Kelsey Kannenberg // Kenya

What about the program appealed to you the most?
I found MSID (Minnesota Studies in International Development) very enticing because of the two-phase structure. I spent the first half of the semester, known as the classroom phase, in Nairobi taking classes with private instructors. The largest class I was in had nine students, which allowed me to engage directly with the instructors regularly. For the second phase, I was placed in an internship in which I worked directly with Kenyans every day in Ahero, a rural area of western Kenya. This structure allowed me to learn in different settings and to live in two completely different regions of the country.

What advice do you have for CBS students looking to study abroad?
Make it happen. Explore the options on the Learning Abroad Center website, and find something that interests you. Talk to your advisor as soon as possible, and adjust your plan to allow you to study abroad. Having a slightly higher credit load for a semester or taking a summer class is well worth the time abroad, and I don’t know anyone who regrets it.

Student Scoop

Major: Biology

On what she learned from her time abroad:
Throughout my time abroad, I developed a more open-minded worldview by experiencing things that I had only read about previously. I gained lasting relationships with professors, peers, and host families as we challenged and supported each other. Additionally, I learned an immense amount regarding my own interests, strengths, and areas for growth.