

Rebecca Berry Spring 2015 Graduation Double Major: French and International Relations; minor in Spanish

I double majored: International Relations & French, Minor in Spanish. I've pretty much had one job since graduating, working at a non-profit in the inner city of San Francisco that provides services to those below the poverty line & dealing with homelessness. This environment led me to pursue a Masters degree. I attended Crown College online & recently received my MA in Global Leadership with an emphasis in Biblical Studies. Time on campus at Davis vastly expanded my worldview. I grew up in a somewhat diverse population, however the environment of students & professors at Davis utterly expanded that & helped me learn so much more about the world & different perspectives. As seen in the degrees I have pursued, I have a great interest in different cultures, and what it looks like to work effectively across cultures & how different people can learn from one another, etc. The French department opened the door to studying the history, culture & society of France overall which gave me a deep love & appreciation for the nation. This was amplified by spending a year abroad in Lyon, France--an invaluable experience. Be a sponge. I'm highly confident that most--if not all--students entering into Davis bring unique insight, ability, and are highly intellectual. Yet, there is always more to learn. There is always more you will not have realized, or a facet of a situation that you have not yet examined. Do not be too focused on what you believe to be true that you reject anything that falls outside the parameters of your worldview. Give yourself the freedom of openmindedness, while also not blindly accepting all things as true simply because it is what you are taught. Think critically about the world and the things you learn, and know that you have valuable thoughts & perspective to offer as well. My hope is that new students entering Davis will see the joy in learning and that this will help develop them into thoughtful, compassionate, intellectuals.