

Describe the graduate education program you intend to pursue if you receive a Truman Scholarship.

My ultimate goal for a graduate education program is to attend Georgetown University for a Master's Degree in either American Government, or Democracy and Governance. Georgetown is particularly attractive because it allows me to take advantage of both its academic courses and its location within DC, the most politically vibrant city in the world. Being in the city will provide me an opportunity to apply my political communication skills and get hands on experience working with politicians.

The Democracy and Governance program offers an understanding of the history and theory of democracy, as well as the relationship between democracy and development of a country. The American Government program is replete with courses which provide students invaluable insights into the political process, as well as the history of American politics.

The American Government program at Georgetown is most interesting to me because it offers a curriculum centered on both the theory and practice of politics. I feel a strong calling to a career of engagement in the electoral process. Being an active participant of the election process will enable me to serve the American people directly, providing them an opportunity to elect the candidate who best represents their interests. My highest aspiration is to serve the American people, showing them that being actively involved in the political process will improve our country's government.

What do you hope to do and what position do you hope to have upon completing your graduate studies?

Upon completing my graduate studies, I hope to enter political consulting, where I will gain knowledge about managing the staff of an elected official and learn how to execute a campaign.

My passion for working on political campaigns comes from my desire to support candidates who will encourage greater civic engagement. After graduating, I plan to continue working for an elected official in Washington, D.C., eventually transitioning into the campaign environment. My goal is to become a leader in a campaign: coordinating appearances, organizing canvassing and fundraising, and focusing on the constituents and not just on victory.

I believe the youth vote can emerge as a positive force in our political system, and I want to be a part of that transformation. Applying my graduate program will ensure a successful career path.

What do you hope to do and what position do you hope to have five to seven years later?

Years after graduation, I wish to serve the American people as a political consultant, working for an individual who will strengthen our government. My ultimate purpose is to change the scope of the political process by encouraging my peers to vote and become more politically educated. In a position working for an elected official, I will use the skills I learn to improve election/governing practices to incorporate civic involvement, resulting in higher voter turnout. I suspect that much of my future position will involve new technological resources such as social networking that can be used to increase efficacy among the American people. I look forward to contributing my ideas and skills in this arena, and see that it facilitates maintaining a renewed focus on the constituency.