

## SEND A SEMESTER IN COSTA RICA ~ SPRING 2022

### Meet Nancy, a Justice & Spanish Major with a Political Science minor, Grace & Promise Scholar, as well as a Gilman Scholarship Awardee

*'If your parents feel uncomfortable with the idea of you being in a different country, have your parents communicate with the host family. It doesn't have to be just you reassuring your parents; it can also be your host family.'*



 Benjamin A. Gilman  
International Scholarship

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#### Why did you choose Costa Rica?

-Traveling to another country, language can be a barrier, so I wanted to go to a country that was Spanish-speaking so I could connect easily with the local people. I also wanted to get outside my comfort zone. I've been to Mexico many times, so going to Costa Rica gave me the chance to explore more about who I am and to learn more about topics I don't typically study in my Spanish classes.

2

#### Academics (Arcos Learning Abroad-International Polytechnic University):

-I took Latin American Film and I loved it. I got to see a lot of movies that I wasn't familiar with at all, and they were very emotional. At the beginning, we learned a lot about the concepts of directing, and then applied the concepts to the films we watched. We also learned more about the historical background of the different movies we watched to understand them better. It really expanded my view of Latin American film because I didn't know a lot about it.

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#### How were you transformed?

-I've always been a person who is independent, but going to Costa Rica, I developed my independence more. I got to really explore the city on my own and with my classmates, who helped me navigate the city. I felt a greater sense of liberty in Costa Rica.

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#### Biggest Hurdle:

-Both of my parents were very hesitant about letting me go, but receiving the Gilman helped to convince them about me going. Receiving the Gilman relieved the financial pressure. As their only daughter, they didn't want me to fly out of the nest already. But in Costa Rica, my Mom was able to talk with my Mama Tica over the video chat; she was able to express some of her concerns to my Mama Tica, and knowing that my Mama Tica would look out for me brought my Mom a sense of relief.

Interested in Study Abroad? Contact  
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