MADRID, SPAIN
JACK FRITSCHLER

Program: WIP Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spring

Jack's Major: Spanish

Academic Life: The academic and classroom experience was different but similar to my experiences at UW. In Spain, most grades consist of one exam that is 80% of your grade, with a small amount of participation and attendance points making the other 20%. The academic component of my program was very rigorous, with us having to take five classes and two of the five classes being in the Complutense. In the Complutense classes, we generally had a professor without any teaching assistants teaching the class and we were in the classes with other international students, people from our program, and Spanish students.

First Impressions: The initial impression when I stepped off the airplane in my host country was that it was very modern and that the winter climate was mild. Pertaining to the language barrier, I realized immediately that I would have to adapt to a new country and culture, and that I was up for that challenge.

Tips for Future Students: I would say to someone considering my program/country to integrate as much as possible in the culture and to make local friends to practice your Spanish.

Career Goals: Study abroad has changed me in the sense that I now have a greater appreciation of my major and the field I have chosen to devote my life to: Spanish. I have without a doubt fallen in love with Spain and as a result I want to return there for a graduate degree. I have realized that I have in fact chosen the right career path.

Memorable Moments: Traveling around Europe in my free time and seeing things that so many people only dream of seeing. These experiences really made me grateful for this amazing opportunity that I have had this past semester.

Jack in the city of Toledo, Spain.

"I've not only experienced another culture, but have lived there."

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