

GENEVA STUDY ABROAD TRIP 2023



REFLECTIONS

How would you describe this experience to a sophomore at CPP who would like to go on this trip in 2024?

Student #1

I would describe this experience to a sophomore as 'once in a lifetime'. I would have never been able to do everything I did on this trip at a different time of my life. It was truly outstanding to travel to Cal Poly Pomona because I was able to meet students within the political science department and other departments. I would also recommend this trip because we got to visit humanitarian organizations that are essential in international relations. Sean Yu also made this trip possible for many students with his generous donation to the study abroad program. I hope that future students are able to experience what I and my classmates experienced and that this Geneva study abroad program becomes a tradition at Cal Poly Pomona.

Student #2

The Geneva Switzerland Study Abroad experience is an experience of a lifetime. As a sophomore student, I would 100000% recommend this trip for anyone who wants to grow as a person, a student, and in their own professional career. During the study abroad trip you not only make new friends, build new networks, and look at different potential jobs and universities. What's most important about this trip is the growth aspect within yourself. Who you leave on this trip will not be who comes back home. Your confidence in yourself will shoot up, and you will learn how attainable it really is to reach your goals and your potential in the International Realm. I understand how scary it can be especially as a sophomore, and especially if this is your first international trip. But think about not only how much fun it is to get to visit two different countries, but all the memories you will make with Cal Poly as a student. This experience is once in a lifetime, it's something that you cannot pass up if you ever get the chance, and it's something I hope to continue to be invited to with Dr. Reese and the Study Abroad groups.

Student #3

If I had to describe this experience to a sophomore at CPP who would like to go on this trip in the future, I would say it is the experience of a lifetime. There are no words to describe how culturally and academically enriching this trip was, and not to mention the level organization and punctuality required and demonstrated by both students and the trip organizers/leaders. This trip was definitely a privilege and it's a blessing that it is available to us at CPP.

Student #4

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Student #5

Connecting with Dr. Reese. I lost my father when I was 20 years old and from the moment we had our first meeting about the trip, I thought this man is just like my dad. We haven't left yet and I'm already feeling like I'm in trouble. That being said, Dr. Reese, you are incredibly funny, kind, humble, and intelligent. You are a great example of what it is to be a champion. You consistently champion others so they can see what a wonderful life is waiting for them when they take action. You build people up! I want to do that. Life is crazy and sometimes you think it will happen one way but life has other plans. Being a part of this trip proved to me that even if life takes you off course if you keep focused, work hard, and appreciate everything, you make a life for yourself. Just go. Take a leap; I know it might be scary to travel outside of the country with people you barely know but by the end of the trip, you'll know everyone and probably connect with people you wouldn't have talked to otherwise. Take a chance on yourself. See what the world has to offer, I promise you there are much better experiences in the world than drinking at the bar with your friends or playing video games in your room. This is an opportunity to change your life but you can only change your life if you are present. Soak it up. This is an opportunity that many will never have but, you do.

Student #6

This trip was extremely impactful and eye opening. Mentioned previously, my view on the world was so narrow and immediate to within our borders. If not for my education, through lectures, assignments, and research, I believe I may not have had the self- initiative to learn about global issues, such as war, violence, global economy, etc. And what I found was quite frustrating and depressing. Visiting these organizations made me hopeful and as many of us noted, "restored our faith in humanity," that amidst all the violence, aggression, and oppression there is collaboration, communication, and effective action that leads the world into a more positive light. At one point in time, all the organization representatives we met were students too. They had the same frustrations, passions, and ambitions about these ongoing global issues. Most of us entered into political science wanting to be change leaders and make a positive impact on the world. These representatives prove to us that our hopes are not a far-reaching fantasy. Moreover, this trip reaffirmed my own passions. Being adjunct in architecture and political science, I felt that my passion for humanitarian aid strictly led one way or the other. But this trip has shown me that communicating the intersection (I see so clearly) is the next step for driving positive change in both fields. Moreover, this trip opens your door to possibilities you never thought you had. Aside from hearing the goals and mission of several organizations directly, we were able to tour the UN and listen in on live conferences. We were able to visit the Louvre and Palace de Versailles, and immerse ourselves in completely new cultures, going beyond the familiar.

