

The Purdue study abroad program has given me the opportunity to step outside of my comfort zone and see different parts of the world that I have only dreamed of before. Studying abroad this spring semester in Madrid has been a blessing that I will forever wish every student could experience. Studying abroad is much more than just going to school in another country; it is attending classes, immersing in the culture, and meeting people from all over the world that have incredible life stories. The experiences that I have had will shape the rest of my life in an extremely positive way.

Going to school in another country for five months can seem a little bit intimidating at first. There is a lot of detail that must go into the transition, but I am more than happy to say that it is extremely worth it. There is a good amount of responsibility that comes with studying abroad, however it has truly shaped me into becoming a better and more mature individual. I have faced adversity throughout my semester and feel that I can problem solve better than ever at this point. Not only have I learned through my studies but also my life experiences while abroad.

The places I have been and people that I have met will stick with me for the rest of my life. I was not very close with two of my roommates before coming to Madrid, and now feel that we will be close, lifelong friends because of all the amazing experiences we have had together. While studying in Madrid, I was able to travel to Austria, Italy, France, Portugal, Ireland, England, and multiple other places throughout Spain. I have surfed the waves in Lisbon, snowboarded the Alps in France, and even ran with a bull in Spain. I will never be able to experience anything like this ever again, and I am so blessed to have been given these opportunities.



I have learned through my time in Spain to truly relax, even when unusual situations come up. There is always a solution to a problem and people are always willing to help. The world is an extremely large place, and some of my best times in Europe were when there was no plan. I found that wandering around cities sometimes offered the best views, food, people to meet, and sunsets to end the day. The study abroad experience is something that I wish every single person would do. It is a once in a lifetime experience and you never know what

opportunities it may bring. I will forever be grateful for the experiences that I have had, and I hope that one day I will be able to come back and visit some of the incredible places I have been.

David Mudd
Purdue University Agribusiness

