

Cheyenne Williams

Cal Class of 2013

Major: Political Science

Internship: Committee on Energy and Commerce

### **Center on Civility & Democratic Engagement: UC in Washington DC Fellowship**

As a Political Science major and someone who had never been to Washington, DC before, I had intended on applying to the UCDC program since I started attending UC Berkeley.

During this past semester, I interned for the Committee on Energy and Commerce. As the oldest Committee in Congress, the Energy and Commerce Committee has jurisdiction over six different subcommittees that cover a wide array of issues. As an intern, I attended and reported on Congressional hearings, Committee events, and Committee-related news in addition to performing administrative and clerical tasks associated with my position at the front desk. I enjoyed my time on the Committee immensely and consider it to have been an invaluable experience. There were a number of highlights over the course of my semester at the Committee; I had the opportunity to interact with Members of Congress on a weekly basis and was able to experience the nation's policy conversations first hand as I attended hearings.

In addition to my participation on the Committee on Energy and Commerce, I enjoyed taking courses at the UC Washington Center and appreciated the amazing location where I lived. I enjoyed exploring Washington, DC with my roommates and others in the program. The work and life experience I gained while in Washington, DC is something I consider very special and important to my career goals. I am incredibly grateful for the support of the Center on Civility & Democratic Engagement and truly believe it helped enhance my experience in Washington, DC.

After graduating in the spring of 2013, I remained in DC and am currently working at Parkinson's Action Network, a non-profit organization that advocates for better treatments and a cure for Parkinson's disease.