

Montepulciano, Italy

Lucia Arambula

Program: Film and Media Arts in Montepulciano - Summer 2019

Major: Kinesiology

Earning the Career Development Badge:



While abroad, I needed to help crew for three other classmates. While crewing for my friend Michael, I was exposed to situations that I am likely to encounter in the professional film industry. We were headed to a vineyard to interview the manager of Salcheto, a popular winery in Montepulciano. However, we only had a 64 GB SD card which we did not know at the time, is too large to be used by the sound recorders. Therefore, the interview we had planned could not be completed, so we needed to improvise and think of a way to use our time wisely. Instead of conducting the interview that day, we decided to tour the winery and shoot some B-roll instead. With this, we were able to get great footage that inspired some of the topics in the interview that was conducted a few days later. This tested my problem solving skills and taught me how to adapt to changing circumstances caused by unpredictable events. It was valuable because I learned how to work with others to overcome challenges, and how to make the most of situations when things don't go as planned.



Earning the Research Experience Badge:



I completed research on people, weather, and locations in order to make my movie possible with nice filming locations and enough actors. The research I did in order to complete my film, impacted me on a personal level. I was able to discover so much about the beautiful city I was staying in, in order to make my movie more authentic and have a special Italian feel to it. I also learned about Italian culture. I learned that Italians value family and friendship and met many generous people who were willing to give me their time and effort to help me complete my film. I also learned that there is so much history in my host country, which allowed me to learn

a lot about Italian traditions and values that the people share.

Transferable Skills:



I learned a lot of communication skills while abroad. I have applied these skills to my job as a peer adviser for the Block U program. These skills have helped me to better communicate with the students and their professor, and coordinate logistics for the class. As for the film skills I developed, since going abroad I have improved my film making techniques and applied them to other film/editing classes I am taking this semester. I have also passed on these skills to my friends who are becoming interested in film, and have been using the experience I developed abroad to help them with their own film projects.

“This program allowed me to pursue my passion of film in a professional, and real world setting. I gained experience coordinating and communicating with people in a new environment, and developed social and academic skills that will help me to succeed in my future careers.”