Kenny

For future students, I would say this is an opportunity of a lifetime, and the knowledge and experience you get from this trip are unlike anything in the academic space. The experiential learning aspect is unique. It's like being on vacation with a tour guide exposing you to the halls of power in the world. Geneva is the home of problem solvers, and if you want to learn, why not learn from the best? This trip will expose you to a network of people you would have to be a diplomat to get an audience with or from a wealthy family that could pay your way into this sphere of influence. And Geneva is the most peaceful place on earth, in my humble opinion. This trip will not only be educational, but it will also be extremely relaxing and invigorating.

Student #8

Overall, the whole trip was a highlight. It made me rethink the trajectory of my career, it inspired me to seek discomfort, go out to study abroad, and participate in fieldwork. It's important to be out in the trenches and doing the work. If I had to describe the experience to a sophomore at CPP who would like to go on this trip in 2024, I would first start by mentioning how life-changing it was. I would argue that a majority of the students had a fixed idea of what they wanted to do after they graduated from Cal Poly

Pomona, however after the trip, students were even more inspired to make a difference and change the trajectory of their career path. Even nonpolitical science students were inspired to pursue careers in international fieldwork. I would also mention to the sophomore that the trip was a great learning experience not just as an educational opportunity, but as an exploring expedition. The trip allows you to take in a new culture and environment, all while being in the body of your peers. I would recommend the trip to anyone who is seeking a new experience.

Student #9

For me it has been hard to be open and be vulnerable to let people in as my friends because I am scared and traumatized. However, this trip allowed me to be vulnerable, to let people in and be my friend, to trust again. I am so happy I did because now I have more friends who truly love, appreciate, and care about me, it really is something I have not felt in such a long time. Where I do and will be reciprocating those same things I am given and nurture these new friendships and bonds I have established. This trip highlighted a part of me I never thought I would see again so thank you Dr. Reese. The way I would describe this experience to a sophomore at Cal Poly Pomona who would like to attend this trip in 2024 is be ready to have your reality flipped. This is a once in a lifetime experience that will change your entire perspective on life. It is an experience that takes you on a journey where you discover faith in humanity. That might seem like an over exaggerated statement but I promise you it is not. This trip will make you feel like humanity and the world has a fighting chance to change.

Student #10

What I would tell a sophomore at CPP who is thinking of taking this trip next year is that, my study abroad trip to Paris and Geneva was an unforgettable experience that broadened my cultural knowledge and provided me with a deeper understanding of the global community. I am grateful for the opportunity and look forward to using my new knowledge and experiences to make a positive impact in my future endeavors and they should take this amazing opportunity to do the same!

Student #11

To describe this experience to a sophomore looking to go on this trip the next year, I would best describe it as an educational experience in two senses. In one, there are site visits, lecture visits, and tours of graduate institutions to explore professional career paths, which is hugely useful. However, in another sense, I would describe this trip as an informal educational experience, where the differences between cultures and the immersion of living there for a short time show the difference in cultures, and makes students more well-rounded individuals. I would also describe this experience as a life-changing experience as this trip gave me more motivation to explore career paths to change the world through service to NGOs or international organizations such as the UN. Moreover, it opened more doors and possibilities by exploring the idea of completing graduate studies abroad by learning on the field.

