



Nick Irvin

June 2019 Graduation

Comparative Literature Major

I graduated with a degree in Comparative Literature. I loved to read, loved to write, and loved to think. Comparative Literature was the trifecta, in a way that most majors aren't. I loved my major's emphasis on works in translation and other cultures, too. Take your time exploring your options. Resist outside pressures as much as you can--this is your education, no matter where the financial burden falls, and you should feel empowered to make your gut feelings a reality! I studied in St. Petersburg, Russia, for about 4 months during my junior year. Study abroad is unlike anything I've experienced since--I crawled inside the mind of the country, garnered the rudiments of the Russian political psyche, and made friends with Russians of all stripes. It's certainly given me insight into the war as well. If I had to attend college all over again, I'd place study abroad as my number one priority. I am currently an English teacher, and likely will be for the foreseeable future! My major has obviously given me the skills to impart a literary education to my students, but it has also given me the confidence to speak, write, and read anything and parse it. I am confident in my knowledge of culture and in my ability to solve problems with my writing and analytical abilities. I've written long reports and implemented school visions to help make my school a better educational environment for students. These are marketable skills that any ambitious graduate can use to his or her advantage in any organization. Employers want problem-solvers, not graduates who can provide answers by rote or pigeonhole themselves when introduced to complex questions. The Comparative Literature major will furnish students with skills most employees simply don't have.