

Graduation Year: 2018



Major: Cognitive Science

Year: 2018

How did you decide on your major?

I came into college sure of what I wanted to do with my future career, but unsure of how to get there. I knew my goal was to have an interdisciplinary background and view of the world. After stumbling upon a Cognitive Science course and falling in love with it, I was able to place a name on the subject I've always loved.

What is it about your chosen field (and the department) that appeals to you?

The Cognitive Science department is incredibly tight-knit. We are home to many high-ranking researchers whom are not only knowledgeable, but accessible and easy to talk to as well. Not many majors are large enough to have many researchers in different facets of a field, while being small enough to still have familiar faces.

Do you have a favorite class/professor within your major?

Undoubtedly Dr. Rigdon. I have taken two courses by her, which both cemented my passion for Cognitive Science. However, as a mentor and advisor, she has also provided for me advice and reassurance.

What are your favorite academic experiences outside of your major?

Over the past four years, having the ability to speak to students from a variety of Majors and backgrounds has been incredibly nurturing. Not every university is as diverse as ours, and being able to learn about things I otherwise would have been completely unaware about is great.

What are your other Rutgers activities?

I am a member of the Rutgers University Marching Band, an Ignite speaker and member of the SWAT Team for the 2018 Mark Conference, and fundraising chair for the Rutgers University Chapter of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

What are your plans following graduation?

My goal is to earn an MD/PhD in order to research and treat patients with rare diseases. Having a Cognitive Science background provides me the necessary interdisciplinary knowledge I need to treat my patients. I've found that I've developed a different "way" of thinking after taking the classes required to be a Cognitive Science major.