Student #12

I would describe this trip as an opportunity to explore a completely different version of our society. Being able to see the UN and WHO was amazing but what really stood out to me was just observing the way people in France or Geneva go about their day. Their customs, manners, and perspectives are both different and similar and it was such an amazing experience to be able to immerse yourself in that. I came out of it having completely challenged what I thought was the norm and what I thought I wanted to do, all because of the perspective change. PS: Dr. Reese if you ever need a chaperone for a trip back to Geneva, let me know and I would gladly pack my bags to go back :)

Student #13

All in all, if I were to describe my experience to a sophomore at Cal Poly Pomona who would be interested in this trip for 2024, I would tell them that this trip was a once in a lifetime experience that completely changed the trajectory of my life. You can learn about International Issues, you can read about them, and you can even watch videos, but nothing compares to being in the epicenter of change and problem-solving. On this trip, I was able to immerse

myself in these topics and issues which aided my learning and expanded my interest in International Relations. Not only are you able to learn about these issues but you are also able to experience the culture of Switzerland and learn why this country is constantly ranked as the safest and has some of the highest life expectancies. I would also tell interested students who are worried about not knowing other students on the trip to not let that factor hold them back. I was that student who knew only 1 other person briefly, however everyone on the trip was very welcoming and I was blessed to meet some amazing people who I now consider friends. This trip serves as an amazing learning experience, and it also connects you with other like-minded students at Cal Poly who have shared interests in International Relations. I am extremely grateful to Professor Reese for providing me with the opportunity to attend this trip.

Student #14

This trip is a once in a lifetime experience and you want to make sure you come in ready to immerse yourself in the culture and knowledge all around you. This trip will have a lasting effect on you and your own professional trajectory. Arriving with an open mind will allow you to take in all the opportunities Dr. Reese has been able to present before you.

Student #15

I would tell a Sophomore to save all their money and invest it back into their own future by attending as many Study Abroad trips as they can. To emerge in different cultures, learn the language, politics and overall their lifestyle. A study abroad trip presents itself with many opportunities and life changing experiences. You get to learn about different currencies and become smart with money on what to spend. As well as plan your day better especially if you are using public transportation. Finally, coming from a lower middle-class family that only travels to Mexico this may be a once in a lifetime chance to travel with a purpose. You can potentially reconnect with your roots, become the best in your field of study, start a business and potentially meet the love of your life.

Student #16

I would describe this trip as a once in a lifetime experience because of how educational and inspirational it was. Learning about current problems like the Russian-Ukraine war and being in the epicenter of people working towards this problem was so eye-opening. Being able to listen to the girl in the symposium who is from Ukraine made the situation very real. Listening to how her family lost their businesses and how she has family out there made the situation so predominant. I would tell any student who wants to go to be prepared for all the information they are about to receive. I would encourage the students to learn some French words because it is very essential. Being there was such a culture shock because of the language barrier. I wasn't able to communicate or hold conversations with people because I didn't understand. I definitely felt at certain points out of place because of the different cultures that Europe has in comparison to the United States. Overall, the trip was amazing, educational, inspirational, fulfilling and a one in a lifetime experience. I would tell any student who would want to go, to sign up and be ready to have fun. Also, being able to have Professor Reese as an instructor is very encouraging because the wisdom that he holds is very predominant to our daily life's. After every lecture we were able to hear more about the knowledge that he upholds because of all the countries he has been to. He was also very helpful in guiding us through Europe and paying for our dinners which was such a relief since it's expensive out there.

Student #17

To all future students who want to attend this trip I would recommend it entirely. It broadens your perspective of the world and will provide any students with international opportunities. I wish I could have gone on this trip my sophomore year so then I would have been able to study abroad however any student no matter what year, this trip will bring new opportunities for them. It makes you question why America is the way it is, and how you as an individual can put your energy into something other than yourself. Broadening your perspective, making new connections, and understanding other countries and people are things that I have obtained through this trip and would tell anyone if they are thinking about going, definitely do it. I am humbled and grateful that I was even able to be a part of this trip and would not trade my experience for anything!

