



Josh Zahren's Year Abroad

“When considering studying abroad, something that I found really important to really love the language and culture of the city. To be quite frank, spending an entire year in Munich had its hard parts, but the love I have for speaking German is what always kept me going.”



Please contact
studyabroad@washjeff.edu to learn more!
Deadlines: October 1 for spring term
March 1 for fall or full-year

“I’ve wanted to study a year abroad in Germany since about the 9th grade. I had spent some time abroad with two host families, and I couldn’t wait to get back. W&J was actually one of my top choices when considering colleges; the participation in a one-year study abroad experience in Munich is what basically made my decision for me. In my case, studying in Munich wasn’t just a requirement for my major, but the only way to spend my junior year.”

More about Josh:

- Major: German
- Minor: Math, GWS, English
- Program: Lewis & Clark; Munich, Germany.

Academic Year:
2015-2016

What academic opportunities did you have while abroad?

“While I was abroad I took a variety of courses, mostly focusing on, but not limited to, literature and culture. The classes I took through the Lewis & Clark Institute were taught exclusively in German and focused on grammar, art history and literature. At the Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich I studied Gender and Women’s Studies and American culture through an intense class on Judith Butler, Sociology of Gender, a history of the American musical, and passing in American literature. Through my time I abroad, I greatly improved my German speaking ability and understanding of the grammar.”

Favorite food/drink item you had abroad?

“Honestly, my favorite food came from a small pizza restaurant in the city, near the university, called Lo Studente. A group of friends and I would often visit this restaurant after our German Grammar class to enjoy pizza and beer after a long week. The pizza is huge, ingredients are always fresh, and it is a very friendly place to be.”

What was one of your most memorable experiences while abroad?

“One of the best parts about my abroad experience was the opportunity to sit in the English Garden, by the stream. This allowed me to relax, speak German, and just enjoy the beautiful city, in which I had the pleasure to live.”

More about Josh’s experience...



Thinking about the Munich program? Josh says “While I was abroad, I was immersed in a program that only allowed German to be spoken – in that kind of situation, you just have to learn. It’s tough and frustrating but incredibly rewarding and fulfilling. I feel like my German has improved and that I learned more about grammar and the language because of a need to understand in order to make it through. If you really want to improve your German, I would most definitely recommend this program.”