

## Honors Senior Spotlight



### **Miriam Cohen, '21**

**Hometown:** Ellington, Connecticut

**Major:** Community/Clinical Psychology

**Minors:** English and Business Management

**Thesis Title:** *Effect of Cohorts on Undeclared Students' Sense of Belonging*

**Thesis Advisor:** Dr. Tiffany Hesser

### **What is your thesis about?**

In the Fall 2020 semester, there were sections of introductory English and Communications courses that were created specifically for first-year undeclared students to be enrolled in.

My intent with my thesis is to explore if those courses had a positive influence on those students' sense of belonging and determine if these cohort courses should be implemented in the future. I am hoping that my thesis not only provides me with a fulfilling research experience, but also provides insight for the University as to how to best serve its' undeclared student population.

### **What motivated and/or inspired you to select this as your research topic?**

I was inspired to choose this as my thesis topic because I was undeclared as a first-year student!

### **Do you have any advice for future Honors students thinking about writing an Honors Thesis?**

Write about something you are passionate about and that has to do with your intended career path! It will make the experience much more enjoyable and worthwhile.

### **After graduating, what are your plans?**

After graduation, I will be attending either University of Vermont or University of Maine to earn a M.Ed. in Higher Education/Student Affairs Administration!