

I didn't get to grow up in a very diverse area of California. We learned about local history, especially the Gold Rush, but I didn't get the chance to really learn about other cultures until my high school Spanish class, which fascinated me. I knew from the second week of my Freshman year that this was something I would like to spend my life studying, and I continued my Spanish classes throughout high school. I consistently received some of the highest grades in my Spanish classes, and never dropped below 93%. When I graduated high school, I had the opportunity to visit our exchange student and his family in Logroño, a small city in the north of Spain. And since visiting the country, I've longed to go back, especially now that I've been able to study the language and culture even more. I chose to study Spanish Language and Hispanic Cultures here at CSU Monterey Bay for this reason, and I do not regret my decision one bit.

I have been a student here for two semesters and I have already learned so much. My very first semester, I took a class about Chicano Studies with Prof. David Serena. This class was a great experience for me because it was all completely new information. I never got the opportunity growing up to really learn about different cultures, and this class allowed me to see a completely different side of the history of our entire continent. This class helped me appreciate the culture and the fight of the Chicano Revolution, despite never having heard about it until 2018. Additionally, I have learned in my Service Learning class what it means to be part of the community. Over the course of the semester, I spent more than 35 hours volunteering at the local chapter for the State Senate campaign for Anna Caballero, and this opportunity has helped me learn about the local issues that the Latino community is facing.

I am still searching for what I want to do with my studies. However, topping the list currently is teaching. All of my previous Spanish teachers have been so dedicated to their jobs and their passion for teaching the language and the culture was always prominent. These teachers: Sra. Treat, Sra. Phillips, and Profesora Casler inspired me to pursue the language and to continue my studies, resulting in my arrival at CSUMB.

AREA	GRADE
Personal Biography (2)	2
Connection to studies/interest in the field (2)	2
Rationale for majoring in Spanish (2)	2
Goals for personal & professional development (2)	2
Completion of assignment (2)	1.5
Grade	9.8