

My Project GO Story

Russian was unlike anything I thought it would be! On the first day of class, our teachers said we would have about six hours of homework each day. They were not joking! Although it has been an immense amount of work, I have learned so much and enjoyed my time very much. Russian has opened many doors for me. I was adopted when I was an infant from Russia and I now feel more connected to my home country. Probably the most iconic phrase of the semester is **люди как люди**. That means "people are people."



Hope

The King's College

Politics, Philosophy, Economics

Army

Memorable Moments

Funniest: Two classmates were arguing. One said the other was **идёт**. This word means "He/she is walking on foot in one direction". Because this was not enough of a comeback, He added that the other was going to "**глупий город**" which means Stupid Town. It was pretty funny- "He is walking on foot in one direction to Stupid Town!"

Most challenging: The entire summer!

Favorite: When my fiance surprised me by driving eight hours from Missouri. He had heard so much about my time in Madison from me that he decided to visit and see it for himself!

Cultural Differences

A typical morning was like... waking up, going for a jog, and eating a delicious breakfast!

New Perspective

I was surprised to learn... what it feels like to be on a big college campus in comparison to my campus of 700 students!

Something I found interesting was... I got a very different view from my instructors than views I have gotten from reading. I've read books and interviews about the relationship Russians have with Putin to help me understand their country better but my teachers seemed intent on making Putin seem like the Devil.

Don't waste your time with... working out in a gym. There are so many great ways to exercise and see Madison, like biking around the lakes or hiking! Building relationships along the way is even better.

Advice to students considering this program: Enjoy your language study and try your hardest but do not forget to experience the local area as well! There is no need to bury yourself in your work and never experience anything outside of the classroom.