

## STUDENT SUCCESS STORY

### Anne Shoemake

Human Services Major, Wharton County Junior College; Wharton, Texas

### Aplia™ for Statistics Helps Busy Student Work Faster, More Efficiently, and Master Concepts

After graduating from high school, Anne Shoemake realized she needed a break from traditional studying and the rigors of class and homework. A year later, she felt refreshed and ready to embark on her college career, so she began her quest to become a high school guidance counselor by studying human services at Wharton County Community College.

Focused and devoted to her studies, Anne will finish her Associate's Degree in December 2014, and will then move on to a 4-year university to finish her studies and secure a master's degree. While studying for her AA degree, Anne worked as an intern for the district attorney's office, in the special victim's unit/crisis center, and also worked as a nanny.

#### THE CHALLENGES

Knowing that time would be limited as she juggled class, her job, and a demanding internship, Anne took as many online courses as she could, which allowed her to work at her own pace and when she had the time. Her courses (in sociology; community health advocacy, family health systems; accounting; and most recently statistics) required significant study hours, and she found that being able to study online and get the review and reinforcement it offered made it easier for her to manage her time and retain what she was learning.

She approached her statistics course with trepidation, thinking it was going to be 'a really hard class'. Using the textbook and Aplia for Statistics, she was pleasantly surprised at how well she caught on. "It was challenging, but I learned a lot," said Anne. "Aplia was required, and I'm glad it was, because I really liked the program."

#### APLIA MAKES STUDYING EASIER AND MORE EFFICIENT

Anne's statistics instructor fully utilized Aplia and all its features, and provided plenty of student outreach, reminding students when assignments were due and helpful messages. Aplia, with its etextbook and built-in study review, allowed Anne to study the material on a daily basis and go back over concepts that weren't initially clear. "Aplia exceeded my expectations," she said. "Based on my experience in statistics, I've recommended to friends in my program that they take the course, too." She explains that she enjoyed the way Aplia allowed her to study, highlight, have a concept read to her, read it herself, and then do the practice assignments and get instant feedback. With three chances to produce the right answer to an assignment, she felt she was practiced and well prepared for tests.

"Aplia is just a really good program," Anne said. "I had never experienced something like that before. No other materials gave me the information I needed at that level." Would she use the program again? "Absolutely!"



"Aplia was really helpful! If you're utilizing all the resources there is no reason you can't pass and get a good grade. I got an A, so I'm pretty happy!"

#### Anne Shoemake

Student  
Wharton County Junior College

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