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The main reason I chose to participate in the Math in Moscow program was because it offered courses not available at Dartmouth, which I believed would enrich my research pursuits by providing me with a broader base of knowledge. As MiM Professor Irina Paramanova advised us at the conclusion of the program, one should avoid narrowing their scope of study too soon: many of the greatest insights in mathematics have been interdisciplinary. This was a philosophy I tried to embrace coming into the program, which was difficult as the past year I have been studying a very niche area of mathematics called homotopy theory.

Despite the difficulties of doing a “study abroad” program remotely, I am so grateful for the experiences I had. The classes I took revealed threads to my previous research interests that I am eager to follow, and I fell in love with a new subject altogether: representation theory. The program complements weekly lectures with seminars, or “exercise classes”, which was an opportunity to develop working knowledge of the lecture material and to interact more individually with the professor. All in all, this past semester has broadened my scope of mathematics and made me even more eager to continue on the path of research.