

Montepulciano, Italy

Luciana Salmi

Program: Multidisciplinary Internship in Italy, Summer 2018

Major: Psychology



Earning the Career Development Badge:



This experience has contributed to both my major and my minor. I had the great opportunity to apply my knowledge in both the field of Psychology and the field of Health. I served as a volunteer in the community's asylum with clients that had several psychological diagnosis. I observed and interacted with the clients within my capabilities. I also utilized my knowledge and certification in advanced first aid/

CPR to volunteer in the emergency ambulance since this was a first responder unit (no medic or nurses involved). I learned how these types of community service can be very beneficial to save more technical services for actual emergencies in which more advanced care would be necessary.

Earning the Language Immersion Badge:



The cultural immersion let me practice and improve my third language, Italian. In both of my volunteer jobs I was able to learn medical terms in Italian and practice the language every day. Not only was I able to do this at work, but also in my daily life. Even when people would recognize that English was my native

language I would ask them to speak Italian as a way of forcing me to improve my skills. Overall this has been one of the most beneficial experiences I have been able to get while studying at the University of Utah.

Transferable Skills:



I am applying my skills by continuing to practice the language in my daily life. I remain in contact with some of the people I met while living in Italy. I have also added an Italian class to my last semester at the U. There are many cultural skills that I am starting to add to my own life and practice. Having worked in a different country also gives you an alternate

perspective on things. Currently, I am training to become a medical interpreter in which cultural competence is extremely valuable. Thanks to my experiences in Italy, I am more aware of cultural differences and more likely to catch such differences, evaluate and have a more assertive performance.



“There is no need to rush, take advantage of the moment mindfully and with an open heart. Your experience and knowledge will increase beyond expectations when you are fully committed and present one step at the time.”