

EDMONDS COLLEGE

TESTIMONIAL

Student: Byeolah Kwon | Country: South Korea
Graduated Edmonds College Spring 2022
Transferred to Columbia University | Major: Computer Science



HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT EDMONDS? WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO ATTEND?

I was looking for a college with affordable tuition, a good program for computer science, and a convenient location. I found that Edmonds College fulfilled these requirements.

WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE CAMPUS?

The campus is beautiful and surrounded by many trees, so I often walked around the campus and enjoyed nature. The campus even has a vast golf course with ponds and ducks. Moreover, the new STEM building, Hazel Miller, is so clean and modern, and I liked to study in that building. The campus is located in a quiet neighborhood and a few minutes drive away from Edmonds beach.

HOW DID YOU LIKE YOUR ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE?

My academic experience at Edmonds was excellent. Although I decided to study computer science, I didn't have a strong background in math and science. Computer science and math classes at Edmonds helped me lay the groundwork for a computer science major with supportive instructors and small class sizes. I liked small class sizes because I could get to know my classmates better and instructors tailored their instructions individually.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE YOUR MAJOR?

One day I attended a conference about Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, and I was mesmerized by the new computer science technology. Since then, I have developed a passion for computer science. I believe computer science is one of the popular majors for South Korean students as well as domestic students because students can develop problem-solving skills and expect diverse job opportunities.

WHAT WAS YOUR ONLINE EXPERIENCE LIKE DURING THE PANDEMIC?

Although most of my classes were online, I stayed in America and listened to lectures. I attended synchronous classes and office hours, so I could still get enough help and support from instructors in a virtual environment.

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE MEMORIES OF EDMONDS?

I have many favorite memories of Edmonds! One of my fun memories was wearing a costume with friends and attending a Halloween event hosted by campus housing. Moreover, it wasn't very fun at that time, but now I miss studying for many hours in the Hazel Miller building with friends. I was involved on campus in various ways: I worked at the Office of International Programs as a front office assistant, chartered a Computer Science Support Club, joined the Phi Theta Kappa Edmonds College chapter as a secretary position, and received scholarships twice from the Edmonds College Foundation.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS AFTER GRADUATION?

I already transferred to a university right after finishing my two years at Edmonds. After getting a bachelor's degree from a university, I want to do an OPT.

WHERE ARE YOU TRANSFERRING TO? HOW DID EDMONDS HELP YOU PREPARE FOR TRANSFER?

I chose to go to Columbia University because of its program for computer science and the location. Almost every course I took at Edmonds was counted toward a bachelor's degree, and my academic advisors helped me a lot with my transfer plans.

WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE TO STUDENTS PREPARING TO TRANSFER?

It is definitely helpful to come up with transfer plans earlier with your advisors to fulfill the required classes and meet deadlines for applications. In addition, I attended admissions information sessions a few times for Columbia University, which guided me on what to write in my transfer application essay.

WHAT WOULD YOU TELL OTHER STUDENTS ABOUT EDMONDS COLLEGE?

I had such a great learning experience in classes and so much fun with friends and all the activities offered by Edmonds College! No matter where you are right now, Edmonds College can help you succeed academically and grow as a person.