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As of now, I am in my junior year and am double majoring in the Korean Language Flagship Center program and Asian Studies. I have always been interested in these fields, and I am thoroughly enjoying the classes I am taking. As of now, I am starting to take 400 level courses in this field and am taking an intensive summer course in South Korea until August of 2019. My goal for this summer is to increase my ability in speaking, reading, and writing. After I finish my junior and senior year, I will be going to South Korea for a capstone year where I will have an internship through a Korean university. By the time I graduate, I will be able to function in South Korea without any language barriers, becoming a part of the society.

I believe a good work ethic is extremely important and I enjoy working with others and being a part of a team. This fall semester I am planning on pursuing a part time job that will put my Korean to use. The job requires someone that is able to read, speak, and understand Korean. During this coming summer from June to August, I intend to tutor Korean students to help them learn English. I already have plenty of experience in working with international people, so I very much look forward to this opportunity. As for after graduation, I will be fulfilling my required yearlong internship at the Korean university and will pick a concentration to pursue. I am interested in translation work or being a teaching assistant in teaching English classes. I love to help people express themselves and to guide them in making explorations in life and language. My plan is to continue to live in South Korea after graduation, but there are also positions in the government and in states with high populations of Korean people.

In the native community, the youth are surrounded with many internal problems, such as alcoholism, mental illness, suicide etc. I want to be part of the generation that changes that stigma. I know our people have so much history and culture to share with others, if they were willing to learn. I think it is important for us to know our background and not be ashamed of it. Unfortunately, there are many young people who are scared to share their truth with others because of racist stereotypes or stigmas. I want our young people to grow up without the fear of criticism, I want them to grow and blossom with the knowledge that what they represent is amazing and part of a deep and rich history. One thing I have learned from being in Hawaii is that the Hawaiian deeply love and cherish their culture. Their history is quite similar to ours, in the fact that they were forced to throw away their language and culture and were colonized to the point of almost being extinct. In another class, I heard of an outside Indian people who almost lost their language and due to one man in the 1970s, the language is now growing, and the youth are able to join in a community that they love and want to be part of. This has shown me the difference that even one person can make, and I want to help our people become proud of our heritage.