Minnesota State Mankato Junior Awarded Gilman Scholarship

Minnesota State junior Muna Mohamed (International Relations, ‘18) was recently awarded a Gilman Scholarship. Muna will receive up to $5,000 towards her study abroad experience in Fes, Morocco from May 2017 to July 2017.

The Gilman Scholarship Program aims to diversify the kinds of students who study and intern abroad and the countries and regions where they go by offering awards to U.S. undergraduates who might otherwise not participate due to financial constraints. Muna is one of 1,200 undergraduate students from 354 colleges and universities across the U.S. to receive this award this semester.

In Fes, Muna will study Arabic through the University of Minnesota program “Arabic Language & Culture in Morocco.” The program gives students the opportunity to learn a lot in a relatively short amount of time. Muna will take two classes, “Morocco in Context” and “Intensive High Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic,” for a total of eleven credit hours. Muna will also live with a Moroccan family while in Fes, to enrich her foreign language learning experience. She said she was excited to live in the old part of Fes “to get more of a sense of how the Moroccans lived.”

Along with her International Relations major, Muna is working toward a Political Science minor. She wants to do her Follow-On Service Project (a requirement of the Gilman Scholarship) at the Owatonna Senior High School Options program, to increase the diversity of speakers and share her experience in Morocco. Muna spends her free time with her eight-month-old daughter and her husband, who will graduate Minnesota State Mankato this spring with a degree in Law Enforcement.

Muna utilized resources in the Office of University Fellowships in her pursuit of this award.

For more information on the Office of University Fellowships at Minnesota State Mankato, see www.mnsu.edu/fellowships.

For more information on the Gilman Scholarship, see https://www.gilmanscholarship.org/.