



CONCORDIA
CONTINUING STUDIES

Corey Horien

“My name is Corey Horien. I am a 2013 graduate of Concordia. After college, I spent a year at the University of Oxford as a research assistant in a basic science lab, and I am currently pursuing a combined MD-PhD at Yale. My career goal is becoming a physician-scientist and using computational tools and machine learning techniques to better understand psychiatric disease.

My experience at Concordia was second-to-none. The dedication of the faculty to my learning was amazing. From receiving personalized feedback on essays and exams, to being taught the basics of lab techniques—these experiences have helped me get to where I am today. I also probably spent about 3-4 hours a week in office hours with faculty members (in both science and non-science departments), as they would patiently walk me through a complex topic and answer all questions I had about a difficult concept. During these out of classroom meetings, I was also able to speak with faculty members about issues related to academic and career development—without this extra help, applying to medical school and choosing a career path would have been nearly impossible for me. Simply put, the faculty go out of their way to help your learning, development, and advancement—I can’t overstate how important this was for me.

Beyond simply getting into medical school, my time at Concordia still continues to benefit me. For instance, I am pursuing my PhD in computational neuroscience—a field I knew relatively little about before starting in my graduate lab. However, using the skills I developed at Concordia—namely, thinking critically about a topic, learning how to learn a new skill, and being unafraid to tackle new intellectual problems—I was able to acquire the necessary skillset quite quickly. If I had not attended Concordia, I’m not sure I would have had the tools to make this adjustment.

Concordia is an amazing place. You will carry the relationships you form with both classmates and faculty members with you for the rest of your life—I met some of my best friends in freshman chemistry, and I still keep in touch with members of the biology and chemistry departments. I feel extremely fortunate (and humbled) to have attended. It was one of the best choices of my life.”