

Dear Prospective Archer Fellows,

The Archer Fellowship Program in Washington D.C. is a great learning opportunity for any student, regardless of major or background. The program is flexible, allowing for students to experience D.C. life and culture. Many students also enjoy traveling to accessible places like NYC, Pennsylvania, and Canada on the weekends. You will live with about 50 of the brightest and talented students from all around Texas, some of whom will become lifelong friends. You will also receive many opportunities to meet important politicians and people whose decisions impact our daily lives.

Archer Fellows are enrolled in full-time courses: **The Policy Making Process, Advocacy and Politics, Politics of National Memory**, and **The Archer Washington Internship**. We learn about each role a person or entity plays in influencing policy creation and execution, how to effectively influence others and advocate for a cause, and analyze historical documents, memorials, and monuments that define American politics today. The discussion-oriented classes consist of special guest speakers, and take place at various locations around D.C., like at the Lincoln Memorial or the National Gallery of Art.

I am interning full-time in the **Federal Affairs office at Marathon Petroleum Corporation**, the largest oil refinery in the U.S. In an average week, my responsibilities as a lobbyist intern include

- Managing MPC political action committee (MPAC) (the process of managing contributions to congressional members and candidates)
- Maintaining a database for congressional and senatorial districts
- Shadowing lobbyists in congressional office meetings on Capitol Hill
- Attending various Senate and House hearings related to energy, tax, environment, and appropriations
- Researching regulatory agencies and legislation

I am having an amazing experience, and have received so many opportunities for personal, educational, and career growth. It is a privilege to serve as an Archer Fellow and to represent the University, U.T. System, Permian Basin, and Texas in D.C.

Sincerely,

Majeda Abu-Alghanam
Archer Fellow Fall 2018

