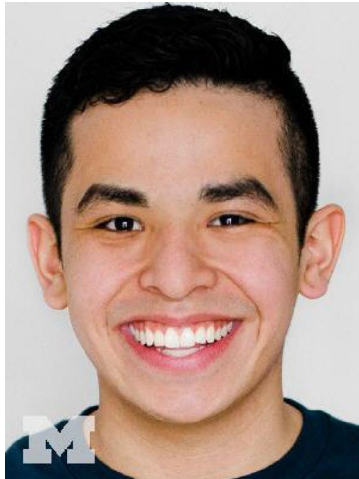


MIW Winter 2019 Cohort Internships and Bios



Samuel Aleman
Office of Rep. Ruben Gallego (D-AZ 7th District)

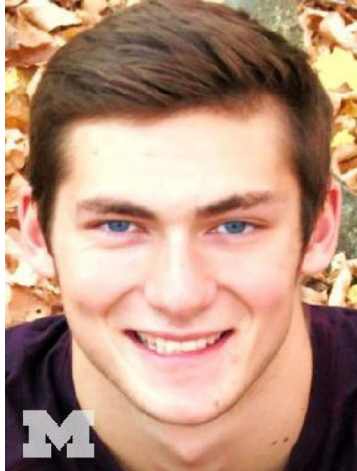
My name is Sam Aleman, a current junior studying political science. In my free time, I am usually taking photos, reading a history book or autobiographies of political figures and listening to music (typically Frank Sinatra, Aretha Franklin, or anything Motown). I have a total sweet tooth (I love cheesecake and doughnuts). I am interested in working on campaigns or public policy. For the past five years, I have worked for the city of Rochester Hills elections, and this summer I worked closely with the campaign manager and was a photographer for MI Supreme Court Justice Elizabeth Clement. I am excited to continue to pursue a future in politics and experience the city of D.C.



Ayat Al-Tamimi
Office of Rep. Dan Kildee

Ayat AL-Tamimi is a junior majoring in political science and minoring in gender and health. She wants to work in healthcare policy and is interested in the intersection of people who become victims of the opioid crisis because they are victims of human trafficking. She is also interested in the development of societal safety nets and the use of social impact bonds. Ayat is a member of the Bridges Lab, at the University of Michigan's School of Public Health Nutritional Sciences

Department, where she researches how steroid hormones modulate insulin resistance in vivo and in vitro. She was a participant of the Detroit Community Based Research Program, through which she interned at E3 LearnEarly, an early childhood education non-profit located in Detroit. Ayat has been a member of the student organization, United2Heal, where she serves as a Technical Team Co-Chair. Through U2H, she volunteers at World Medical Relief in Southfield, Michigan, cleaning, sorting, and electronically resetting pacemakers. She is also a member of the Michigan Refugee Assistance Program, where she is part of the Education/Advocacy team, hosting teach-ins for student organizations to educate them about refugee issues. // Ayat's favourite book is Siddhartha by Hermann Hesse. Her favourite artist is the Iraqi sculptor, painter, and father of the Iraqi modern art movement, Jawad Saleem. Ayat is a writer, and her poetry and short stories can be found in various publications, including Z Publishing House's Michigan's Best Emerging Poets. She is the mother of a fat orange cat named Cheezit, whom she rescued off the street. The best class she has taken at the University of Michigan was History of Art 285: Visual Culture of Islam.



Collin Beavan

American Psychological Association-Governments Relations Office

I am a third year student studying psychology with a minor in Law, Justice, and Social change. I am interested in pursuing future research in clinical/health psychology or working on mental health policy. I have had a lot of previous experience in the realm of research within psychology which has resulted in multiple conference presentations, as well as a publication of my work. When I am not reading, researching, or studying I am found in the woods on hikes, or in the gym. I love pushing myself to my limits and all of these activities offer me that opportunity.



