

# ZOE DUDZIC

Undergraduate, Elementary Education  
IPDS Medellín Student Teaching | Fall 2025



I have proven that I am worthy and capable of studying and working abroad. My younger self would be so proud of me now that I've done it.



Check Out Zoe's IPDP Blog:  
<https://buffalostateipdsstudentteaching.weebly.com/zoe>

## GOALS

This program was the perfect fit for my personal and professional ambitions. I have a passion for language acquisition and a goal of pivoting into international education. I built relationships with faculty extending through disciplines and from elementary to middle to high school and learned what international schools look for in teachers and on their resumes. I am now actively pursuing a career teaching abroad. As a Buffalo State alum and IPDP participant I am well-prepared and professionally connected both locally and globally.

## SUPPORT

**My mentor teacher** treated me like a real teacher from day one. She involved me in lesson planning, unit development, and even parent communication. Her communication with the parents went above and beyond expectations; this was such a great example from which to learn. **My host family** welcomed me into their home while also giving me the independence to explore Colombia on my own terms. They invited me on their travels and into their lives like I was part of the family. Having both the support to help me socially integrate into a new city and the freedom to decide how I wanted to spend my time was valuable to me.

## PREPARE

Invest in your communication skills! Teaching abroad demands constantly connecting - with students, colleagues, host families, new friends - and the stronger your communication, the more you will get out of the experience.

Knowing the language helps but is not a necessity. Don't limit the scope of your experience because you are afraid of what you don't know.

