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The Summer International Relations Seminar at Georgetown University was an extraordinary experience that anyone who is selected will enjoy. The memories that I have will stay with me forever and have inspired me to pursue a career in International Relations and to apply to the Georgetown School of Foreign Service.

I thought I knew what International Relations was before I went. I soon realized that I had only scratched the surface. Each day consisted of lectures ranging in topics from nuclear weapons to human trafficking. I was impressed by the quality of lecturers provided by the program, for all of the lecturers were subject matter experts in their respective fields. Every lecture I went to was insightful and entertaining. Not once was I bored or incurious in a lecture the entire week. The lectures taught me more about International Relations in a week than I had ever learned through the news or a textbook.

An evening activity was also done every day of the program. For my session, we went to the monuments in DC one day, toured the Brazilian embassy another day, and got to listen to Senators Bob Casey of Pennsylvania and Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts while at the Hart Senate Office Building. These activities gave me a chance to experience Washington D.C. in new ways I had never done before. Whether you have been to DC multiple times before or have never been, the program gives unique opportunities to explore not only Washington D.C., but the campus of Georgetown and the area around the university.

The Summer Institutes are also designed to simulate what it's like to be a college student. This was an awesome experience for me, as it was the first time in my life I actually got to experience what it was like to be the master of your own schedule. The schedule for the week is distributed the first day you get there, but the rest of the time you are on your own when not in a scheduled event. It was my responsibility to make sure I followed my own schedule, and is an experience I recommend everyone get the chance to do before they go to college.

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The program provided me with a great experience that I will never forget, but also gave me an idea of what future career I want to pursue as well as what universities I would like to apply to come senior year. I studied and discussed International Relations with some of the best researchers and analysts in their field, experienced firsthand what college life will be like, and specifically got to experience what Georgetown University would be like if I get accepted there. Thank you to the Naples Council on World Affairs for providing me with one of the best experiences of my life, and an experience I will never forget.