



Ashley Murdock, Gilman Scholar in Ireland Video Transcript

Hi my name is Ashley Murdock. I'm from Los Angeles, California. Studying at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. And I'm currently here in Dublin, Ireland studying at UCD at the Quinn School of Business.

Here at the Quinn School of Business I'm currently studying for five classes that are going towards my major, which is Marketing and also Operations and Information Management. So this program here at the UCD Quinn School really helps me to fulfill those requirements since I wanted to just get a different look on business and try to figure things out on my own.

There are two clubs that I really love to death, the first one is ISS which is the international student society. They basically bring students together from all over the world and hold different cultural events. With them I went on a go away trip that was really fun and through that I was able to meet other Irish students and not just stay huddled within my little American group and sort of branch out while learning about Irish culture and identity and learn about that with actual other Irish people. It was really great.

The Gilman scholarship has made a huge impact on my life. I heard about the Gilman scholarship through a lot of other students on campus and they just talked about how with the Gilman scholarship they were able to do all these great things abroad. With the Gilman scholarship I have been able to afford housing and afford my ticket to actually get over here to Ireland. Just coming from California, Los Angeles, and my different background that I have, I never really thought that I would be able to study abroad and I think that's a problem that a lot of students have where they are just afraid to study abroad and they feel like since they don't have the money they won't be able to take advantage of such a great opportunity. Just being here and seeing everything that I have been exposed to so far just makes me feel that as a Gilman scholar I have to give back just to ensure that minority students at Georgetown or students that don't have enough money to travel definitely take advantage of study abroad opportunities and know that they can do it. I feel that students don't know about the opportunities that are awarded to them and plus the bonus would be the fact that not only letting them know about study abroad and how great is but hey, here's an opportunity for you to apply for a scholarship where they will fund you to come study abroad, they will help you enhance your professional career and help you grow culturally.

Studying abroad has definitely helped me figure out my career goals and what sort of path I want to be on as I graduate from Georgetown. Since I have been here I've been able to learn about a lot of different cultures and a lot of different people and how they have grown up. And maybe they like this product vs that product so just trying to figure out ultimately how people work and how to connect with them is something that I have definitely sparked an interest in since I've been here. If I could sum up my study abroad experience in one word, it would be "life-changing."