

Stephanie Lopez

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Religious Studies and double minor in Accounting and Comparative Literature

I wanted to pursue a Religious Studies major due to my interest in people and cultures and religion was a great method of study to do so. I was able to see the effects of religions from history into modern day and how it interacts with important philosophical questions that affect people's daily lives. Even though I was focused on Christianity, I got to explore other religions like Islam, Zen Buddhism, and Judaism, which helped expand my knowledge of culture and history. One piece of advice I would give to a new student at UC Davis is to check out all the resources UC Davis offers to students and also check the resources available from your major department. There are a lot of resources that help you succeed at Davis and also fun opportunities, both academic and non-academic. Religious Studies is heavily based on reading and writing and all that work created very helpful skills to succeed at my job. At my current position with UC Merced I am administrative support to my department chairs, so there's a lot of information that I am responsible to know about campus and their departments. I'm also responsible for communicating said information to/from my chairs, but also other departments on campus. I would recommend a student to pursue a RST major because if you're interested in people and cultures, this is a great way to go about it. Not only do you understand the history of the religion, but the causes and effects of it, the way it reflects into modern day, and also a profound understanding of human differences. There are also many opportunities to gain tools and resources from an RST major that you can apply to jobs outside of university.