After high school, I had the opportunity to travel through Europe, which subsequently changed my perspective on how I fit into and what role I play in my environment. For the first time in my life, I experienced living out of a suite case and traveling mostly by foot. Not having the conveniences that were available at home, such as, a vehicle, washing machine and television, I became suddenly aware of my surroundings. It that moment of my life I began to understand and appreciate the natural beauty around me. Once I returned home, I found it difficult to adjust back to “American Culture”. After getting by on very little during my travels, I was shocked about how much myself and others took for granted. I knew then that I wanted to become part of something that would help change perspectives on the exploitation of what is seen as inheritably ours, the Earth’s natural resources.

Planning my education at the University of Utah has been an exciting task. Seeing my interests evolve into my studies has been very fulfilling. My professor’s commitment and encouraging messages have given me the reassurance that I am in the right program. I am currently working towards a double major in Environmental and Sustainability Studies (ENVST) and Geography. Having a degree in Geography in conjunction with ENVST degree, I will have acquired more specific education on physical geography. The internship requirement for ENVST will allow me to research potential career opportunities and become involved in community issues. Furthermore, I plan to use my time at the university to build and establish a network system of contacts and resources that will contribute to my overall success.

Receiving the College of Social and Behavioral Science Scholarship will permit more financial room that will ultimately allow for more time spent on and arranging educational activities. Having more time available to focus on volunteering and completing internships will better equip me for the work needed for my pending career. Thank you for considering me for this scholarship opportunity.