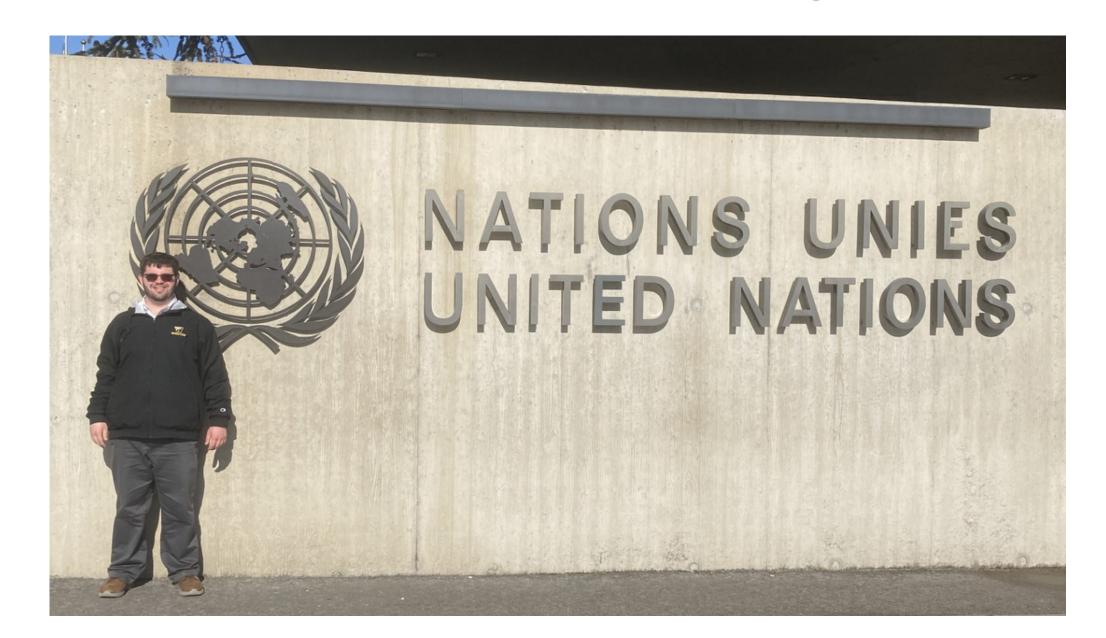


PATHWAYS W Thomas Pitney

 2024 | Political Science, French & Francophone Studies –

Global Impacts Pathway

Why I Joined the Global Impacts Pathway



THANK YOU

I would like to thank Dr. Harry Gamble for serving as a mentor and guiding me through the Pathway. Thank you also to Candace Chenoweth, who encouraged me to use the Pathway as a way to explore my interests in community development. Finally, thank you to Dr. Kent Kille, who has provided tremendous academic and career advice throughout my

- Passions for political science, public policy, and local government
- Interest in expanding knowledge of how policies are implemented around the world
- Broaden my perspective and explore the world outside of the United States

Correct and Incorrect Assumptions

- I explored many "local" issues, including housing, water access, and education, through the Pathways coursework
- The Pathway ignited a previously unexplored interest in global engagement
- The Pathway provided me more opportunities to apply my education to real-world scenarios than I had previously expected

My Experiential Learning Opportunities & What I Gained

My Pathway Courses & How They've Impacted my Global Impacts Journey ENVS-29903: Urban Environments in

Comparative Context

This class explored challenges facing local communities around the world, such as transportation, education, and water access. These lessons reinforced my passion for development.

FREN-33500: West Africa & France

The course examined the relationship between Francophone West Africa and France. I learned to employ many different disciplines, such as history, political science, and art history, to better understand these complex issues.



the college of WOOSTER





New Student Orientation Leader, Dean of Students, 2 weeks

As a New Student Orientation leader, I mentored a group of 30 incoming students, each of whom came from a different background. As a result, I gained improved leadership and interpersonal skills.

Head International Student Orientation Leader, International Student Services, 7 months

In this role, I was responsible for guiding International Student Orientation leaders. Interacting with the orientation leaders, I learned about other cultures and communicating in ways sensitive to others' experiences.

Study Abroad, School for International Training, 5 months

I studied in Geneva, Switzerland during the Spring 2023 semester. From this experience, I learned how to adapt to a host family with a culture different than my own. I also improved my French speaking skills.

URBN-10200: World Cities

This class discusses the urban development of cities in Asia, Europe, and Africa. I came to appreciate that many challenges in development are structural and that without acknowledging them, building an equitable and sustainable world is impossible.



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Final Thoughts:

How My Pathway Has Shaped My Career Path

The Global Impacts Pathway allowed me to understand how my experiences in Political Science and French & Francophone Studies intersect. The Pathway's coursework, Experiential Learning, and discussions often raised more questions than provided answers. As a result, I learned about the complexity of the world and the importance of using an interdisciplinary approach to better understand it.

My experiences in the Pathway sparked my interest in pursuing a career in international service. After Wooster, I hope to gain international real-world experience. Therefore, I am currently applying for the Peace Corps and the Teaching Assistant Program in France (TAPIF). In these programs, I will explore many of the same interests I developed from the Pathway: intercultural exchange, community development, and language learning.