

What did I learn?

- How different countries deal with HIV and public health issues in general
- Basic Swahili to interact with those around me
- The history and ethics of biomedical research



Motivation for this Project:

I have a passion for HIV research, and while I had taken classes about HIV in the US- I wanted to broaden my knowledge and understand the HIV in the context of East Africa. I knew that I wanted to actually talk with people who were dealing with this virus first hand.

HIV in Context: Tanzania

- HIV in Context: Tanzania is a 4-week, study abroad experience in two towns in Tanzania: Dar Es Saalm and Iringa.
- Explores HIV in a holistic approach, combining microbiological and immunological consequences through a historical and cultural lens.
- Interaction with both medical professionals, medical students, individuals working at markets, traditional healers and testimonies from those living with HIV.



Transformational Experience:

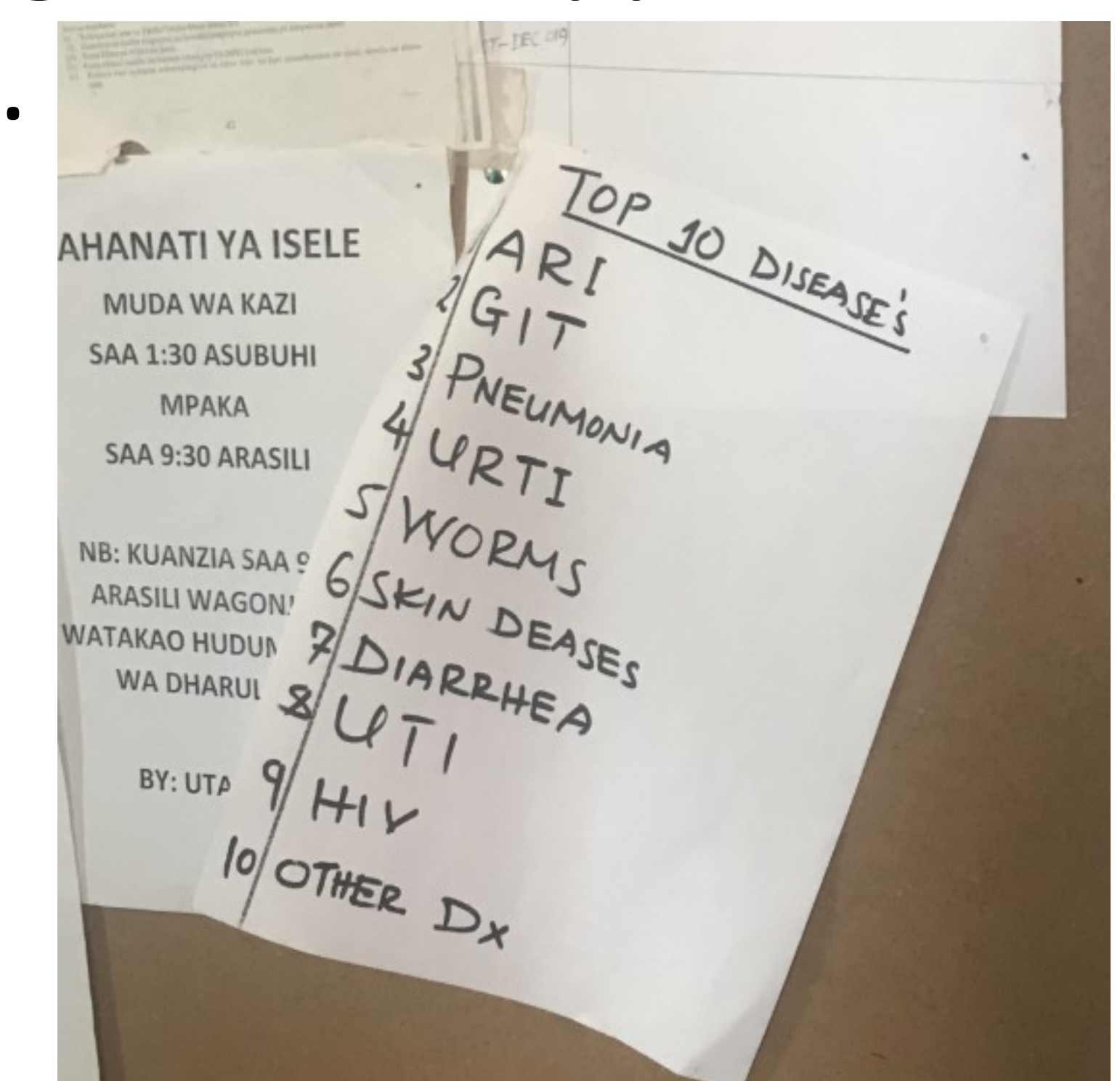
- Learning that I want to research HIV in a global context
- Want to pursue research that involves both microbiology and public health
- Experiencing life in Tanzania and the beauty of the culture and nation
- Forming relationships with my peers and other Tanzanians

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STEP Project Category: Education Abroad
STEP Faculty Member: Dr. Brian Rasion
Major: Biomedical Science



Favorite Part of the Trip:

interviewing women that are actively fighting for gender equality in Tanzania. Learning about the struggles of being an HIV Positive woman in Iringa and how they create communities and programs to support others in need.



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Second-year Transformational Experience Program