



## Mia Lambert

**High school:** Macomb Senior High School

**Hometown:** Macomb, Ill.

**Majors:** Pre-medicine, Classical studies

**Minor:** Biochemistry

**Activities:** Varsity basketball, Mortar Board, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Sigma Pi Delta sorority, Be The Match, Phi Beta Kappa

**Internships:** Cardiovascular medicine internship with CVM; research assistant at Keck Graduate Institute

**Post-grad plans:** Attend Southern Illinois University School of Medicine!

“Mia is a bright, young woman who understands the value of studying Classics alongside her pre-med major. She has drunk deep of what a small liberal arts college has to offer, becoming a standout in basketball, participating in study abroad and excelling in both her majors and a biochemistry minor to boot. Her well-rounded education has helped her develop a sophisticated, nuanced and compassionate disposition that will serve her well in medical school and beyond.”

— Dr. Kirsten Day, associate professor and chair, Classics

### MORE THAN I IMAGINED 2020

SENIORS REFLECT ON ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LOOK AHEAD

#### Why Augustana?

I chose Augustana because I knew it would prepare me for medical school. From a young age, I have always dreamed of becoming a doctor, so this school was a perfect fit for me academically. After my senior season of high school basketball ended, I knew I wasn't quite ready to give up the sport. Augustana gave me the opportunity to continue playing basketball competitively and learn from the best of the best. It was a no-brainer!

#### Are you where you thought you'd be when you first came to campus?

Yes and no. When I first got to campus, playing basketball and getting into medical school were the only things on my mind. I pictured myself playing all four years and studying a lot to get good grades, but I didn't expect to be a double major in Classical studies. That was never in the game plan, but I'd say it worked out pretty well.

#### Who helped you get to where you are now?

To my family - thank you for making me the person I am today. I truly appreciate all you have done for me. From coming to my games to encouraging me each and every day, I can't thank you enough for all that you have done to get me here.

To my friends - thanks for making my college experience amazing. You kept me sane, always knew when to make me laugh, and gave me countless memories that I will cherish forever.

To my professors - thanks for making me smarter! In all seriousness, I know I still have a lot more to learn, but you have helped me to create a solid foundation to build from. I'll forever be a lifelong learner, just like you all.

To my teammates - thanks for always bringing joy to my life. You constantly challenged me to be a better player and person. I will forever be thankful to you guys.

To my coaches - thank you from the bottom of my heart for letting me continue playing. I have grown so much as a person throughout our four years together.

#### Peak experience?

I have two. Getting into medical school was by far the best feeling. I have to attribute a lot of that success to the education I got at Augie. I've always been a little shy and reserved, but I found my voice at Augie. A voice I was confident in and proud to promote to medical schools.

The second peak of my college career was setting the Most Three-Pointers Made in a Season record for the women's basketball team. It was such a surreal experience.

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### What surprised you?

Augie helped me to realize my potential and groomed me to have faith in my abilities. I have a confidence in myself that I didn't have before, and I believe full heartedly that I can accomplish anything I set my mind to. I'm surprised by how much confidence and faith I have in myself, but I think it's all a result of the environment and community Augie promotes.

### How did you use your Augie Choice?

I went to Greece! During spring term of sophomore year, I learned about Ancient Greek culture and art during a learning community. After classes ended, we traveled to Greece to see all the sites. The food was great, the people were friendly and the sites were breathtaking. 10/10 recommend.

### What will you miss the most?

Easy, the people. It may sound cliché, but it's the truth. I gained friends that will one day be my bridesmaids, professors that will be lifelong mentors, and a team that I can always count on to support me. Augie is such a special place, and I'm so thankful my path led here.

### Advice for the Class of 2024?

Use CORE. If I could change one thing about my experience, it would be to use CORE more often. I had a 20-minute mock interview with a career coach to practice my skills for interview day and crushed those interviews because of the helpful feedback. You won't regret using CORE's resources.