Leah Bengel

Office of Rep. Tim Walberg

Leah Bengel is a senior at The University of Michigan majoring in political science. She has maintained a 3.88 GPA and received University Honors for the two full semesters she has completed. Leah previously attended Washtenaw Community College where she made the Dean's List four consecutive semesters as well. In addition to her education, Leah was an

intern for Congressman Tim Walberg's (MI/7) reelection campaign and canvassed over 1,500 doors during her summer with the campaign. While she thoroughly enjoyed the local level of politics she experienced working on the ground this summer, she is ready to explore the federal level of politics as well // Leah's primary career interests include political journalism, governance, and international relations. Her focus in academics has been political theory, so while she is certainly not an expert on the previous subjects, she is very interested in the fields. In her spare time, Leah enjoys singing for her praise band at church and watching re-runs of the TV show Friends. Being from the small town of Adrian, Michigan, Leah is excited to live in D.C. and experience all the opportunities it has to offer her.



Daniel Bramhall
Office of Rep. Ted Lieu

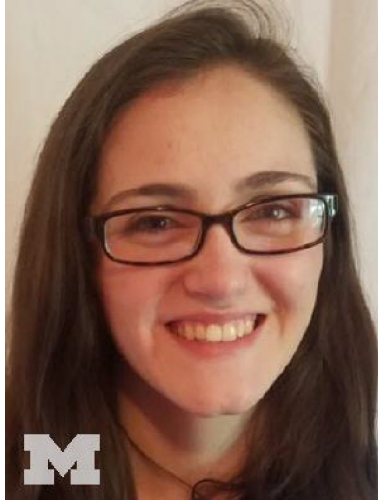
I'm Daniel, and I'm from Redondo Beach, California, although in Michigan I'm called Dan. Redondo Beach is a quaint little beach city outside of LA, and I enjoy many of the things that come along with a beach town: surfing (or trying) and Mexican food. I diverge from the culture in that history is actually a pastime of mine, whether it be digging up my genealogical records with my family or visiting new exhibits at nearby museums. I write stand-up comedy in my own time, but haven't found the courage to perform. I also like to hike, and although DC is devoid of hills, you can catch me wandering around every corner of the city. I'm very social, so will definitely spend as much time out in the city as possible. Although there are many political issues that I'm passionate about, I have never fit neatly along partisan lines. After years of existential crises and a lifelong frustration at the polarization of politics and society, I have decided to pursue a political career in finding nonpartisan solutions to real issues. There are many institutional and policy-related

problems that I think are drowned out amongst the partisan bickering, and want to find an organization that is efficient in finding nonpartisan solutions. This conveniently coincides with how I have never associated with either party. I understand this is a tall order, so I have broadened my search to lobbying firms which would provide me with the persuasive and negotiating skills that would prove useful in a career of political compromising, as well as in a possible future of attending law school. With my passion for American and world history, I am also considering some form of a history internship, and have already applied to the National Archives. Whatever I end up doing, I want it to be fulfilling, either in developing skills which would be useful for a career in studying polarization or in itching my history bug.



Oscar Chapa
Michael Torrey Associates

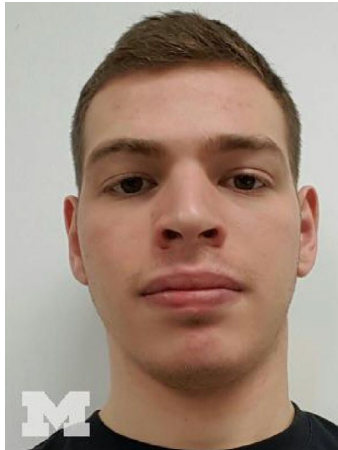
My name is Oscar Chapa and I am junior at The University of Michigan with work experience in grass-root organizing and agro-ecology. I consider the intersection of social, economic, and environmental frameworks deeply. My goal is to understand how organizations can be equitable with respect to consumers, producers, stakeholders, AND the environment. As part of my Entrepreneurship minor, I launched a meal prep service for students in 2018. Although, we didn't strike it rich, the experience taught me grit and I developed a passion for startups. In my spare time: I enjoy Spanish literature, walking in the woods, and welcoming spaces. I look forward to my time in D.C and meeting my mentor. Lastly, I am grateful for the Michigan in Washington program for this great connection. Go Blue!



