

# Genoa, Italy

## Brian Zavala



**Program:** Film and Media Arts in Italy, Summer 2017

**Major:** Film and Media Arts

### Earning the Career Development Badge:



Gaining the experience necessary through film management was quite interesting. For someone who has never held a camera to direct a small documentary was a great learning adventure to understand and gain management skills. I felt that through this program, I was able to manage my time similar to that of a skilled worker, and was able to manage others in an accurate way to mold my idea of a movie into reality. As a director, I had to dictate what sort of interviews I wanted for my short documentary and also had to manage and control all the sound devices necessary for the project. It made me a "boss" and forced me to become a leader, thus giving me experience in management. I not only had to make decisions at a faster rate, but I had to follow these positions. Once a choice is made, you can't fret back on the sort of impact that decision has made. You are unable to look back. I feel that that business management experience that I gained in Genova really helped me understand that no one is truly perfect, even with the greatest organization in the field. Anyone can make a mistake. Sometimes, a camera lens may get smudged or you may not be able to re-record some footage or audio. Genova has taught me to not look back on mistakes and to push forward no matter what. To always work with problems and to make them into something great.

### Transferable Skills:



Coming back, these skills of leadership have reflected in my educational management. This semester I decided to go above and beyond average credit hours and decided to take more classes than most students would take in a semester. I had more homework, projects, and tests to prepare for. With the management skills I gained in Genova, came great preparation for this semester. I had no challenge managing my time and deciding what sort of tasks I should do for the day. It made the semester a "breeze", and I felt that my time in Italy really prepared me to become a more diligent and harder worker. My organization became better and this improvement reflected in my ability to complete the fall semester of 2017.



***“We waste minutes of our lives doing nothing, mainly thinking about things we could do, or ways we could do something. We have to stop doing nothing and actually motivate ourselves to do something. Those who do something are more alive than those who do nothing.”***