What about the program appealed to you the most?
It was focused on public health, and I wanted exposure in that field as I pursued my career in medicine. Second, Salvador is the center of Afro-Brazilian culture, and the oldest city in Brazil. It is a truly fascinating mix of European, South American indigenous and African culture. The beautiful beaches didn’t hurt, either.

What big takeaway did you get from the program?
I participated in a program called SIT Brazil: Public Health, Race, and Human Rights, so a lot of what I gained was a new appreciation for the field of public health. I learned about Brazil’s interesting healthcare system which focuses heavily on primary care and preventative medicine, which I can definitely take with me in my future as a doctor.

What advice do you have for CBS students looking to study abroad?
My biggest piece of advice is to prepare in advance. With the large volume of coursework needed for a lot of CBS majors, I had to plan very carefully to graduate in 4 years. That being said, I did plan, and I’m graduating this spring without any problem. Also- apply for scholarships! I got over half my program cost paid for, making the cost quite a bit less than a semester at the U.

Why should CBS students go abroad?
I think going abroad gives you a different kind of education. You learn about yourself and how you interact with other people. You become a part of a new culture while simultaneously realizing what is great about your own.