Emily Crabtree
Office of Rep. Debbie Dingell

Emily Crabtree is a sophomore at the University of Michigan studying political science and the history of law and policy. Her studies focus on American history, wealth inequality, civil rights, and constitutional history. In addition, Emily studies campaigns and elections with a focus on how representatives can meet the expectations and needs of their constituents. She is considering law school, and she aspires to achieve elected office in the future where she will work to secure the rights of underrepresented and underserved communities across the United States.

Emily is a member of the American Civil Liberties Union on campus where she works on the Promote the Vote campaign and Smart Justice campaign to increase voter registration and reduce mass incarceration. She works at the School of Social Work where she manages meetings for the Political Social Work Program. Having lived in Costa Rica for five years growing up, Emily loves exploring the outdoors. In her free time, she loves hearing new music and cooking with friends.



Lucas Dean
Michael Torrey Associates

Lucas Dean is a junior at the University of Michigan, where he is pursuing Bachelor's degrees in both English and history with a focus on post-industrial Britain. Lucas plans to attend law school to further his education and enter into a career in business law. An active officer with the University of Michigan Rugby Football Club (UMRFC) and published columnist for The Michigan Daily, Lucas has a passion for sports, a love for writing and a thirst for knowledge. Lucas prides himself in being continuously employed since the age of twelve as well as being an all-state high school athlete (football and track). The third of twelve children, Lucas was raised and home-schooled by a single mother, on a farm in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, where he developed an incredible work ethic and a devotion to excellence. Spending his free time reading, Lucas has also gained a deep appreciation for literature and the finer things in life. Lucas is an avid sports fan and can usually be found yelling at a Michigan football game or losing his money in fantasy basketball leagues. Lucas currently lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan with his dog, Cooper, and 8 good friends.



Sander Eizen
Echelon Insights

Sander Eizen is currently a junior at the University of Michigan studying political science and minoring in computer science. His academic interests include, but certainly are not limited to, foreign policy, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, intellectual property and tech policy, and education. He has worked as a Program Director at Camp Stone, is on the Executive Board of a student organization called WeListen, and has previously coached a medal-winning basketball team. In his free time, Sander can be found putting this coaching experience into action as a member of the University of Michigan women's basketball team practice squad or watching *The West Wing*. \\ Sander has two younger brothers and has lived in Michigan for almost his whole life. His father was a firefighter for almost 32 years and his mother is the Vice President of a geriatric care management firm. Before transferring to Michigan, he took a gap-year studying and traveling in Israel and attended Yeshiva University in New York City for a year. He is an avid Detroit sports fan and listens to multiple podcasts daily, including *The Bill Simmons Show*, *The NBA Ringer Show*, and the *FiveThirtyEight Politics* podcast.



Lorraine Furtado

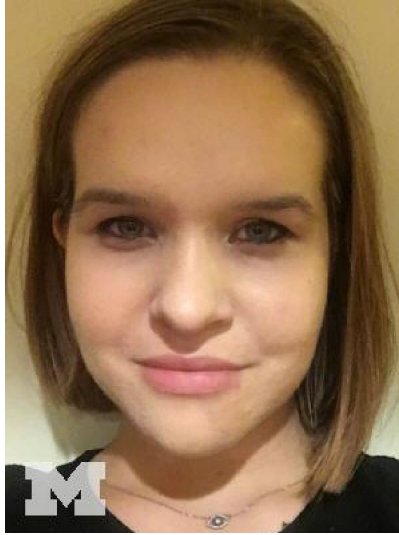
RAINN

Lorraine Furtado is a junior at the University of Michigan pursuing a dual honors degree in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics & Political Science. She is passionate about legal advocacy, especially regarding LGBTQ+ folks, women, and students of color, and seeks to center their voices and experiences in the research and work she does. She currently works with under-resourced students in Ann Arbor public housing for the Community Action Network, and her dream goal would be to start a nonprofit doing pro-bono legal work for disenfranchised women of color or become a law professor. Her best friends describe her as the biggest foodie known to mankind. You can usually find her in the kitchen cooking up some vegan snacks, crafting, or planning her next backpacking trip. She's excited to explore all the events in D.C. and wants to push herself to see as much of the city and speakers as she can, and especially looks forward to hearing from other nonprofits and leaders advocating for women of color. She can't wait to come to D.C. and learn the skills and experience to better professionally advocate for the communities she cares about!



