

## Field Report

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The opportunity to study abroad in Austria allowed me to gain new valuable experience. It was my first time participating in the study abroad program and as a graduate student finishing Masters Program, it gave me a new perspective on the possibilities for my further education. I have been working in a research lab at The City College of New York since 2014 and did not have any experience with other institutions before I visited TU Graz. The University was very welcoming for people visiting from around the world. All employees were friendly towards newcomers. During my stay there, I met several people that were also visiting that university from other countries and they shared my opinion, that people working at TU Graz were very helpful trying to help outsiders to accommodate in a new environment. During my work in the laboratory, other students were very helpful and understanding that I was new there and that certain aspects of their everyday life and daily routine were completely new to me. They were guiding me to make my work there easier, but also they had advices regarding the life in Graz in general. My supervisor was very helpful and available at all times. His guidance throughout the duration of my stay allowed me to feel welcome and made the transition easy. The laboratory of Dr. Slugovc was very well equipped what made the research there a pleasure. The NMR facilities available for researchers offered a variety of instruments, depending on one's needs. During the first week there, I was trained in the use of the instruments and afterwards I was able to use them without supervision. Whenever needed, staff members and other researchers were available in case I had questions or trouble.

Being able to participate in study abroad program in a country as beautiful as Austria was a great experience. This small European country has an amazing history, beautiful cities and friendly people. It was aa pleasure being able to live there, learning about its culture and trying the local cuisine. Study abroad allowed me to see and experience the education not only at a different institution, but also in a different country. I know many people who participated in a study abroad programs, but it was the first time for me. It was a great experience, and it was possible thanks to the support of Austrian Plan Foundation. I greatly appreciate the opportunity and I highly recommend participation in this program.