Student #18

I would describe my experience of the Study Abroad Internship in Geneva to a sophomore at Cal Poly Pomona as life changing. The trip was life changing in so many facets. It was life changing in regards to culture, education, creating solutions to life-threatening problems in the world, and also it changed me as a person. Before this internship, my vision was just black and white in regards to my career. My whole life I knew I wanted to be an attorney to help my community. However, after this trip, I still have the same goals to help people but at a more global scale. I realized, during this trip, that I can be a multi-faceted person with several goals and ambitions. I grew on a professional and individual level. I recommend this trip to students who are serious about global change and genuinely want to make a difference for greater good. I loved every ounce of this trip - it has been nothing but wonderful and I will always remember it.

Student #19

Being able to experience life outside of Ramona Gardens for a week was absolutely life-changing and goal fulfilling. I'm proud to bring back the knowledge I learned from Europe to inspire youth in my community to study abroad. I would describe this trip to a sophomore at Cal Poly Pomona as one of the most significant advantages of studying in Geneva is the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the city's cultural heritage and comparing home. I would also state that you will have the opportunity to explore its many attractions and learn about its history but remind them to be proximate and really take it all in. I would also tell them to be open-minded. There are numerous educational institutions and degree programs available in Geneva, and these will give you the chance to grow and learn. In addition, I will mention to a sophomore about being able to meet individuals from other countries and networking with them as this is one of the biggest opportunities any student can obtain.

Student #20

I would describe the experience as one in a lifetime opportunity to experience something entirely new and rewarding. It all starts by stepping out of your comfort zone by traveling to the other side of the world across the Atlantic Ocean. But you quickly realize that things are gonna be okay, and that life outside of the culture and customs as we know it can be a really rewarding experience to endure. Aside from traveling to a new place and experiencing the culture, having such high-level access to these different organizations and institutions really makes it a special trip. The level of access to these places expands your mindset to different opportunities to study and work aboard that one may have not thought would ever be possible. This level of access also motivates and informs of possible career paths that can be taken and demonstrate how Geneva really is the epicenter of diplomacy and the driving force creating change on the international stage. Culture shock is common when visiting aboard, but to really know what people on the other side of the world think of your country and culture as well as learning about others perspectives really is a humbling experience. To live vicariously, is to live through other peoples' experiences and this is something that you are able to do when you take a study aboard trip like this one to Geneva. I got more out of the trip than I thought I would, and would do it all over again.

Student #21

This trip has opened up doors I never thought would have existed or be a possibility for me. With this, I hope others, especially those who have not yet have gotten the chance to experience a program like this. This experience was life-changing, in so many ways. It allowed me to be in an unforgettable setting but in a comfortable way as you experience things within the safety of your education. You get to see how others across the world live and interact with the life around them and with this you see alternative ways of living. An example of this is transportation. In the states, our main source of transportation is by bus or car. In Europe their main source of transportation is the metro with the second being bus, however the bus is further out the city. Overall, this experience has changed how I want to approach my future and career.

Student #22

My experience on this trip is something that I cannot put into words, not only did I learn so much about the world, and about the friends I made along the way, but I learned so much about myself. Prior to this trip I had a very narrowminded perception of my future, I would graduate and then go to law school and become a lawyer. While this may be something I am interested in, my true passion has always been international affairs and diplomacy. However, it was this trip that gave me the confidence I needed to pursue this true passion. Any other sophomore who is looking to broaden their world view, create new bonds, and learn about themselves as an adult should jump at the chance to take this trip in 2024

Student #23

To start I would remind students that this is not a vacation, this is a school trip, if they want to be a tourist, they can be one separately in their own time. This opportunity is once in a lifetime to visit schools, educate yourself on global issues we continuously need to improve on. I would encourage them that if they do not get along with others due to their beliefs or whatsoever that is okay. What they should do is use a diplomacy and professionalism approach. We are human beings all experiencing and trying to navigate in a foreign country thus we should use professionalism and be respectful one another. Next, I would briefly mention to prosper students that would like to join the trip that they should view this trip as what next after gaining this knowledge and information what can oneself do now with this information. Actions speak louder than words, so now that we agree on the issues and gained knowledge what actions one can take back in the United States to continually advocate on humanitarian aid, diplomacy and enhance these skills gained abroad. Finally, I would express this as a hands-on approach, something that reflects back to Cal Poly Pomona core values do not take it for granted.

