



Ami Leichsenring

Major: Psychology

Minors: Sociology and public health

Activities: Camp Kesem, Dance Marathon, Epsilon Sigma Alpha (service), Chi Alpha Pi sorority and Psi Chi (psychology)

Internship: I was an intern with the Boys and Girls Club and Riverdale Heights Elementary with their school counselor.

Post-grad plans: Attend Western Illinois University for a master's in school counseling

“Ami is an engaged, motivated and caring person. In her time at Augie, she sought out opportunities to pursue her passion of working with children and being a positive influence in their lives. From her involvement with Camp Kesem, to interning with the Boys and Girls Club to traveling to Guatemala, I am constantly impressed with her dedication to and maturity in engaging with children who are often experiencing adverse circumstances. Ami is a compassionate role model for the children she works with, and I know she will continue to have a positive impact as a school counselor.”

— Dr. Lisa Szafran, assistant professor,
psychology

MORE THAN I IMAGINED 2018

SENIORS REFLECT ON ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LOOK AHEAD

Why Augustana?

The small and beautiful campus, my love for the QC, and the amazing reputation and programs Augustana had to offer.

Are you where you thought you'd be when you first came to campus?

Definitely not. I changed my major a couple of times after I realized what it was that I was passionate about. I ended up on a very different route than when I started—and I am happy with the decision that I figured out along the way!

Who helped you get to where you are now?

I could not have gotten to where I am today without the amazing professors, my family and students who have become my best friends. The constant support that I have had here is something that I will always be grateful for.

Peak experience?

It is hard to choose one, but I'd say my internships, studying abroad and all of my psychology classes that pushed me to find what I'm passionate about.

What surprised you?

I learned what things I am passionate about and that I am a lot stronger than I give myself credit for sometimes. Something that surprised me was how much a person can grow in four years!

How did you use Augie Choice?

The Guatemala program this spring.

What will you miss the most?

Everything (except all the hills maybe). I will definitely miss all of the people and the place that I've called home for the last four years.

Advice for the Class of 2022?

Utilize all this college has to offer, both academically and socially. Find an organization or group that you are passionate about and make friends with people who push you to be a better person every day and who love you for who you are. Make connections with the very knowledgeable and caring professors at Augustana because they can become your mentors, as many have for me in the psychology department. Most of all, appreciate this incredible opportunity and education you are receiving because the four years really do fly by!