

Georgetown Summer IR

My experience during the Georgetown Summer IR program was unlike any other experience I have ever had. Not only were the lecturers and staff knowledgeable of the topics that I was interested in, the other students were as well. It was a breath of fresh air to be able to talk with peers about world issues and have productive conversations in discussion groups. I was very fortunate to be in a discussion group that included people from all over the world, which allowed for different perspectives to be brought in.

With the exposure that the Georgetown Summer IR Program gave me to the experiences of others, I feel more prepared than ever to listen to and help others with global problems. Georgetown has allowed me to understand the best ways to bridge the gap between different groups of people and cultures which has become more prominent due to the rise of political and social unrest in the world, specifically in America. Georgetown gave other students and I the chance to understand and learn about many different topics including the way that certain cultures and places have an influence on us. International relations are being tested in many different countries, like the United States and Britain, by the uprising of groups focused on promoting nationalistic policies which gave the Georgetown Summer IR program a whole new importance. Learning how important international relations are in every aspect of our society really helped me to figure out what my thoughts were on many different subjects. I believe that I also came out of the Georgetown program a much better conversationalist and debater. Being challenged in the discussion groups really helped me to figure out the best ways to organize my thoughts and think on my feet.

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Being a summer Hoya has given me so many new experiences. From taking a real lecture style class for the first time to tasting Ethiopian food for the first time, I have had a plethora of new life experiences that I will never forget. I still am in contact with so many people that I met; friends who live in France, and friends who proofread each other's college essays. I would not have gotten to know any of them had it not been for attending the Georgetown Summer IR Program. I am so grateful for the experience and beyond honored that I was chosen to receive the scholarship.