Student #24

Staying specifically in Geneva was an eye-opening experience of just all the possibilities your career can have just by being in the epicenter of international relations. Going to Geneva Graduate Institute, Webster university, and Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations offer many different programs like study abroad and master programs which are very much in my interest. This trip really made me think about what I want for my future and has definitely open up many doors I never deemed possible. I definitely would describe this to a sophomore looking to study abroad as it gives students new opportunities to explore new cities as well as career opportunities that would not be possible here in the U.S

Student #25

The first thing I would say to a sophomore who would like to go on this trip is that they should absolutely do it if they have the means to do so. The experience and knowledge I have gained from this trip is unmatched, the trip truly made my degree at CPP worth the time, effort, and energy. After I explain how great the trip was then I would give them some of the concerns. A good example of this is that they need to prepare to be immersed in a society where they do not speak the primary language (I would suggest to them to take French for a semester before going). I would also suggest to them to save up some money before traveling because even if they realize how expensive it is, they will still want a little more money to be able to go out and experience what some nicer local restaurants are like abroad. After the few warnings I would then describe some of the things I gained from the trip. I would talk about how I experienced Paris. Many people view Paris as this tourist site where people just go and see the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre but in reality, there are people who are living there with real problems that require solutions. I would end with telling them to immerse themselves in the city and recognize that they are visiting someone else's home and to treat it as such.

Student #26

I would advise the Sophomore to be prepared to get little sleep, to hang out very late with group members, to anticipate the disturbance of their circadian rhythm, to be exhausted on certain days, to be as composed as possible, and to balance going out with sleep and family obligations!

Student #27

As a sophomore at CPP, the thought of attending this trip seemed highly unlikely. However, I was given the opportunity to attend and it has been life changing. As soon as I landed in LA, I informed my friends of my experience. I first began telling them of the fun activities I had done- where I went, who I went with, what time we would get back. And as I was informing them of the social aspect of the trip, I realized how much my countenance had changed. I found myself becoming a lot more confident in myself, and an assurance of my future. Therefore, instead of describing my social life, I began to express how our site visits gave me a new perspective on the world, subsequently my future. So how would I describe this trip to my friends? A trip that allows you to make lifelong friends and learn about life-changing opportunities.

Student #28

If I were to describe this trip to a sophomore who is considering taking this trip in 2024, I would begin by saying that it is truly the experience of a lifetime! At first, I was not thinking of going on this trip but I was convinced by my friends and family to take a chance and see how things go. I would also say that once I did make the decision and was able to join the trip, I did decide to practice my French and made it a point to at least learn the basics. I was one of the very few of my classmates who decided to do this and I feel that it did make a big difference in my experience and made it easier to get around so I would recommend practicing French as much as possible before leaving on this trip! Lastly, I would definitely say to make the best of your experience. I already knew many of the people in my class, but this trip allowed me to get closer to them and build strong relationships with so many people. This trip also allowed me to learn more about myself. I felt that I was already aware of the passions I have, but this trip opened my eyes to so many more interests and opportunities that our world has to offer. If I were to be offered this trip or something similar again, I would do anything to make sure I could join!

Student #29

I would describe the experience as transformative. Visiting so many organizations and hearing about the work they do. It is truly inspiring to see so many people working to support communities that are struggling with armed conflict in the region. Also, the symposium component was intellectually stimulating. We get the opportunity to sit on a panel and put our knowledge and understanding to the test. We get to prepare research on a topic and have a simulating conversation with fellow college students from Webster University who have different life experiences, knowledge, and perception of the world. It was an amazing experience to have a respectful civil conversation and share our varying views without judgment and fear of being torn down by our perspectives. We also have the opportunity to ask and answer questions about America. I thought they would ask how is it living in Los Angeles or more cultural questions however the Webster students asked more complex questions regarding our laws and topics surrounding the political climate in America. It is also extremely fun as we get lots of site visits and get to experience all the tourist locations. This trip is extremely rewarding and lifechanging.

