



## ALLY GARDNER - WITT IN WITTENBERG

There have been several nights during my study abroad experience that I have dreamt about **Germany's train system, Deutschebahn**. The railway is notorious for its delays, despite the German stereotype of punctuality. On more than one occasion, our study abroad group has faced strikes, cancellations, and missed connections. **I would not trade them for the world.**

**The Witt in Witt program** was one of the determining factors in my studying at Wittenberg University. As a pre-service **foreign language teacher**, the **internship** aspect of the program caught my attention above other program offerings. With Wittenberg, I was able to work directly in German schools at all age levels, providing me with **unique and specific experience in my job field**. For other majors on the trip, different internships provided similar **opportunities**. Not only was I able to form **meaningful connections** with teachers and administrators in German schools, I improved my **language skills** greatly and was able to learn more about everyday life and **cultural differences** for German students. In addition to the **internship**, I loved the **freedom** we had to travel throughout Europe. There was a new sense of independence and **accomplishment** while we walked the streets of **Rome, Prague, and Gdańsk**. I will never forget eating Chinese food and looking at the stars along **the Neckar river in Schwäbisch Hall** on Easter. My experiences abroad have been **an absolute highlight** to my time at University, and even more so have ignited **my passion** for seeking teaching licensure to encourage more students as they **explore the world**.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Matthies Honors House is open **8 AM - 5 PM** for **ALL** students--regardless of honors status! Honors students and their friends are given **24/7 access** to the house and its amenities. With comfy **couches**, tea, snacks, a **piano**, library, and **whiteboards**, this is the **perfect** study spot!

## HONORS STUDENTS STATISTICS

Average number of students  
in the Honors Program - **170**

Average number of students  
**graduating** with University  
Honors each year - **25**

Average number of students  
taking **Honors seminars** each  
year - **47**

Average number of students  
completing **Honors contracts**  
each year - **15**

## RACHAEL FINK | WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

My deep love for and **connection to Lesotho** was **ignited** from my experiences with **Lesotho Nutrition Initiative** (LNI) at Wittenberg University working to **combat childhood malnutrition**. I had always loved being a part of **change** and learning about other languages, peoples, and cultures, but never imagined myself living in **a tiny country in Southern Africa**. From traveling to **Lesotho** in 2019 to see the impact of our organization **first-hand**, to my role as **student president of LNI**, to organizing and working with student volunteers to pack nutrient rich meals, Lesotho became a part of my every day. After graduating Witt in 2020, I accepted a **fellowship** position at TTL, a **locally run nonprofit organization** in Lesotho addressing childhood malnutrition, access to health services, and education on nutrition and health. I worked in **Mokhotlong**, one of Lesotho's **most rural districts**. Living there let me **immerse myself** in the culture and allowed me to help create **impactful change**. My work focused on **fundraising**, writing grant applications, hosting **online fundraisers**, connecting with donors and creating social media content. I was also able to be a part of the day-to-day work - checking on our clients, conducting health assessments, delivering food packages, and more. **I loved every minute** of my time there; my passion for the work TTL is doing is what fueled **my success** in the role.

When I knew that my fellowship was ending along with my time at TTL, I began searching for another **opportunity** that would allow me to stay. I now work as the 2nd grade teacher at the **American International School of Lesotho**.

During my time in **Lesotho** I have **traveled** all over the country meeting **incredible** people in this place that **I now call home**. I have learned so much more than I ever could have imagined and **grown** so significantly as an individual, as a **professional**, and as a **global citizen**. I am **infinitely grateful** to Witt (LNI, Dr. Rosenberg, and all of my beautiful LNI friends) as it led me to where I am today.



## SCENES FROM UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM APRIL '24



UPCOMING  
EVENT:

NEW HONORS  
STUDENTS  
ORIENTATION  
DINNER!  
MONDAY, AUGUST  
26TH