

Hannah Holmes



I never thought me, Hannah Holmes, would make it to this point in my life. Five years ago I started at Valdosta State University as a freshman, and I had no idea what I was getting in to. I moved to Valdosta from a small town in North Georgia, leaving behind my parents, my cats and dogs, even my friends whom I have known since I was in elementary school. When I was in high school, I was the class president, played varsity soccer, and was the epitome of spirit for my school. Even though I was leaving behind 18 years of my life, I made the bold move and started a new life at VSU.

When I got to here, I was just another face amongst thousands of people. I did not know how to get involved or how to make friends, but it all seemed to fall into place after that first week of classes. Despite the fact that I was scared, my freshman year consisted of me finding new friends, joining new clubs, and even though I was not the most popular student on campus, I mattered to those I surrounded myself with. I absolutely fell in love with my classes, and even more with my professors. It was them who helped me succeed, but I couldn't have succeeded without myself.

However, I did not make it through without having to overcome some adversities. Not only was I in a long distance relationship, causing me heartbreak and anxiety almost every day, but also I dealt with the constraints of working while trying to be a successful student. I found it hard to balance academics, work, and my boyfriend, but I eventually got into the groove of things and found out that I was able to be a successful student while making some cash! After my freshman year, I lost my best friend because he transferred schools, and even though I made a few other best friends, they ended up transferring schools too, and I found myself to be all alone again my senior year of college.

My senior year proved to be my hardest year yet. Not only was I scared of what was to come after I graduated, but also all of my relationships seemed to be fading. A four year relationship just ended, I was saying goodbye to a lot of friends, and I was worried about finishing up my academics. Nevertheless, I found myself getting by just as I had before because I found a deep source of perseverance. I am finally done with my undergrad, and I have moved on to my Graduate years of college!

Anyone thinking about college as an opportunity to advance their education is right to do so! I have learned how to learn, learned how to love, and learned how to adjust, readjust, and find myself no matter what the situation! I have met people who have changed my life forever, and I have had experiences that have shaped who I am and who I will be. Don't be afraid to take a chance and to go out and explore. Yes, there will always be haters, but remember, "haters are gonna hate, and playas are gonna play," so why not play the game of life with confidence and elegance.

