

Senior year, I remember other Yalies talking about disappointment from "missing something" in their education. They'd learned practical skills, but they'd been expecting something more transcendent and transformative from "Yale." I didn't identify with their disappointment. That's largely because I asked Phyllis for help sculpting my education when I was a sophomore. She wasn't even my Professor, but I saw her at a conference and she seemed more willing to guide than anyone "officially" responsible for me. I ended up taking one class with her and her husband, but then stayed involved in her programs until I graduated. Phyllis not only introduced me to texts and ideas that have stuck with me ever since, but while I was at Yale, made me feel part of an intellectual community. I remember attending a concert, museum, and monastery (twice) on field trips which were some of the highlights of my college experience. Throughout, Phyllis helped me connect my education with larger questions I have faced and will face throughout my life. And because I can do this, I can take a part of my Yale community with me, and I have never regretted my education at Yale. This ability has been such a treasure in my life, and I am eternally grateful for teachers like Phyllis Granoff who helped me find it.

-Sage Snider