.



Caden, in the Galápagos Islands, for the marine ecology portion of the program.

“It may be intimidating to commit to, but I do not regret the decision in the slightest!”

