

BIOGRAPHY  
Natalia Grabowski

In 2008, I graduated from Mount Holyoke College specializing in International Relations and Romance Languages and Literature, with a particular focus on Spanish and Italian. Since graduating, I spent most of my time applying to graduate schools, and taking additional classes in Spanish legal and medical translation. Likewise, I worked for a non-profit organization called *Womenshelter/Companeras* that assists victims of domestic violence. Through this organization, I was exposed to the legal world and quickly realized that the diverse populations in my community were in a dire need for interpreters and translators. These individuals, most of whom were recent Spanish-speaking immigrants to this country, did not have a complete awareness of their legal rights and responsibilities. Seeing these people struggle because of language barriers made me determined to find a way to assist them in a professional and respectable way. As a result, I decided to further my education by pursuing NYU's certificate in Spanish Legal Translation. In addition, I am in the process of obtaining my Master's in Spanish linguistics through Middlebury College's Graduate School in Spain. I will be spending this entire academic year abroad; my ultimate goal is to return with the ability to speak like a native. Like I said in my personal essay; "I realize that my educational endeavors are great and can only hope to be successful in them." I stand by my original statement because I know that I have what it takes to be successful; especially with the aid and support of the Lint Center. I am exceedingly grateful for the financial aid and support that is provided by the Scholarship Committee and the program's mentors. Thank you!