Student #30

This experience truly makes you a global citizen. I mean this in the sense that there is no substitute for what you read in textbooks like visiting the international relations center of the world. Being exposed to the different careers and disciplines within the city of Geneva will really allow you to leave with a new perspective that is unable to be found on the internet or in books. I can safely say everyone on the trip, myself included left Switzerland feeling some sort of change, big or small. For me this was a broadened worldview, and opened up doors to explore careers and educational opportunities I had no idea existed.

Student #31

If I could describe this experience to another student interested in going on this trip, I would say it is an unforgettable experience. I recommend anyone interested in this experience look into it and sign up if they are interested. For political science students who specialize in international relations, I highly encourage them to sign up. I learned many skills I would use in

my education and future career. This trip will show that there are more careers in international relations besides the United Nations. For students who enjoy learning more about the topic, I would highly encourage them to go on this trip and build connections and network with all the people they will meet.

Student #32

If I were describing the experience to a sophomore at Cal Poly Pomona who would like to go on this trip in 2024, I would explain how going on this trip not only shaped my aspirations with regard to my career, but also how I want to live my life in general. Prior to going on this trip, I was only exposed to how I could help others through obtaining a law degree. While I still intend to attend law school, I am also considering getting a master's degree in Geneva, where I can help others through working with one of the many organizations there. Learning more about the culture in France and Switzerland, I have also become more aware of the fact that many Americans do not have a good work-life balance. I have also fallen victim to often working several hours past my regular work schedule when I did not have to, and I now have solidified what my boundaries are in order to ensure a good quality of life. Learning about this aspect of the cultures in France and Switzerland has resulted in my commitment to ensuring that I maintain a healthy work-life balance.

Student #33

Having been fortunate enough to be a part of the study aboard Paris and Geneva trip, I can say that it was one of the most insightful programs I have been in. The amount of nongovernmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations that we had been able to interact with had been unlike any other existing study aboard program. As a sophomore, exploring your existing options this trip can be seen as showing you all the different possible pathways that you could explore within the existing organizations. I think it helps to show the ways you can utilize your education background to pursue a goal within international relations. Additionally, this trip helped to better understand some of the existing graduate programs available within Geneva along with providing a better understanding of international law. The guest speakers had provided insight within their respective fields with each speaker having had a wealth of experience and knowledge. Being able to spend time with locals, culture, cuisine, and public transportation is in itself a unique and wonderful experience. In all, I would highly recommend taking part in this program, the experiences you have with people and you come across in this program are unlike any other.

Student #34

The study abroad trip in Geneva exposed students such as myself to understand that growth, if one chooses to accept it, whether on a personal, collegiate, or a professional level, is there for the taking. I would describe the experience as "breathtaking". Not breathtaking in simply the beauty or the infrastructure of Europe, but rather "breathtaking" in the possibility of ushering in new agents of social change and taking on that torch of instilling positive change beyond the borders of the United States. An experience like Geneva centered me. It allowed me to go back to my drawing board and analyze various facets of life with an overarching theme that my mind wandered back to of, "I just want to be better." Better in terms of polishing one's own work ethic. It relegates one's horizon to understand that individually one is simply "untapped potential;" that the room for growth and maturation is abundant if the student so chooses to water those gardens.

Student #35

I would describe this experience as unique and informative for anyone interested and it would behoove you to take advantage of this given opportunity since this will give you a new perspective. I hope that those who can afford it will be eager to take this opportunity given since this could prove to be a valuable memory with people who you will potentially follow for the rest of your career since you will be living in a close proximity for a certain amount of time. I too, was a skeptic and was unable to see the value at first but as time wore on, I began to appreciate the opportunity that was given to me and would relish the opportunity to go abroad again. Thank You Dr. Reese! Unbutu!

