I cannot recommend studying Turkish at UNC enough. The program offers small class sizes, passionate professors, and interesting extra curricular activities. Thanks to the small size, you quickly become friends with all of your classmates. My professor Dr. Didem Havlioglu is always patient, keeps the class interesting with a mix of activities, and truly wants her students to learn the language. Thanks to the Turkish Evi in Chapel Hill, there are many Turkish culture events going on throughout the school year. Events are a good chance to meet the local Turkish community and practice speaking.

Studying Turkish has opened up a world of possibilities for me. Studying Turkish at UNC allowed me to receive the FLAS scholarship, which pays up to $10,000 in tuition. Additionally I had the chance to apply to CLS, a program that offers a full paid, summer language immersion experience in Turkey. Turkish also opens up job opportunities for me. I am interested in working in the field of Middle Eastern affairs, and many Washington DC based think tanks focused on the Middle East request that applicants speak Turkish or Arabic. Finally, studying Turkish gave me an excuse to study abroad in Istanbul, which turned out to be the experience of a lifetime.