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Medical Mysteries: A Journey Through the Brain and College Life

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Medical Mysteries: Neuroscience in Chicago, a first year class taught by Dr. Shubhik DebBurman, is fully equipped to prepare freshmen for their road ahead as college students. Although Medical Mysteries has the reputation of being one of the hardest and most time consuming of all first year classes, it is also one of the most interesting and rewarding. High expectations for the class are set at the beginning of the semester, causing students to dive head first into the college experience. However, at the end of a four month period, students learn that what may have been daunting at first is well worth the time and effort.

The first day of class is a memorable one for all of Dr. DebBurman’s students, as they discover the potential for academic growth as the syllabus is discussed. Most are left feeling overwhelmed and dreading the weeks that lie ahead of them. The course goals, which at one point felt more like unreachable expectations, consist of developing communication and professional writing skills, learning how to approach group projects, and partaking in outreach assignments.

Dr. DebBurman, or as students like to call him, Dr. D, is a dedicated professor who devotes his time to his classes. Although many dislike the early morning walks to class and the dark classroom while reading the endless progression of overheads, most students are inspired by Dr. D’s enthusiasm and passion for science.

I had the opportunity to be in Medical Mysteries as a freshman in 2005, where I found joy in discovering the many mysteries of the brain. Besides lecture, lab met once a week, which gave students the opportunity to examine human brains with their fellow peers. Brain anatomy, the lab class and a highlight for peers. Brain anatomy, the lab class and a highlight for peers. This class gives insight into works of the scientific community, allowing students to develop a scientific appreciation and a sense of what it means to be a scientist. I myself was unsure whether to pursue a science career. After this class, however, not only was I more intrigued by the brain, but I was drawn further into the field of science itself. Science classes are time consuming, labs are mandatory, and reading and writing are a must. It is not an easy ride, but it is a fulfilling one. Medical Mysteries: Neuroscience in Chicago is challenging and exhausting, yet it puts its students one step ahead of the game.

Overall, the class is rich in diversity and is a preview of the next three years of college. Do not be misled by the course title; this course is created for both science and non-science majors. I believe its intent is not only to provide students with all the specifics in neuroscience, but also to prepare them for professional experiences, college life, and life in general. This class gives insight into works of the scientific community, allowing students to develop a scientific appreciation and a sense of what it means to be a scientist. After this class, however, not only was I more intrigued by the brain, but I was drawn further into the field of science itself. Science classes are time consuming, labs are mandatory, and reading and writing are a must. It is not an easy ride, but it is a fulfilling one. Medical Mysteries: Neuroscience in Chicago is challenging and exhausting, yet a pleasing and rewarding journey through the brain and the college life.

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