

SEMESTER ABROAD IN COSTA RICA ~ SPRING 2022

Meet Jackie, a Justice & Sociology Major with a Justice Minor, Grace & Promise Scholar, and Gilman Scholarship Awardee

"I feel like I'm very timid, but I knew if I wanted to have fun and get to know someone, I'd have to make the first step. I feel like I had to put myself out there."



 Benjamin A. Gilman
International Scholarship

1

Why did you choose Costa Rica?

-I was initially planning to go to Guatemala, but unfortunately the program was cancelled due to Covid-19, so I was choosing between Costa Rica or a virtual program, and I really wanted an in-person experience. I loved it and want to go back!

2

Favorite Experience:

-We went to Uvita — it was amazing, even though it was a 5-hour bus ride. We went to the beach to see the Pacific Ocean. I really stepped out of my comfort zone. Everything there was a first to me, but my nerves calmed down as I was trying so many new things.

3

How were you transformed?

-I was transformed in a positive way. I did a lot of things I didn't think I'd do. Even I was surprised. I feel like I'm a new Jackie. Over there, I was very healthy. My roommate would run in the morning, and I'd go with her, and I liked it. I eat more healthy now. I got comfortable making changes while in Costa Rica and then incorporated these changes at home.

4

Piece of Advice:

-As a sophomore, I was going to study abroad, but money problems and my anxiety kept me from doing it then. But I knew deep down that I wanted to study abroad. I applied to as many scholarships as I could get, and when I found out that I had a Gilman Scholarship and I found out Nancy was going to Costa Rica too, I thought I'd be more comfortable if I went with someone I knew. I would recommend you try to study abroad sooner.

Interested in Study Abroad? Contact
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