My Study Abroad Experience in Barcelona, Spain

I was able to study in Barcelona for a full semester at Elisava School of Design and Engineering. I am studying Interior Design with minors in Global Environmental Sustainability and Spanish Language. The courses I took at Elisava included Typography, Digital Representation Principles, the History and Context of Art and Design as well as a Furniture and Product Design studio. My studio class was definitely the most hands-on and challenging as we had to design various pieces from a light fixture to a sculptural chair. This was especially challenging as I had no previous experience with industrial design. Even though it is not my specialty, the process of design remains the same throughout various fields: conceptualization, research, programming, development, etc. My honors enrichment award helped greatly as we had to find and purchase our own materials for the class.

My experience abroad extended far beyond the classroom; I was able to practice Spanish with native speakers, which is crucial to anyone hoping to learn another language. As someone who has predominately lived in the same place their whole life, once I got a taste of travel- I couldn’t go back and I wouldn’t have it any other way. International travel teaches you about new cultures, rich histories, different interpersonal relationships, traditions, perspectives, societal norms, etc. and it especially teaches you a lot about yourself.

Since I am studying design and my paternal family descends from Spain, Barcelona was an obvious choice and a dream that was a long time in the making. Barcelona is known for its rich history especially in terms of culture and the arts. Incredible architecture, art and design can be found on every street corner (Antoni Gaudí even designed some of the street tiles found in the

My time in Barcelona provided me unique cultural experiences, knowledge of the history and traditions of the city, design experience, improved Spanish communication, travel skills and of course, memories to last a lifetime. I would like to sincerely thank the Honors program for helping to make this experience a reality for me and for countless other students hoping to better themselves through education abroad.

Studio Work:
HALFWAY

EXPECTATION
REALITY
PERSPECTIVE

The Halfway chair forces a change of perspective. Who is to say what is up, down or sideways?

Either way, you’re halfway there...