A Fletcher education is highly customizable, and each student may decide on a different academic trajectory to suit his or her own professional and academic goals. To get a better sense of how these individual curricular decisions can play out, we asked recent students in their final semester to talk about their goals, their classes, and the decisions made during their Fletcher career. Meet Patrick:

**Pre-Fletcher Experience**  
School Organist and Instructor Music, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA  
Assisting Organist, Trinity Wall Street, New York, NY

**Fields of Study**  
Law and Development  
International Organizations

**Capstone Topic**  
International Trade in Services: The Case of Music in Uganda

**Post Fletcher-Career Goals**  
I’m interested in starting a Cultural Advisory Group to work with developing countries to leverage their cultural diplomacy and to diversify their economies by investing in creative industries and developing arts institutions. But education also continues to be of interest, and I may continue with law school or a PhD in Public Policy.

**Curriculum Overview**

**Semester One**

- Law and Development  
- Processes of International Negotiation  
- Leadership in Public and Private Sector Organizations  
- Diplomacy: History, Theory, and Practice

*For the first semester I wanted to take as many breadth required courses for the MALD degree as possible. I satisfied the two required courses for the Division of Diplomacy, History and Politics and the one for the Division of International Law and Organizations. I knew about customary law in Africa, but the paper I wrote for Professor Salacuse in Law and Development sharpened my understanding of the intricacies of intellectual property in developing countries. I also first encountered this question here: Is a strong rule of law a precursor for development or does development come first and then the rule of law follows?*

**Semester Two**

- Introduction to Economic Theory  
- International NGOs: Ethics and Management Practice  
- Strategic Marketing for Non-Profit Organizations  
- Values, Culture and Development
I’m interested in the interaction of non-profits with the public and the private sectors in different cultural settings, hence my choice of courses in NGO marketing and management. I learned that NGOs tend to underestimate their value when they partner with corporations. Yet they do have stories corporations like to associate with.

**Summer Internship**
The Mae Fah Luang Foundation Under Royal Patronage, The Doi Tung Development Project, Chiang Rai Province, Thailand

*Formerly known as the Thai Hill Crafts Foundation, the Mae Fah Luang Foundation was founded in 1972 to increase opportunities for ethnic minority groups in Northern Thailand. I became interested in the Foundation because, among other things, it incorporates the arts into development. As a researcher, analyst and communication strategist, I worked in a team whose objective was to improve the Foundation’s communication strategy. Our deliverables included making a short documentary to promote the Foundation’s sustainable development practices in Thailand, Myanmar, Afghanistan and Indonesia.*

**Semester Three**
- Data analysis and Statistical Methods for Decision-Making
- Development Economics: Policy Analysis
- Legal and Institutional Aspects of International Trade
- Innovation Systems and Global Development (Harvard Kennedy School)
- Technology Policy and Global Development (Harvard Kennedy School)

*Since my thesis on music and trade touches on innovation, technology, law and economics, I wanted to take courses in which I could learn more about those areas. This was my first encounter with world trade law. While the material was challenging, I learned a lot in Professor Trachtman’s Legal and Institutional Aspects of International Trade. In this semester, I was also able to fulfill the required courses for my Law and Development field.*

**Semester Four**
- Field Studies in Global Consulting
- International Organizations
- Intellectual Property Law (Harvard Law School)
- Social Institutions and Economic Development (Harvard Kennedy School)

*I’m learning a lot in Professor Johnstone’s International Organization’s class, which also happens to be my last required course. Since I have a particular interest in the arts and international relations, I chose to take a course in global consulting to gain skills that I could use to consult in the areas including cultural diplomacy, creative industries and economic diversification. The intellectual property law class at Harvard was a strategic choice: I wanted to learn more about areas such as copyright and patents and how they relate to the arts and trade.*