



Deea Ariana hails from Dhaka, Bangladesh, but considers herself as a “global citizen” since having lived and travelled abroad from an early age. She graduated with honours from Mount Holyoke College in the U.S in 2013, with a major in Sociology and a minor in Journalism.

She credits her international upbringing and prior experiences for her interest in the field of international relations.

Deea previously interned with the Daily News Egypt, an independent English-language newspaper based in Cairo, Egypt, just months after the country’s revolution in 2011. Her writings, focusing mainly on social issues, human rights, politics and current affairs, have also been published in her college newspaper, the Mount Holyoke News, where she served as the editor of the international news section.

In the summer of 2012, Deea travelled to Bangladesh upon receiving a competitive grant from Mount Holyoke College to conduct research on social business. She interned at the Yunus Centre, a globally leading think-tank on social business and poverty alleviation. Her research delved into issues of sustainable development in rural Bangladesh and the impact of social business on poverty alleviation.

Following her internship, Deea was selected to participate in the Global Social Business Summit 2012, where she had the opportunity to share her research work as well as network with leaders in the fields of development and social entrepreneurship.

Most recently in 2014, she volunteered in Vietnam with the country’s foremost nongovernmental organization on social entrepreneurship known as the Centre for Social Initiatives Promotion.

Currently at SAIS, Deea is pursuing her studies in International Development with a specialization in Emerging Markets. She would like to pursue her career in international civil service and work in developing countries as a policymaker to help implement and meet the development goals.

In addition to her academic interests, Deea enjoys practicing Japanese martial arts. She is a former captain of her collegiate team and competed regionally. She is also a musician and plays the tabla, a South Asian percussion usually dominated by men, and performed at the Cairo Opera House.

Deea speaks Bengali, her mother tongue, French, Japanese and has good command of Arabic.