

My CTY Summer Program Impressions

Lenka Šlegerová, Gymnázium Jana Nerudy, Praha

I would like to thank the American Fund for Czech and Slovak Leadership Studies for the great opportunity you gave me to participate in the CTY Summer Program 2013. I will never forget the three weeks I spent at Princeton and they will always belong to the best experiences of my life.

I can't even say what I enjoyed most. I took a wonderful class called Mathematics of Competitive Behavior. We've learned many interesting things about game theory during very intense lessons in a group of 16 people. We were taught principles of game theory, but also its application in the real world. I found the class very interesting. In addition to all this, we had a wonderful teacher Dr. Thomas Ottinger, who made our lessons so interesting and I could experience different approach to studying. I believe that all I've learned will be helpful in my future studies. I'm going to study economics and game theory has its main application in economics.

But all of the friendships that I've made are probably more important to me. I've met so many interesting people to whom I enjoyed talking. I also gained contacts from all around the world. And I believe that I will stay in touch with my new friends in the future.

The staff took good care of us. They prepared various activities for us, they were very nice and there was always somebody who was willing to help me with everything I needed.

I also really enjoyed staying on Princeton's campus. It was so wonderful. I was so lucky that I had enough time to walk around the campus and see all the beautiful buildings and get a sense of the atmosphere of this famous American university. I visited the same places as Francis Scott Fitzgerald, Woodrow Wilson, Michelle Obama, John Nash and many others before me.

After participating in the three-week course we spent three beautiful days in NYC, where we were given the possibility to visit another famous American university – Columbia University. We also met Martin Dvořák (Consul General of the Czech Republic in New York) and Ája Vrzáňová (famous Czech figure skater) in the Bohemian National Hall. That was really inspirational.

I hope to study abroad in the future and I believe that this experience will be extremely valuable – not only during my studies but it will be surely beneficial to my job application. I know at least that I'm perfectly capable of studying in English.

Meeting all of the talented and clever people at the university even increased my desire to study, learn new things and grab every possible opportunity. I would have never experienced all of these things without AFCSLS and their amazing offer. I wish everyone had the same chance. So thank you for everything.