Educational Highlights: Declaring my majors early on in my academic career and developing my academic and social justice lenses will be one of the biggest highlights of my life. Having access to classes on peace, education, prejudice, the family, feminist philosophy, Goddesses and other world religions, critical dialogues on race, sexuality, diversity, and drugs and alcohol enriched my understanding of the world and society from diverse perspectives and angles of analysis. My study abroad experience in the Netherlands at the University of Amsterdam also opened me up to a style of education and critical analysis that broadened and deepened my understanding of what it means to discuss society in radical terms. Getting involved with the Diversity Advocates and Office of Institutional Diversity was also a major highlight of my experience on campus.

Research Focus or Project: I based my research off of critical postmodern feminist theory and my focus brought me to feminist spiritualities and their connection to personal and social transformation. I conducted qualitative interviews with women who embrace Divine Feminine or Goddess Spiritualities and had them narrate their experiences within the systems of family, society, and institutions, and their empowerment of the self, through a critical and radical feminist lens. My women’s and gender research utilizes my finding of women who embrace divine feminine to compare the Goddess movement to Womanists. My analysis of Goddesses and Womanists looked at their use of spiritual capital as the basis for social change, while keeping in mind the differences of experience with patriarchal systems for the women based on race.

Future Plans: I hope to begin a graduate or doctoral program within two years of graduating, but I will be utilizing the next 12-24 months to further educate myself through experience and interaction with my feminist and spiritual lenses in mind and to develop a stronger academic, professional, and personal focus. I hope to forever be a student and teacher and to facilitate communities of healing and growth.