

Major: Psychology & Spanish

Why did you choose Madrid ?

It seemed more unreachable, and if I were going to study somewhere then I wanted it to be some place I couldn't imagine. I really wanted to do something that would take me outside of my comfort zone. It was so inspiring.



Housing:

I and another Mount Mary student stayed with Señora Margarita. She gave us our space and was flexible about when we got home. When we did get home, we always ate our meals together and had a chance to talk.

*“Studying abroad made me less fearful
— of pretty much anything.
I came back more outgoing,
more independent and more aware of
what I want to do with my life.”
— Hanai*

Academics:

I enrolled in one class for Literature and one for Spanish Culture. The professors taught in a different manner than the Mount Mary faculty. The professors in Madrid were more strict and more blunt, but they were also very helpful and understanding.

Favorite Excursion:

I loved Toledo because it had more rustic buildings and antique shops. I felt like I was in a Spanish movie. Toledo is very famous for its sword-making, and I was able to purchase a sword for my brother there, which was very memorable.

Most memorable:

I spent a weekend with the missionaries of *la Iglesia Apostólica de la Fé en Cristo Jesus en Madrid*, the sister church of my own parish. I hardly slept the first night because I spent the whole night talking with the pastor and his family. It was interesting to see the same passion and belief but from a different cultural perspective.



Hanai in Madrid at the statue of Goya outside of the Prado Museum.