Catherine Garton
Office of Senator Gary Peters

Catherine is a sophomore studying microbiology with minors in applied statistics and energy science and policy. Her primary passion is climate change. Knowing that the clock is ticking, she hopes to spend her time in D.C. at the frontline of climate action, working to build bipartisan support and pass policy. Additionally, she is hoping her experiences in the Michigan in Washington program will help her gain insights for her future—specifically, whether direct policy work is the right realm for her, or whether continuing a longer trajectory in STEM would be best. Either way, she hopes to use her career helping communities around the world more resilient to the impacts of climate change, particularly focusing on urban sustainability, environmental justice, and women and children. On campus, when she doesn't have her head in an organic chemistry textbook, Catherine is engaged with the UM Climate Action Movement, which has been putting pressure on the Regents to commit to a deadline and implementation strategy for carbon neutrality. She is also the founder and Co-president of a student chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby. Finally, she is quite fond of Parks and Recreation, Harry Potter, her two dogs, rock climbing, and all things outdoors.



Maria Graham
EEOC

Maria Graham is a junior majoring in International Studies with a minor in political science. While in D.C. she will be interning for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. After graduation, Maria plans on attending law school with an interest in employment and medical malpractice law. Outside of school Maria is passionate about volunteering and works with various organizations as an ESL tutor. Maria is also interested in art, particularly post-impressionism and surrealism.



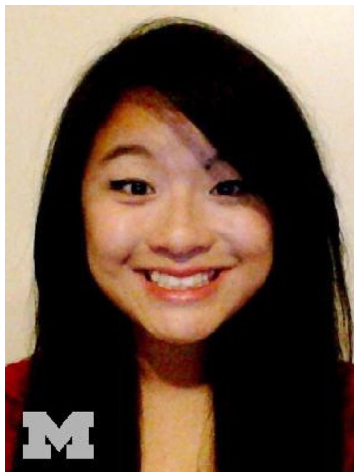
Michael Gregory
Alliance for Justice

Michael Gregory is a junior at the University of Michigan studying political science and moral and political philosophy. Michael is particularly interested in the intersection of public policy decisions with philosophy to determine whether government actions are efficiently tailored to serve legitimate interests while abiding by general ethical principles. He has worked in a police department in an attempt to witness whether the implementation of state and local policies meet these standards and to witness first-hand the effects of public service on entire communities. Michael has also worked for a large legal firm that specializes in providing counsel to clients on debt-collection efforts to gain experience in the legal field while learning and observing how to efficiently resolve litigation issues. Michael plans on attending law school after obtaining his undergraduate degrees and is currently interested in exploring international law and minority advocacy groups working towards efficient legal decisions on behalf of minority communities. // Outside the realm of academics, Michael has casual interests in professional basketball and poker as well as a commitment to becoming a culturally educated member of society. He possesses working proficiency in Spanish and introductory level knowledge of Armenian and aims to use these skills to become an efficient member of an increasingly globalized world. Michael has lived in Argentina to further develop this ideology and is extremely excited at the prospect of adjusting to the cultural atmosphere of Washington, D.C.



Adam Hilu
Homeland Security Committee Minority staff

Adam Hilu is a junior from Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan studying economics and minoring in business and History of Law and Policy. For the upcoming semester in Washington D.C, he will be interning in the Office of Management and Budget's Office of Economic Policy, where he hopes to combine his academic interests in the real world. He additionally wants to focus his research project on public finance and the macro-economy. Previously, Adam has worked as a research assistant on campus at the Institute for Social Research and is involved with a professional business fraternity, Pi Sigma Epsilon, serving as their VP of Finance. He has also had the opportunity to work on a student-run consulting group for MagnaBid, a medical marketplace startup based out of Los Angeles. In his spare time, Adam enjoys playing and watching sports. After playing soccer and basketball throughout high school, he continues playing on a more casual level through intramural sports. He additionally spends a major amount of time following his beloved Wolverines, as well as suffering through the pain of being a Detroit sports fan. When not following sports, Adam also enjoys playing the piano and the guitar, reading a good book, and following the stock market.



