

My Project GO Story

This is my third summer studying Indonesian through Project GO - two here at UW-Madison, and one overseas in Indonesia. Besides pursuing my passion for the language, this summer's highlights included the Indonesian Ambassador visiting, a Javanese Gamelan music class, and karaoke nights. I can't think of a better way to spend my summer before I start my pilot training with the Air Force.



Anthony

Saint Vincent College

Physics

Air Force

Memorable Moments

Funniest: Our Indonesian teachers hosted a karaoke night. It turned into a dance competition, and the other Project GO classmate and I were representatives for our class. Jamming out to Indonesian pop music, we competed for the prize of Indomie (an instant noodle) and Indonesian coffee.

Most challenging: Overcoming the language plateau that occurs when you reach the advanced levels.

Favorite: I enjoyed going to the Terrace with classmates for food and drink and chatting by the lake. It's a fantastic hangout spot, and I loved renting kayaks and paddle boards for a late afternoon paddle with friends.

The Madison Experience

A typical day was... waking up, working out, eating breakfast and going to class. In the evenings, it was Gamelan music class followed by studying and going to bed early.

From my experience... studying Indonesian overseas is good, but studying at UW-Madison is great. Their language program is top-notch!

New Perspective

Something I couldn't get anywhere else: I made so many great connections from Project GO with people from all around Indonesia. I even got to meet the Indonesian Ambassador who came to the US to celebrate 70 years of peaceful diplomatic US-Indo relations.

Advice to students considering this program: You will have no regrets. Project GO takes care of you financially for the summer. Studying a critical language is a marketable skill inside and outside the military - thank you Project GO for this free opportunity!

How this experience will help me in my future career: As a future pilot, I hope to use my language working with the Indonesian Air Force, since missions between our two countries happen routinely.