Abstract:
Studying abroad provides opportunities for the exploration and better understanding of many of the people, places, and cultures around the world. This summer I had the opportunity to be a part of the Semester at Sea European voyage. The cruise ship, a fully-equipped floating university, journeyed to Greece, Spain, Ireland, Norway, Russia, Poland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, and Croatia. Approximately five hundred students, professors, and retired adults from across the country and globe provide the ingredients for the ship’s diverse community. The onboard curriculum provides students with a series of insights into various cultures and societies and allows them to dissect and assess what is observed. Individuals also gain the intellectual tools that allow them to relate past experiences to future situations. Although the curriculum does not directly relate to biomedical engineering, many offered courses fulfill University of Connecticut general education requirements. This seminar will outline many of the valuable experiences I had this summer, and serve as a forum for anyone considering travel abroad.

Biography: Andy Sweatt is a junior in the UConn Biomedical Engineering program.