Michelle Liu
Office of Senator Tammy Duckworth

Michelle is a senior at the University of Michigan intent on working at the intersection of international relations and energy and environmental affairs; she is currently pursuing double majors in International Studies and Political Science, and double minors in Energy Science & Policy and Sustainability. Michelle fell in love with D.C. as an intern with the EPA Office of Air and Radiation last summer, and returned this summer for an internship with the Department of State, where she worked with a portfolio covering multilateral relations, international development, trade, and transboundary pollution. She is currently continuing as a State Department research intern, focusing on a project regarding the environmental and social impacts of China's Belt and Road Initiative - a global economic and infrastructure development strategy. Through the Michigan in Washington Program, Michelle seeks to diversify her experience by exploring the legislative side of the policymaking process. After graduation, Michelle is set on working in D.C., and aspires to complete a Masters of Public Policy and become a U.S. Foreign Service Officer within the next 5 years. \\ Michelle enjoys exploring cities by going on food adventures, looking for more plants to add to her growing collection, and sitting on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial at night. The top three items on her bucket list are to visit every continent with her parents and younger brother, going whale-spotting in Antarctic waters, and to finally finish learning how to play Chopin's Fantasie-Impromptu #04.



Marie Mavrikios
EU Delegation

Marie Mavrikios is a student at Sciences Po Paris, a campus of Reims's Euro-American program of political and social sciences. Currently in an academic exchange program at the Literature, Science and Arts College of the University of Michigan, Ms. Mavrikios is graduating in spring 2019 upon completion of the Michigan in Washington program. Planning on working for a year before joining a Master program on International Affairs, Ms. Mavrikios is interested in international affairs, conflict resolution, diplomacy, public or cultural policy and cultural dialogue. Her knowledge of five languages – French, Greek, English, Spanish and Arabic – motivates her to expand her intuitive and cultural insight of international relations and negotiations. She aspires to enter in field of cultural diplomacy.

During her leisure time, Ms. Mavrikios loves to pretend she's an art critic in museums and art performances through complex analysis. She is familiar with the stage and she often gets involved in festivals and performances, both in matters of participation and organization. If she happens to be close to a (warm) sea, you will probably find her underwater doing scuba diving with her dear friends, the fish.



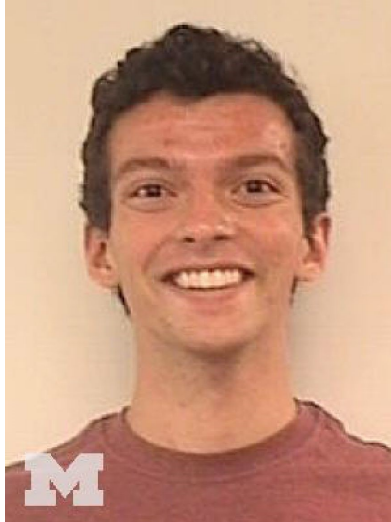
Konrat Pekkip
270 Strategies

Konrat Pekkip is a junior at the University of Michigan studying political science and international studies with a minor in history. He is passionate about progressive politics and promoting equal rights, especially in his home country Germany and the European Union more broadly. There, he has not only worked with NGOs in a variety of countries, but he also co-founded his own organization, Wandlungsbedarf e.V., to empower LGBT people of color. In D.C., his goal is to intern with the EU Delegation to the United States or with think tanks and lobbying groups whose work revolves around issues in European politics. Ultimately, he wants to translate his various interests into a career built around supporting politically progressive forces in Europe and around the world. In his spare time, Konrat can be found listening to the latest pop music while sipping on some exotic kind of tea. His favorite TV shows are *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Stranger Things* and *RuPaul's Drag Race*. He is excited to go to D.C. and explore his passions in a professional, global environment.



