



Kaza, India

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Program: Global Public Health in the Himalayas - Summer 2019

Majors: Geoscience & Geography

Earning the Community Engagement Badge:



I learned that the locals in Spiti Valley are eager to solve their problems. It is inspiring to work with such positive minded community members. Upon telling a villager that his water

was being contaminated by algal growth and cow feces, he immediately started cleaning the spring area. The community cared a lot about their water resources, and we were actively engaged in providing the community with that information. Each of us worked with the locals all day, every day, to ensure we were sampling the most informative springs. We also taught a local

how to measure the depth of the wells. With these tools, and his local knowledge, we will be able to map the groundwater of villages and how it changes throughout the years.



Transferable Skills:



The ability to work with different cultures, given language and societal barriers, is a lifelong skill. Learning to utilize strengths from both perspectives is very valuable, and was challenging to do. The outcome was a diverse solution to in-country issues that arose. I am planning on using this in work and school, with people that I may not agree with, in order to utilize our strengths and weaknesses and still work through our differences.

“Working in remote villages in the Himalayas provided me the chance to utilize the skills I have learned at the University of Utah and apply them to a real world dynamic to help local communities learn more about preserving the quality of their water resources, and how to use them sustainably in the future.”