Program: University of Cape Town Exchange, Spring

Brianna’s Majors: Agronomy; Certificates in Environmental Studies, Global Health, and African Studies

Academic Life: Lectures and discussions were similar to those at UW-Madison. I studied alongside many local students along with many international students from all over Africa and other parts of the world. All of my classes were intellectually challenging and required significant amounts of effort in order to excel. The workload was similar to that of UW-Madison, but the classes required students to write many papers throughout the semester. A somewhat nerve-racking aspect of studying abroad is that the final exams are often worth close to 50% of your final class grade, but if a student puts in the effort, they will do well.

Memorable Moments: I lived with eleven other international students in a house in one of the neighborhoods off campus, and I became so incredibly close with each of my housemates and learned so much about their ways of life back home and their diverse perspectives of the world. It was the people I met during my study abroad experience that are most memorable to me.

Why Study in Cape Town: It was one of the most bold, daring, adventurous things I’ve ever done, and I never regretted a second of it. I enjoyed that the classes were intellectually challenging and taught me so much about the world, allowing me to view many topics and issues with a new perspective. I learned so much during my time in Cape Town through my classes, experiences, and the many diverse people I met along the way.

New Perspectives: I have such an appreciation for all that I have at home and in my life, and I have a newfound wonder of what lies outside my door. Studying abroad has encouraged me to pursue that wonder and learn more about the world and other people, cultures, and places. My study abroad experience has changed me in profound ways, and I couldn’t have asked for a better experience.