



## **UC San Diego Chancellor's Scholars Program**

### **Dr. Ruth Covell International Study Award Award Recipient - 2022**



**Delaney Torres-Martinez**  
**2020 Cohort**  
**Muir College**  
**Marine Biology**

**Plans to Study Abroad Fall 2022**  
**Australia**

My whole life I have grown up in the high desert, not near any large bodies of water. Going to the beach was always a rare and exciting experience for me. These trips influenced me to become a marine biology major. I do not know where this major will take me and I do not know what I want to do quite yet. However, my family has always taught me to seek out new experiences and live my life to the fullest. Because of these values, I have always wanted to travel and learn all that I can.

This program lets me do both by traveling and studying a topic that interests me. I value the ability to be independent and find what makes me happy. I have always been reliant on my family, so moving to college was hard for me. Going abroad will force me to rely on myself and grow as a person. This program in Australia is specifically geared toward marine biologists. It is a glimpse of what I plan to do in the future and will be extremely beneficial.

Currently, I am hoping to become a research scientist. I know that the Great Barrier Reef in Australia is one of the most well-studied areas, and I have always wanted to go since I was a kid. This program will help me develop the research skills necessary for my future and give me field experience that can open up other opportunities for when I return. I have already taken lab classes so I have some research skills; however, I have not yet learned how to apply them outside of a lab.

Financial aid is the only reason I have been able to pursue an education. My mother has always worked hard so that she can give me whatever I want. I grew up taking care of myself and my sister and could only start working after I left for college. I have been working towards saving for this trip without having to ask my mother for help as she has already given me so much.

Chancellor's Scholar's Program/Emeriti Mentor Program  
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