Student #36

I would describe the experience of studying abroad to a sophomore at CPP who would like to go on this trip in 2024 as one of the best decisions I have ever made. I would encourage everyone who has the chance to go on this trip, especially when you're as young as a sophomore. Going on this trip myself as a sophomore has tremendously expanded my perspective on life, people, and the world. This trip taught me how to not be afraid of change and to be open to places out of my comfort zone, and for that reason, I would describe this experience as life-changing and forever will be memorable.

Student #37

This trip is life changing. You will come back as a new person. Going into this trip, I thought I knew what I wanted and expected from life, but the places you will visit and the experiences you will have on this trip will expand your views on everything you thought you already knew. If you have the opportunity to go on this trip, do it. If you don't think you have the time or resources, do what you can to find a way to go on this trip. The experience is indescribable, and it is amazing how much you learn and grow in ten days.

Student #38

It was very scary going on the trip only knowing a few people so I was nervous I would just become a loner on a trip. But very quickly I made friends with so many people and was able to create a real and genuine connection with them. This helped me develop my confidence that without family and friends and any real comforts involved, I could create a new life for myself just with my own skills. This has helped me feel more independent and motivated to seek out what I want in life. I would describe this experience to a sophomore as something that is a once in a lifetime opportunity that you have to take advantage of. It's possible to visit Europe at any time, but you have few opportunities to go with other students on a study abroad trip. This changes the experience entirely than if you were to go on your own or with family and friends. There is also an amazing educational aspect that can help you move forward in your studies and career that a regular vacation won't do for you. There's not any other trip you can go on that you can learn about Organization like Geneva Call, Interpeace, and UNHCR in such an intimate manner. There's no other trip where you can get such in-depth information on the Universities there. There's also no other trip where you can have an opportunity to connect and network with so many new people and build lifelong friendships. It was such a special experience for me and I'm so grateful I got to experience it before I graduated.

Student #39

If I were to describe my trip experience to a sophomore, I would tell them very bluntly be prepared for CHANGE. If you are someone who, like me, who has never travelled internationally, believe me when I tell you that you will find out about yourself when you do. This trip was an experience that makes you want to learn more and even evolve yourself in a way because not only do you have to adapt to a different environment, but you also have to adapt to a completely different culture and a language barrier. Being able to experience this trip made me want to learn more and even come back more knowledgeable so that I can experience this journey for a second time, more experienced and mentally prepared. It really makes you think about the way we as Americans live our life, and how others around the world live a completely different lifestyle. It honestly makes you appreciate the differences in cultures around the world. It left me with a hunger to travel more and view the world in a different light than what I was so used to seeing in America. I will close this by reiterating, if you have never traveled internationally, be prepared for change, because you will come back a better person for it, and you will think completely different.

Student #40

To describe my experience in Geneva is memorable. Oh, Geneva. It is such a beautiful place inside and outside. The people, the food, the buildings, and what the city represent: solving international issues. My trip with Dr. Reese and his students has been one of my favorite experiences thus far. I enjoyed learning about the different international organizations. I remember when I was a sophomore, I focused on the issues that were happening around me.

But now, as an adult who visited Geneva, my perspective widened. I've listened to podcasts about the issues that are happening across the world, but I never met the people who are trying to solve these issues. On this trip I did. I felt empowered. This is an incredible trip to be inspired to work with others to build a better world for the next generation. Also, this trip gives you the opportunity to start a path to build that better world. As for the culture in Geneva. I loved it. I loved walking around the city and getting to experience the food and everyday life. Everyone is so nice there. I really miss it. I hope someday I get the opportunity to go back. And as a sophomore who is trying to figure out what to do and needs inspiration. Take this trip!