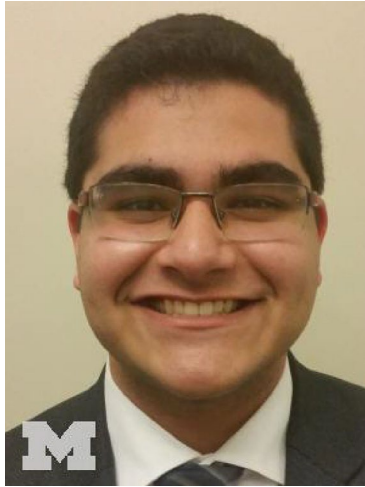
James Polidori
Environment America

My name is James Polidori. I am currently studying political sciences and environmental studies at the University of Michigan. While in D.C., I would like to work for an environmental advocacy group such as an NGO, a non-profit, a lobbying firm, or a policy making group. I am extremely passionate about the environment and ensuring conservation of our natural resources- most importantly, water. As a Michigander, ensuring the preservation of and access to clean water resources by all citizens is most essential. Outside of my studies, I am a member of the Michigan Marching Band; specifically I play quads on the drumline. I have been playing drums since I was 12 years old and have performed with several jazz and swing ensembles. I also love to play tennis and frisbee, although I am rather subpar at both sports. I have a deep interest in classic rock and as a result have an extensive CD collection of bands ranging from Rush, to Foreigner, to R.E.O. Speedwagon. I am very excited to work with you and I hope you enjoy reading a bit about me!



Christopher Pumford
EU Delegation-Social Media

Christopher Pumford is a senior pursuing a career in Middle Eastern affairs. He is majoring in political science and international studies, with minors in music and near eastern studies. When he is not busy with academics, he performs with the Michigan Drumline and Men's Glee Club, as well as runs the school's Campus Percussion Ensemble and Engage Initiative (a social media awareness organization). He took two years off of school to do missionary work in Toronto, and is altogether obsessed with all things Canadian. He worked in the Canadian Parliament last summer, and currently works for the Barger Leadership Institute.



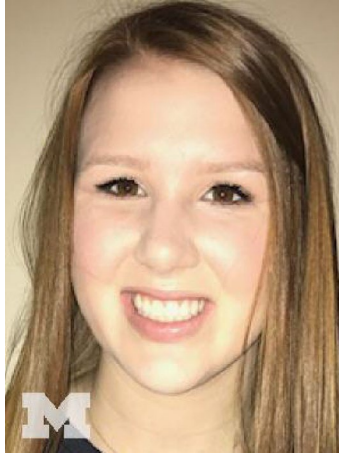
Camron Razdar
Office of Senator Debbie Stabenow

Camron Razdar is a senior at the University of Michigan, majoring in political science and minoring in computer science. He is immersed in political engagement on campus in Ann Arbor, serving as the Outreach Director for the Roosevelt Institute, an Executive Board Member for the College Democrats, and a Democratic Engagement Student Fellow with the Ginsberg Center. Off campus, Cam helps organize the annual FIRST Robotics National Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C., training high school students from robotics teams to meet with their Representatives and Senators. Cam is excited to be a part of the Michigan in Washington program, and he hopes to intern on the Hill during his semester in D.C. After graduation, he would like to continue his career in a congressional office, and later go to law school. Beyond an interest in public service, Cam enjoys learning French, cheering on the Michigan football team unconditionally, and raising a large dog named Adidas who thinks he is a small lap dog.



