



Buenos Aires Ciudad

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GEMMA SMITH, Asistente de Idioma Inglés (EEUU) realiza actividades en la Ciudad de Buenos Aires del 03/04/24 al 30/11/2024 (Convenio DNCI, Secretaría Educación, Ministerio de Capital Humano, Argentina - Comisión Fulbright)

Language Assistant Profile: GEMMA SMITH

Hello! My name is Gemma Smith, and I am delighted to be joining the community at your school.

A little about me: I grew up in central Texas, in a city called Austin. A vibrant, unique city full of art, live music, and natural beauty, Austin is known for its motto: Keep Austin Weird. I had somewhat of a unique educational upbringing that included a blend of alternative and traditional learning models including homeschooling, creative-arts focused learning, and traditional public school. I have always loved educational environments that allow creativity and individual experience to play a role in learning.

In high school, I received a scholarship to study Hindi for six weeks in Indore, India. While in India, I lived with a host-family and attended school with my host siblings every day where I studied Hindi for 8-hours a day. It was amazing to see how my relationships with my host family flourished once I could understand and could produce even a few sentences in their native language. My host siblings and I still stay in touch and see each other on a regular basis, and they remain some of my best friends and family. Ever since then, I have been eager to explore the ability of language to transform connections and foster cross-cultural understanding.

For college, I attended Trinity University (in San Antonio, Texas), graduating in 2021 with a degree in Psychology and a secondary degree in Spanish language and culture. I studied abroad in CABA in 2019, as part of a program studying the human rights and social movements of Argentina, and fell completely in love with the city (and Argentina as a whole). I was fascinated by the political and social organizing that I studied and witnessed while there, and have been eager to return ever since.

After graduating in May 2021, I moved to Chicago where I was the manager of a research lab at the University of Chicago. In this position, I studied children's development of stereotypes about people based on their race, gender, and socioeconomic status. After two years in this position, I was craving a more hands-on instructional experience which led me to apply for Fulbright.

Outside of my education and professional pursuits, I enjoy writing and playing music (I sing and play a variety of stringed instruments), rock climbing, and country-western dancing. I have also recently relocated to the Pacific Northwest of the United States (Seattle specifically), where I have enjoyed working in a neighborhood bakery, getting to know my neighbors, and learning how to bake a variety of yummy treats while preparing to move to Argentina.

I sincerely look forward to getting to know each of you, and learning from each other this year!