



Colin Murphy
Southern Oregon University

Age: 23

Year: Senior

Major: Psychology

Goal: to become a counselor, "to help people when their perception of the world is in distress."

Colin decided to attend college out-of-state when he graduated from high school in Wisconsin because he wanted to challenge himself to "get out of his comfort zone," and pursue his educational goals in a new, and beautiful area of the country. He continues to be intent on expanding his horizons academically as a psychology major, and is interested in both the practical uses of psychology and its developments as a new science: "it's rewarding and fascinating because it's still so groundbreaking." Colin plans to attend graduate school and says he's especially interested in meta-cognition, or "thinking about thinking, considering how people approach the world around them and how that affects their behavior, thought patterns, and emotions." In addition to his academic goals, Colin is a four-time All American wrestler for SOU, and believes that his athletic goals have helped him to be successful academically "It really demands that you have good organizational skills and stay focused on your studies and training at the same time." He returns home to Wisconsin most summers and works any job that can maximize his earning potential for three months to contribute to his education. While Colin has been fortunate to afford his college through work and family support, as a voice for the student body, he hears many stories from people who have been heavily affected by tuition increases, especially students with children. Even though his work for the student government, on top of his academic course-load, requires him to be a great manager of time, he believes it is teaching him great leadership and management skills that will help him professionally. He particularly loved working on the voter registration campaign in the state this Fall, since he firmly believes "it is every citizen's civic duty to voice their opinions, their wants, and their desires." Colin is considering staying in Oregon because of his love for the state, and plans to attend a graduate program in counseling psychology immediately after completing his baccalaureate degree.