A Love for Learning

Noel Rockwell MY ’23

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For Californian Noel Rockwell MY ’23, attending college across the country was, at first, somewhat of a culture shock. Within weeks, however, she found a home for herself at Yale by taking full advantage of the university’s unique learning environment, exploring campus, and forging friendships.

A strong support system has been invaluable. “I can go to all of the deans, my advisor, professors, and teaching assistants for advice. It feels like they’re personally invested in my success,” she says.

“In just one semester at Yale, I have learned more than I ever have before,” Noel reflects. “My classes have allowed me to develop tremendously and sharpen my perspective in new ways I never considered.”

At Yale, Noel seeks out courses that will contribute to her growth and her understanding of the humanities, the area of study she plans to pursue. “I’ve already started going through the course catalog for next semester,” she laughs. Eager to explore new subjects that will push her outside her comfort zone and prepare her for life after Yale, Noel has her sights set on courses in philosophy, anthropology, and Spanish language.

“The issues facing our world right now, like racial justice, climate change, and so many others, are multifaceted. There isn’t just one reason or cause as to why these things are happening, and so it’s going to take an interdisciplinary approach to solve them. I want to be ready.”

Noel is the recipient of a Nathan Hale Associates scholarship. “Yale makes things possible you never dreamed of,” she says. “There are so many students here whose lives have completely turned around because of this kind of financial support, myself included. I would not be here without it.”

Donors make it possible for exceptional students like Noel to attend Yale, regardless of their financial circumstances. To learn more about ways to support these students, please visit giving.yale.edu or call 800.395.7646.