



## ECON SPOTLIGHT: ROXANNE CORBEIL



Roxanne Corbeil '19 is majoring in Economics and Arabic Studies with the intention of studying economic development in the context of the Arab world. Roxanne chose to major in Economics because of Professor Godlonton, her Econ 110 professor. Roxanne “was inspired by her work measuring the policy implications of development interventions, and could see [herself] pursuing that type of research as a career.”

Roxanne’s experience in the Economics department at Williams has been defined largely by her thesis, which is advised by Professor Swamy and focused on humanitarian aid allocation. Specifically, she is studying “the incidence of aid distribution to local humanitarian actors as opposed to international humanitarian actors.” Roxanne says that her opportunities to work in the Economics Department (as a TA and an RA) have allowed her to build strong relationships with professors in the department and to think about Economics from new perspectives. As an RA, Roxanne had the chance to work in Malawi with Professor Godlonton over her sophomore summer (funded by the Kershaw grant), and this experience in fieldwork “completely shifted the way that [she] approaches research and the idea of development itself.” Other programs that she has participated in are the Econ Class of 1960 Scholars program, “which is a great way to learn about new research and meet economists from other institutions,” as well as the Women in Econ dinners, which allowed her to connect with female-identifying students and professors.

As for specific advice for female-identifying students, Roxanne urges them to “take advantage of the amazing women in the department. We are lucky to have such brilliant, motivated, and kind professors that are so heavily invested in the progress of their students.” If you have questions, Roxanne suggests speaking to a professor in the department, all of whom are willing to help!