

When I began college as an engineering student, I was riddled with uncertainty. I had just moved to a new state and did not know a single person on campus. The initial shock, combined with a deep sense of anxiety concerning my chosen path, made it difficult to thrive. After my first year of classes, and some internships, I realized that I would not be happy pursuing an engineering career in the long term. This lack of clarity took a toll: my motivation dwindled, and my academic performance reflected my internal conflict. Without direction and a disdain for quitting I began to float, feeling more like a spectator than a participant in my own education. While this detour through engineering was marked by discomfort and doubt, it tempered me in many meaningful ways. It allowed me to adapt to adversity and grow emotionally. I believe these developments have readied me for the rigors of law school.

My interest in law developed gradually, but with increasing momentum once I began to regain control of my academic direction. I took some time to reassess, then I began picking up work while finishing my general education courses. Working while studying taught me how to compartmentalize and use time efficiently, a skill that I had not fleshed out when I first arrived at college. I also began gravitating more toward humanities courses and classes that encouraged critical thinking. A tangible turning point came when I enrolled in a course covering the court systems in the United States. The discussions, guest speakers, and moral complexities presented in class brought a level of passion to the surface that had been dormant during my time in engineering. The class was held once a week, in the law center, on Tuesday. As my anticipation for Tuesdays rose, so did my confidence in what I wanted to pursue. I started to view law not only as a field that aligned with my strengths but also as a profession where I could be happy and make an impact. The feeling of direction was cathartic, and I began to work.

This alignment with literary academia, however, was not entirely new. I have always enjoyed intensive reading and activities that require logical reasoning. Even in my free time, I prefer books, biographies, puzzles, historical accounts, and stories. I realized that I faced so much indecision before because I did not look beyond STEM careers for better compatibility. But the more I explored, the more convinced I became that law was the intersection of my intellectual interests and personal strengths. To give myself the best foundation, I chose to major in Interdisciplinary Studies with minors in History, Political Science, and Business—a combination that allowed me to build complimentary skills with academic flexibility. History sharpened my understanding of legal precedent and societal context. Political science helped me understand government structures and policy. Business gave me insight into contracts, economics, and corporate structure. I plan to graduate in the summer of 2025, proud not just of the degree I will earn but of the journey it represents. A journey that consists of persistence, independence, and personal discovery. I have been supporting myself through work for most of my time in college and doing so while steadily improving my academic standing has become a point of pride. These values have contributed to shaping my character and will continue to do so through law school and into my career as an attorney.

As I apply to law school, I am certain that I have more than a diploma and a transcript. I carry a tested sense of direction and a grounded appreciation for arduous work. The uncertainties that once undermined me now serve as reminders of how far I have come and how capable I am of meeting challenges head-on. I have learned how to fail and recover, how to ask hard questions of myself, and how to reorient when I stray from the course. In many ways, my early detour into engineering and the struggle that followed have prepared me better for law school than a straight path ever could. Law school will be rigorous, and the profession even more so, but I believe that

I have nurtured the resilience, critical thinking, and work ethic needed to never stop improving. I am ready to embrace the next chapter, knowing that the obstacles I have faced have only strengthened my commitment to becoming an attorney.