

SAMANTHA MOBURG

SPRING 2023 SIBBERSON FINALIST - COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Samantha will be graduating this spring with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications, paired with a minor in Religious Studies. After graduation, Samantha plans to attend a program where she will complete a master's degree in communication studies while also using her remaining athletic eligibility. After completing her master's degree, Samantha plans to attend law school.

In her time here at Washburn, Samantha has been an active member of the volleyball team, where they have finished nationally ranked as a team, including DII National Runner-Up in the 2021 season. Being a part of the Washburn volleyball team has allowed Samantha to represent the people of Topeka in a way that withholds great magnitude. She takes great pride in displaying the values this community exudes and am honored to have had the opportunity to demonstrate the standards of excellence expected here.

Apart from her volleyball career, Samantha has been involved in Washburn's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), where she was also nominated for the National SAAC Committee, as well as the Honors Student Council, and Communication Club.

Academically, Samantha has received honors including; the MIAA Academic Excellence Award (2020, 2021, 2022), the MIAA Academic Honor Roll (2020, 2021, 2022), Washburn's President's List (Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022), and has received the Meredith A. Moore Communication Scholarship.

Samantha has also received the Anderson Family Scholarship, Yankee WEA Scholarship, McAlister Scholarship, and Betty Rae Burnett Scholarship.

Per serving as a patron of the community of Topeka, Samantha also makes time to give back to her hometown. She is an active member of St. Francis de Sales church where she continuously advocates awareness for causes and drives to provide help to those in need. She has coordinated ample clothing and food drives within the community, as well as spent hours volunteering at the Leavenworth County Humane Society. Samantha dedicates her life to service and works towards the betterment of herself and others through fellowship.

ESSAY:

My name is Samantha Moburg, and I am a senior here at Washburn University! I will graduate this spring with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications and a minor in Religious Studies. After graduation, I plan to pursue a master's degree in communication studies while continuing to play volleyball, as I have remaining athletic eligibility. It has always been my dream to become a lawyer. So, after completing my master's degree, I plan to pursue that ambition and attend law school. It is with utmost confidence that I can say Washburn has prepared me to pursue these future goals with great determination and merit.

My educational journey here at Washburn has been nothing short of incredible. This university has provided me with opportunities that have augmented my growth in a plethora of ways. First and foremost, the faculty and staff here are excellent. They prioritize their students, not only as students but as humans. They place great emphasis on individual health and well-being so that each person feels valued. This commitment to their students helps formulate a culture of brilliant scholars and good people. Washburn faculty and staff have helped me become the best version of myself. I have grown personally, academically, and socially, because of the confidence this group has instilled in me.

Being a student athlete at the collegiate level is a surreal experience. There are unbelievable highlights and exhilarating moments that make the countless hours of training worth it. However, this is not an easy job. Life can become so overwhelming at times because of all the many obligations a student athlete must endure. Washburn works to recognize this intense lifestyle of their athletes and provide them with resources that make them feel heard. Experiencing this firsthand, it is moving to know that the institution you dedicate your athletic career to has your best interest at heart, physically, mentally, and emotionally. They put forth programs such as counseling services, 24-hour telephone services, support groups, psychological services, and much more. These programs are not only available for student athletes but all students as well.

I am blessed to have had the opportunity to be a student athlete here at Washburn. I have made some of the most magnificent friendships and found my forever mentors. It is because of the standard of excellence that Washburn upholds, that I feel exceptionally prepared to take the next steps in my future.