Anastasia Nevyakina, Spring 2015

Anastasia, a Global and International Studies major at UC Santa Barbara, interned for two Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSP) while participating in the UCEAP Scottish Parliament Internship program. During her internship, she found it rewarding to see how her work was presented on the Parliamentary floor, and how her motions, questions and research were integrated into the speeches her MSPs gave in the Chamber.

Anastasia integrated her internship experience into the research she had been pursuing for her major at UC. She compared Crimean and Scottish referendums and focused on the effect that the media has on democratic processes within Russia and Scotland. “The sense of contribution and accomplishment I felt was very fulfilling. This experience is a highlight of my résumé, and something that only a few people back home can say they have done.”

Before her internship program, Anastasia knew her long-term goal was to work internationally. The contacts she made with many professionals working in the field of international relations and human rights have now become invaluable. The work environment she experienced at the Scottish Parliament challenged how she views leadership and taught her “that serious decisions can be made without the extra pathos that is sometimes present in politics elsewhere.”