This summer I traveled to Bogotá, Colombia to research the Bogotázo, a major urban riot in the center of Bogotá after the assassination of the political party leader, Jorge Eliécer Gaitán. The riot took place on April 9th, 1948, a day that has forever marked the history of Bogotá for the damage it caused, the sheer amount of dead that lay around the streets of Bogotá on April 10th, and its influence on the country’s history. Jorge Eliécer Gaitán was a populist politician who gave lengthy speeches about the need for equality and political power for the masses. For many he represented the only possibility of defeating the Colombian oligarchy, and as such his death also meant the death of those hopes that the lower classes had entertained as a possibility in the nearby future. The goal of my research was to gather primary sources for my honors thesis in history, which will look at the different reactions to and the memory of April 9th in Bogotá and abroad. For my research I visited archives, and interviewed people who had witnessed the riots, as well as people who were close to the important political figures of the events. My month in Colombia was an incredible experience. I had never conducted any research of this type before, and it taught me a lot about my natal city, and my own family. I think everyone should do some type of research as a part of their Penn career. For me, this experience has contributed to my academic experience immensely by teaching me resourcefulness and perseverance, and giving me important soft skills. Engaging with a subject in this way is completely different yet just as valuable as the classroom experience. I am very thankful to Mr. Gelfman, for his generous contribution that allowed me to conduct this research abroad.