“The two fields I chose to study are not two separate skill sets, but rather complement each other. After graduating from CofC, I went on to Brandeis University to work towards a Masters’ in Anthropology. My interest and knowledge of Germany took me to Dresden in the summer of 2014 to conduct research on East Germany post-reunification. During the five weeks I spent in Dresden, I conducted numerous interviews with former East Germans and documented countless experiences, both positive and negative, of the GDR and the period of instability following reunification. Through the narratives, jokes, and slang terms I heard from my informants, I discovered a connection between collective memory and architecture/public space in East Germany that continues to impact modern day life in the former east sector. Without my knowledge of German, I would have never made this connection or been able to tell the stories of my informants in their own words. I plan to go back for my Ph.D. and return to Germany to continue researching this issue.”