

Alycia Kindrex

WLC 300

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### Personal Statement

Growing up I always found different languages to be interesting. Even though I didn't have many opportunities to try and learn a different language until high school. In high school, I had to take two years of a language class and I decided to take Spanish. I remember being in my Spanish class and thinking that I wish my school would offer Japanese. To be honest I was always really interested in Asian languages specifically because I was fascinated by the completely different writing system. Starting university, I was a business major, but after taking a few lower division Japanese classes I realized I still had a deep desire to learn Japanese, so I changed my major. Knowing multiple languages is a great skill to have and I think knowing an Asian language is even more valuable because of the difficulty of them. Not only do I believe languages are important, but also learning a whole new culture is also a valuable experience to have. By knowing a different language, you can broaden your horizons and job opportunities.

Being enrolled in CSUMB has taught me a lot specifically being enrolled in WLC 300. Through this class I found out the many job opportunities I can possibly come across as a Japanese major. In the Japanese 302 class which is a Japanese history I learned a lot about Japanese history and also about how the unique culture of Japan came to be. The Japanese history course was also taught in complete Japanese, so I was able to improve my listening skills and learned a lot of new Japanese vocabulary as well. One of my goals is to be able to gain a high enough level of Japanese to translate or teach Japanese to others and possibly teach English as a second language in Japan as well. To be able to teach others the language that I enjoy more

than my own native language would be a wonderful experience to have. I also want to inspire others who want to learn Japanese, but think it's too difficult that if you really want to learn it you can. I never thought that I would get a high enough level to become a translator, but it is honestly something that I am really thinking about doing now since starting university.

It took me a while to figure out what I wanted to do in the future and I didn't want to go to university. I am glad that I decided to attend university though because I know it will give me many opportunities and make me more prepared for the work force. I will continue to work hard to be able to achieve my dream of being able to spread the value of learning languages to others.