



Emily Grooms

Majors: Psychology, art

Activities: Psi Chi, Omicron Delta Kappa, Mortar Board, Psychology Club, Fishing Club

Post-grad plans: Specialist Program in School Psychology, Western Illinois University

“Emily has such diverse interests and talents that I don’t know how she manages to keep up with it all. I’ve come to know her as the analytical student who conducted award-winning research in cognitive neuroscience; a world traveler who made lasting friendships in Guatemala and Cuba; and a leader among peers in student organizations. I’ve only recently discovered during her senior art show that she is a thoughtful and accomplished artist as well.”
— Dr. Daniel Cortis, professor, psychology

MORE THAN I IMAGINED 2017

SENIORS REFLECT ON ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LOOK AHEAD

Why Augustana?

I chose Augustana because of its incredible reputation—that certainly held up. I liked the small student-to-faculty ratio and the beautiful campus!

Are you where you thought you’d be four years ago?

Not at all, but that is a good thing! I originally thought I was going to be an art teacher, but after taking psychology classes, I fell in love and am so happy with where I am currently.

Who helped you get to where you are now?

The faculty in the psychology department pushed me to be the best I could be. They provided such incredible insight into the field, as well as support in whatever I wanted to do. I am happy to say that my professors have grown to be some of my dearest friends.

A peak experience?

The peak of my experience at Augie would definitely be when I presented my original research at an international conference in Havana, Cuba. It was incredible to be able to represent my school and be one of the first undergraduate presenters from the United States in Cuba in more than half a century.

What surprised you?

I learned just how hard working I am here at Augie, especially during my senior year. Not only was I involved in numerous clubs and organizations, but I was also working on my Senior Inquiry, finishing up classes with a bang, and conducting two different research projects all at the same time!

How did you use Augie Choice?

I used my Augie Choice to study abroad in Guatemala, spring of 2016.

What will you miss the most?

I will miss all of the amazing friendships I have made, both with students and staff.

Advice for the Class of 2021?

Utilize all the opportunities that Augustana offers, whether it be resources like CORE, internships, study abroad programs, etc., that can’t really be found anywhere else!