

Dear Class of '55,

I am one of the recipients of the Off Campus Study Class of '55 scholarships for 2017-2018. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for this money. Because of this scholarship, I was able to go to India for three weeks in November 2017 with a Gender and Development class. It was really an opportunity that I could never have imagined. I spent four days in Pune (the second largest city in Maharashtra), and two weeks in Jamkhed.

I learned about the Comprehensive Rural Health Project and how they reach out to surrounding communities and educate them about many things surrounding health. It was amazing to see the many different ways in which people, and especially women, can be empowered. I witnessed the theory that “knowledge is power” being put into action and it was truly amazing.

Everything I experienced in India was intense and powerful, and has aided me develop my own concept of what being a feminist is, and how communities can make change for themselves if they just have the right tools. I can't thank you enough for this opportunity. It was really awesome and I couldn't have done it without your generous contribution. I am planning on going back to India eventually to learn more about it, and I will continue to travel and continue to grow as a person and as a global citizen.

Thanks again,

Annika Leitch Lodge '19

