

# LUCKNOW, INDIA

HARRISON KAUFMAN

**Program:** South Asia Flagship Languages Initiative, Fall

**Harrison's Major:** Biochemistry

**Academic Life:** The academic setting was a traditional one. We were in a classroom being taught by native speakers. We took 12 credits worth of language classes and two culture classes (cooking and calligraphy).

**Housing:** I lived in a homestay. I did not have any roommates to ensure that we only spoke in Urdu and not English.

**Memorable Moments:** The most memorable experience was being able to speak in the native language all the time, and seeing the reaction of native speakers when I talked to them.

**Finding Your Place:** When I first arrived, I was extremely overwhelmed. After some time though I got acclimated to the environment and was okay. I realized a few months after getting back to the United States that I missed many aspects of India.

**Advantages of Study Abroad:** For employers, study abroad students are very advantageous. They are able to adapt, go outside their comfort zone and think critically. For me, I hope to use my cultural and language understanding in my future career.

**Advice to Someone Considering this Program:** India is a hard place to study/live. It is truly an attack on the senses and it will definitely test your limits. I recommend doing research before getting there and making sure you prepare yourself to live in such a harsh environment.



Harrison with the Taj Mahal in the background.

**“Study abroad students gain a cultural advantage.”**

