



Janessa- Michelle Purcell

Political Science – Global Politics Concentration

Minors – English Literary Studies & History

Janessa- Michelle Purcell is a Political Science Major with a concentration in Global Politics, pursuing minors in English Literary Studies and History. She is in her last semester at Utah Valley University (UVU), where she will be graduating this spring with a Bachelor of Science.

Purcell's professional experiences are rooted in many diverse positions that have molded her into an impassioned leader. As an administrative assistant, she has developed processes to make completing her responsibilities and tasks more efficient. With her exposure to the legal process, her skills of communication, organization, and accountability have matured, allowing her to succeed in high intensity environments. Purcell served as the Direct Service Fellow at UVU's Center for Social Impact, where she planned, organized, and hosted service opportunities for UVU's student body. In this role, she was able to form long-lasting relationships which provided an opportunity to give service which has impacted Orem's local community. In her role, as the club president of the Utah International Mountain Forum- a coalition of student clubs at UVU, Purcell has continued her advocacy initiatives of Sustainable Mountain Development through presentations at the 68th and 69th Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. She presented a research project centered on Air Pollution in West Salt Lake at Oxford's Global Map the System Competition, and an academic presentation on the importance of the integration of Student-Engaged Learning (hands on experience) within the classroom at the International Mountain Conference in Austria.

Purcell was born and raised on O'ahu, Hawai'i and moved to Utah in 2016 to pursue her academic goals. When she is not busy with her on campus roles, she enjoys quiet nights in with a book or history docuseries. Inspired by her foundation in family and culture they are the core of who she is and have guided her through her academy journey. Her future endeavors include continuing her advocacy efforts to provide platforms for the voices of communities most in need.