

## Knowing and Achieving: Cementing my Destiny

Growing up, my mother always said, “Knowing what you want to do is one thing but working at it is another”. Ever since I was a little girl, I have been obsessed with television. From watching hours of Disney Channel to visiting my first set in middle school, I have been mesmerized by the tv screen. As I have gotten older, I have developed that obsession into a passion for creating and developing stories that advocate for myself and my community. I know that one day with my drive and ambition, I will change the world through television and social change, but I believe Spelman will take my education to new heights and broaden my horizons farther than I ever thought I could.

I decided to become an English major at Spelman College because I believed it was the only major at Spelman that provided me with the flexibility and opportunity to pursue my aspirations. Once I decided to attend Spelman, in researching and having many informational meetings with Spelman alumna like Lea Zora Scruggs and career women of the entertainment industry, I knew the English major program was the best fit for me. I was blessed with English teachers who challenged me as a writer and student throughout my primary and high school education. I believe writing and critical thinking are the foundation of any strong leader, and these are primary skills taught by the English program. More specifically, as an aspiring screenwriter and development executive, these skills will aid me in a successful career of providing television and media that captivates audiences. From writing an essay that has been published and aided in my acceptance to college to challenging myself to become an avid reader outside of school, I believe I am more than capable of succeeding in the English major program at Spelman.

I want the English major program to equip me to become a strong writer, critical thinker, and well-rounded individual. My chosen major and minors (Film Studies and Visual Culture, Management and Organization) were strategically chosen to make me a strong film businesswoman and candidate for MFA/MBA programs. I could have attended any institution with a well-funded film program to become a filmmaker, but I believe Spelman will make me more than a filmmaker. Spelman's English department provides me with a wide range of courses and professors that can expand my perspective as a black woman and citizen of this everchanging world. Simply from taking Literary Studies with Professor Maner and Feminist Film Criticism with Professor Kumar, I have already transformed my beliefs and outlook on the world through my education. For example, this semester, I have created a podcast with my peers, a platform for HBCU students to provide their perspective to the world, a perspective and gaze that has been constantly overlooked, a topic we discussed in Feminist Film Criticism. Spelman teaches me that life and careers are bigger than knowing the craft; true success is defined by understanding the world around you.

When my mother was pregnant with me, she fell in love with a successful comedy show called Frasier. And when her baby boy was born as a baby girl, three months early, she named her Kelsey after the producer, creator, and star of Frasier. I believe my destiny to create television was set in stone far before my existence, and Spelman and the English major department are a steppingstone into cementing that destiny. I know that I want to become a television development executive and producer, and I am working to receive an English degree from Spelman college to make that dream happen.