Program: University of Bristol Exchange, Spring

William’s Major: Retail & Consumer Behavior

Academic Life: I took three classes - Classics of European Cinema; World in Crisis (geography); and German History & Literature. Most of the students were local students with a couple international students. Professors generally taught the courses.

Most Memorable Moments: I volunteered at Bristol International Student Center (BISC). I prepared meals for international students and developed friendships through this.

Benefits of Study Abroad: I am deeply connected to friends and groups of individuals who I met through exchange. This gives me the unique opportunity to have a business network and the ability to visit friends overseas.

New Perspectives: I feel much more comfortable living on my own and being far away from my parents for 6 months. I also learned that I require a proper challenge in order to develop myself further. This might mean traveling or working in a different country in the future.

Advice for Someone Considering Study Abroad: I actually have the ability to speak another language – German - but I didn’t choose to study abroad in Germany or Austria. In essence, England was too “easy” for me since it is very similar to American culture and I wasn’t required to adapt very much. Go if you would like to speak English and develop yourself, but if you are learning a second language or want a unique/different culture to experience, there are many other options.

Tips for Future Students: Keep in mind, just because a program is recommended by a friend doesn’t mean it’s the right fit for you. Consider EVERY OPTION, and consider the experiences you could have above all.

“I am now very familiar with the UK, its industry, and culture.”