

# Genova, Italy

## Erin Griss



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

**Major:** Psychology and Sociology

### Earning the Career Development Badge:



While earning the Career Development badge I didn't realize how much this trip would ultimately affect how I viewed my future. Film making was never been on my radar for a career choice and I still don't believe that I will ever be a notable film maker but the people I met on this program have changed my life. We spent four weeks filming, editing, and

adventuring around Italy and I learned persistence and hard work pays off. The networking that has been done on this trip with, not only the other students but the professors as well will play into the rest of my life and what I choose to do after college.

### Earning the Research Experience Badge:



While earning the Research Experience badge I had the opportunity to learn more about Italian culture. I did my research while filming for a web series. My goal for my web series was to document different gelato shops and their owners and compare different aspects of the gelaterias. I set up interviews and tasting opportunities with 5

different shops around Genova and filmed different aspects of each of my visits to the shops. The web series I created showcased the overall aroma of each of the shops as well as the flavors and making of the gelato. This experience was not only educational and an amazing opportunity but led me to learning more about the culture of Italy.

### Transferable Skills:



I went to Italy not knowing how to use a camera and I have now come home and I want to film everything. I learned skills from getting the perfect camera angle, to how to edit the perfect short film. You'd be surprised with how helpful these skills can be even if it is just for a hobby. The four and a half weeks I spent in Italy have changed my perspective on everything now that I am back in the states. The

knowledge that you acquire while you are abroad goes far past what you learn in the classroom and the experiences I had while I was abroad are ones I will cherish for the rest of my life.



***"Learning abroad is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Step out of your comfort zone, I promise it's worth it!"***