Off-Campus Study Student Profile

William Miller ‘10
Political Science (English minor)
The Washington Semester Program - Washington, D.C.

Program Highlights
• Interning at Cable News Network (CNN)
• Meeting prominent Washington figureheads
• Visiting the White House
• Living in Washington, D.C. during the beginning of a historic presidency

Why did you choose your program and location in particular?
I knew the hands-on approach of the Washington Semester seminars with a Washington backdrop would nicely complement my major in Political Science at Wooster, while the internship would greatly improve my resume and provide me with a host of connections for life after Wooster.

How did your experience fit into your academic major and your Wooster education?
All of the components of the Washington Semester Program, the seminar in Journalism, the research project, and the internship at CNN, dealt with politics and the media. These two topics both complement my academic interests at Wooster, as well as my Independent Study topic.

How were the courses you took on your program different from your Wooster courses? What did you like or dislike about them?
The seminar component in Journalism was much more hands-on than courses at Wooster, as it greatly utilized the surrounding city of Washington. We heard from an extensive list of both media and political figureheads, a handful of whom included Charles Krauthammer of The Washington Post, Bob Schieffer of CBS, and former White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers. We also had an inexhaustible amount of resources at our disposal when writing our news features.

What specific advice would you give to other students preparing for this program and for living in your host country, or studying off-campus in general?
Immerse yourself in as much as you can that makes your place of study unique. Eat at restaurants native to that town or city, visit museums, visit surrounding areas, and attend celebrations or citywide events, such as the Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington. In the case of an internship, meet as many people as you can and take advantage of all that is available to you at that organization.

The Washington Semester Program at American University - Washington, D.C.
An intensive internship experience in Washington D.C. facilitated by American University.

For more information please stop by the Office of Off-Campus Studies in Babcock Hall, 103 or have a look at www.wooster.edu/Academics/Off-Campus-Study.