





G
A

**Class of 2023,
Economics Major
(Concentration in Pre-Law)**

“My favorite part of the Model UN travel experience was the location of the conference: the beautiful and historically rich Erfurt, Germany. The history of the Holocaust and the wall separating East Germany from West Germany gave a useful perspective prior to the simulation of the importance of the United Nations’ goal of world peace. (The most unexpected part of the trip was) forming a friendship with Holocaust survivor Maud Dahme. I was so happy to spend bus rides and walks listening to her additional life stories that were not included in her book *Chocolate, The Taste of Freedom*.”

N F
A

**Class of 2023,
Accounting Major**

“I enjoyed traveling internationally with Stockton Model UN, especially to Germany. I like making connections with students from around the world and improving my public speaking and writing skills. I never expected to become so close to my classmates. During the past ten days I spent with my professors and peers, I discovered that we share many similarities in our likes and dislikes. Additionally, I was pleasantly surprised to meet some of my fellow Filipinos from the Philippines. Overall, I truly appreciate the diversity, equity, and inclusion I experienced in Model UN.”

G
B

**Class of 2024,
Environmental Science Major**

“The most challenging part of the Model UN journey was learning how to effectively manage time for myself, time for others, and time for committee work and cultural tours. It took a lot of effort to make sure I had enough energy for everything, and I often felt drained, but it is an experience that I wouldn’t have traded for the world.”

I
B

**Class of 2024,
Social Work Major**

“One of the most unexpected parts of the trip for me was looking out of the window one night while at a conference and seeing that it was snowing.”

S
C

**Class of 2026,
Political Science Major**

“My favorite part of the Model UN travel experience was being able to be culturally engulfed in the Erfurt culture during the two cultural days of the Model UN days. I loved that we experienced these days with other students who were going to participate in the simulation, and we all had been culturally engaged in this new place we all were not aligned to.”

R
C

**Class of 2023,
Historical Studies & Political
Science Majors, Holocaust &
Genocide Studies Minor**

“My favorite part of the study tour was being able to see the beautiful architecture, taste the food, and overall experience the German culture. The most challenging part of the trip was building up enough confidence to deliver a speech in front of everyone in the General Assembly. It was a goal of mine to be able to deliver at least one, and I successfully did.”



K
D

**Class of 2024,
Social Work Major**

“My favorite part of the Model UN travel experience was getting to travel to Germany for ten days and getting to experience the culture and learn about the history of the country.”

J
D

**Class of 2025,
Biology Major**

“I really liked meeting people, especially from around the world. I loved getting to know people and even going to events that involved everyone at the conference. I also loved hearing people’s stories and how they came to be at this specific conference. I was very surprised at how close we all got during our adventures. I didn’t really like to talk in class. However, when we were all placed in a foreign country, we all became really close. Public speaking has always been my enemy, and I did not want to speak at all. But, with encouragement, I gave four speeches.”

C
D

**Class of 2026,
Psychology Major**

“My favorite part was being able to spend so many memorable moments with my classmates who I was able to bond with, unlike I’ve ever bonded with strangers before.”

N
S

**Class of 2024,
Health Science Major,
Business Studies Minor**

“The most challenging part of my Model UN journey was listening to a Ukraine survivor and a CPR instructor speak about their personal experience, the impact it had on them, and the impact they



E
H

**Class of 2025,
Master of Public Health**

“I loved getting to discuss real-life issues and finding solutions, and this puts into perspective what other countries are going through. I also loved getting to meet people from all over the world and learning the different ways to communicate with someone who does not speak the same language as you.”

A
K

**Class of 2025,
Political Science Major**



P I

**Class of 2025,
Political Science Major
(Concentration in International
Affairs), Holocaust & Genocide
Studies Minor**

“The most challenging part of the conference was when my ideas were constantly being limited on a working paper, pushing me to find a friendlier working group to join minutes before the first draft of all working papers had to be finished, in which my contributions to the group received praise from the Dias, all whilst developing a sinus infection.”

