"After my first semester at Rice, I realized I was not exactly sure what I wanted to study or when I had to start thinking about life after college. At the time, graduation was three and a half years away. So, I decided to take the Career and Life Options class (HUMA 212) the following semester to learn about what options I had and how to best approach pursuing my goals. The class was quite a journey for me. I learned how to write a resume and perform well at an interview, learned about the type of jobs that may fit my personality, and I even conducted informational interviews with a lawyer and a law enforcement officer. At the time, I had what I only thought of as a far-off goal of one day joining the FBI. The class, however, helped me realize that perhaps that was not really such a far-off goal. It was a goal I could actually take steps to accomplish if I approached it the right way.

During that semester, I also started realizing that I wanted to major in economics. So, in my HUMA 212 class, I created and presented my plan of studying economics, going to law school or joining the military, and then going on to work for the bureau. Two years later, the resume and interview skills I had learned in class helped me get my first job and then carried over into helping me obtain great internships in both Houston and New York.

After completing my internship in New York, I came back to Rice and began the full-time recruiting process. What I had learned in the class was still paying off and I ultimately received a consulting offer for a Business Analyst position. However, I never forgot my goal of working for the FBI, and when they recruited on campus, I had to give it a shot. I was offered a position with the FBI, and was then faced with the difficult decision. Turn down a great consulting offer or go with the FBI for the chance to follow my dreams and possibly stay in Houston with my family. But once again, the HUMA 212 class had addressed how to determine what values and environments would be the best fit for my long-term career and life goals so I could make the right choice for myself. Despite getting crazy reactions from mentors and friends, I turned down what could have been my only offer during a very tough economic period.

I have now graduated from Rice with a degree in Mathematical Economic Analysis and will be working for the FBI. I highly recommend anyone unsure of how to approach pursuing their goal career to try out the HUMA 212 class. What you learn in the class will continue paying off for the rest of college and beyond. Even if you end up headed in a new direction, the advice you get will continue working for you."