

My intent to pursue a Law degree is not the result of family pressure or the ambition to achieve power and status through my career. Rather, this goal emerged as a logical extension of who I am. The progression of experiences which culminated in my decision to choose a career in law began with my bilingual elementary school education. Once I developed fluency in French I was motivated to study the more broadly-spoken Spanish and visit countries where the first language was not English. This in turn introduced me to the world beyond the bounds of my cultural and socio-economic identity and I became fascinated with the relationship between governing systems and people's lives. I was prompted to take two political science electives in my first year of university, and therein discovered a passion for exploring ideas that was augmented by an ability to conduct rigorous and probing research.

As I proceeded to upper level political science courses, the study of public policy issues – ranging from health care policy to First Nations issues to gender in politics – spurred a desire to investigate how Canada could improve quality of life for each segment of the population affected by different policy areas. On a daily basis, the ideas and areas of learning that most interested me coincided with the pursuit of a broad post-graduate degree in law. Concurrently, I was eager to gain practical experience in the workplace. Working in the business world at a product development company provided me with a clear sense of how the rules of law shape the capitalist system in Canada, and a position in a new medical research lab reinforced my interest in health policy. I learned that doctors and political scientists have conflicting perspectives on the best way to allocate funding, and began to appreciate divergent perspectives on policy development.

Finally, during the course of my undergraduate studies I have continued to travel during breaks. Visiting the underdeveloped nations of Kenya, Mexico and Poland has impressed upon me my good fortune to live in Canada. I appreciate how advanced our legal and political systems are, particularly in light of Canada's complex political culture. At the same time, the inequities and injustices that persist despite Canada's wealth and progressive social systems seems more glaring. In considering ways to resolve these problems it has become clear to me that the ideas I find so intriguing in political science are of considerable importance and have practical applications. Hence, it finally 'clicked' – the field of law would allow me to make a career out of my talent and passion working with concepts of law, governance, and policy within the complex context of a multicultural Canada. Although I am not precisely sure where a career in Law will take me, I am confident that I have a contribution to make to the future of Canada's legal system, and that the knowledge and skills which this degree will provide me are the ideal complement to my aptitudes, skills, and interests. Moreover, I possess the energy and determination necessary to make a lifelong commitment to this field.