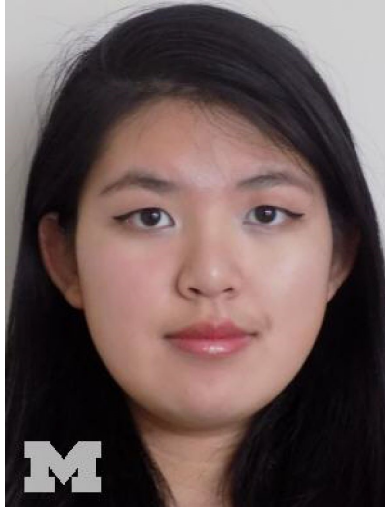
Stephen Sakowicz
Rep. Jackie Walorski (R-IN)

My name is Stephen Sakowicz and I'm a junior at the University of Michigan where I am majoring in political science with a focus in national security and minoring in History. Before transferring to Michigan, I was a student-athlete at Dickinson College where I played on the baseball team for two years. Having been involved in athletics nearly all of my life, I am a huge sports fan and closely follow the Chicago White Sox and the Washington Redskins when I'm not cheering on Michigan. Aside from athletics, I enjoy conducting research and writing policy proposals as a member of the Michigan Foreign Policy Council and engaging in contemporary political topics with fellow members of my Public Policy Professional Fraternity, among other things. After college, I aspire to serve in the Marine Corps (where I am currently a contracted Officer Candidate) and then transition to working for a federal agency such as the CIA or FBI. Over the past two summers, I've had amazing experiences in DC interning for Congressman Tom Marino (R-PA-10) and most recently at the White House. I'm thrilled to now be part of MIW and I look forward to interning at the Department of State Bureau of Legislative Affairs next semester. Go Blue!



Kathleen Sharkey
Center for Immigration Studies

Kathleen Sharkey is a sophomore and a candidate for Bachelor of Arts in both political science and Spanish at the University of Michigan. She is also particularly interested in sports, especially American football. Through the Michigan in Washington program, Kathleen hopes to cultivate these interests by participating in an internship that is at their intersections. In D.C., she looks forward to researching issues in sports that converge with her interests in political science and Spanish. To illustrate, she would be interested in researching the differences and similarities between European and Latin American football fandom. She eventually hopes to work with the NFL in their initiative to expand into Latin American nations. During her time at Michigan, she has been a part of the Ann Arbor Language Partnership, where she teaches a fourth-grade Spanish class, and the Spanish Language Internship Program, where she tutors students whom have emigrated from Spanish-speaking nations at a local high school. Furthermore, during the summer of 2018, Kathleen participated in two study abroad programs in Salamanca, Spain and Amsterdam, the Netherlands where she was able to apply her classroom education to tangible experience. Finally, she is highly active in Pi Beta Phi women's fraternity and an international NGO, Students Helping Honduras.



April Song
UN Foundation-Better World Campaign

April is a senior double majoring in political science (with focuses in International Politics and American Politics) and economics (with focuses in trade and international finance). She will intern at an office where she is able to work on bilateral or multilateral U.S. trade policy during her time in D.C. with Michigan in Washington and aspires to go to law school to pursue a career in trade law or international arbitration law. On campus, April is currently serving as the Department of State's Foreign Affairs Campus Coordinator; Editor-in-Chief of Michigan Foreign Policy Council, a student think tank; and President of the campus chapter of the United Nations Association. // April spent last summer as an intern in the Department of State's Bureau of Legislative Affairs assisting staff with Hill liaison work pertaining to Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, International Organizations, and Conflict and Stabilization Operations. Last winter, she completed a judicial internship for Chief Judge Denise Page Hood in the U.S. District Court of Eastern Michigan. In the summer of 2017, she interned in D.C. for U.S. Senator Tim Scott from her home state of South Carolina, assisting staff covering the Senate Banking, Finance, and Small Business committees. She got her start in politics and research as an intern in the Michigan State House and as a Michigan Library Scholar the University of Michigan Library. In lieu of a senior thesis, April is coding and analyzing a database of international arbitration cases in the financial services sector with the support of the Economics department. As part of her Michigan in Washington coursework, she will continue to work with the data set and submit her work for publication and presentation on the regional level at the Midwest Political Science Association. Previously on the national level, she co-authored a policy piece on interest rate swaps that won the 2016 Policy of the Year in the Roosevelt Institute's 10 Ideas for Economic Development.