J I
S

**Class of 2025,
Social Work Major**

“The most challenging part was finding the confidence to approach others, lead a group, and speak publicly.”

T
S

**Class of 2025 and 2026,
Psychology & Finance Majors
(Accelerated Dual-Degree MBA)**

“The most unexpected part of this trip for me was how in my element I actually was. I pushed myself out of my comfort zone doing this from the start, but I was head delegate for my first conference with applauded speeches and got close with so many people in and out of my travel group. I know I’ll take these memories and connections with me for years to come, and thank this experience for further specifying what I’d like to do in my future career.”

K I
T

**Class of 2024,
Biology Major**

“My favorite part of this experience was stepping out of my comfort zone and traveling abroad for the first time. After coming back home, I realized this trip had unlocked a love of travel for me, and now I find myself wanting to go to more places around the world.”

J I

**Class of 2024,
Political Science Major
(Concentration in International
Affairs), History Minor**

“My favorite part of the trip was how it was an opportunity to expand my cultural horizons. I also feel it enhanced my understanding of the importance of human rights and how the risk of democratic backsliding is still a valid concern. The most unexpected element of the trip was how pleasant and easy-going our conference was. Though I anticipated a solid trip, I was surprised over how much I enjoyed myself while bonding with my fellow Delegates.”

R I

Class of 2025,



Preparation for the Model UN Conference and study tour began in September, including the Insider's Guide to the UN and readings about the Holocaust, including *The World Must Know*, and *Chocolate, The Taste of Freedom*, which later became very important to us as the author, Maud Dahme, traveled with us, guiding us through many historical sites related to the Holocaust, and serving as an opening speaker for the Model UN conference.

Maud is a Holocaust survivor who was a hidden Jewish child during World War II, saved by a Christian family in the Netherlands. Currently, she serves on the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, where she advocates for continuing education and leads annual trips to Europe for K-12 teachers. It was a pleasure and honor for all of us to have had the opportunity to learn from Maud and hear her stories.

Our class was split between the United Nations (Dr. Zappile) and the historical portions of our study tour (Dr. Hayse). The class prepared us not only for the rigorous United Nations simulation on Thursdays but also for the historical weight of the sites we visited on Tuesdays.

To prepare for the UN simulation, we focused on writing impromptu speeches, developing position papers, sharing solution ideas for

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Stockton University's "Model U.N. Study Tour" class traveled to Germany to represent varying nations at the National Model U.N. Conference in Erfurt, Germany. On this trip, we experienced cultural tours and the opportunity to visit a concentration camp and learn about the dark history of Germany. Led by our professors Dr. Hayse and Dr. Zappile, we spent the first half of the trip on various cultural tours accompanied by Maud Dahme, Irvin Moreno-Rodriguez, and Rona Kaplan.

Our study tour of Frankfurt included visits to the Jewish Museum to learn about Germany's memory culture and the city's Old Town. We also toured the Memorial at the "Grossmarkthalle" (wholesale market) for its historic role in the deportation of German Jews from Frankfurt and the surrounding metro area. This was followed by a lecture on modern EU monetary policy at the adjacent European Central Bank.

We then met with local memory activists and did a walking tour of the "Stolpersteine" (stumbling stones memorials) to learn about the burden of memory as a touchstone of German culture; these are specifically located in locations of the last known residence of victims of the

Holocaust. Since many of these victims do not have gravesites, it is a way to remember what has happened in an otherwise normal and peaceful community.

We also explored museums, including the Modern Art Museum and the German Film Institute, which were both very interactive and thought-provoking. That evening concluded the Frankfurt portion of our study tour. The next stop was the well-preserved medieval city of Rothenburg ob der Tauber in Bavaria, where we explored cobblestone streets filled with baked goods, Christmas shops, and Döner Kebab!

After our small excursion, we headed to Erfurt, where we were enriched by cultural and city tours that focused on the UNESCO-recognized "Jewish-Medieval Heritage of Erfurt."

Our visit to another UNESCO World Heritage site, Wartburg Castle, highlighted the legacy of the Protestant Reformation (where

