



Economics, Mathematics, Model UN, and Hip Hop

STUDENT PROFILE

“Before I came here, I had a set plan for my life. Now I feel like I am more free to try new things than I was four years ago.”

— Amandla Ooko-Ombaka '10

Amandla Ooko-Ombaka '10 came to Yale for three reasons: the people, the Model UN team, and financial aid. A senior in Branford College, she pursues a double major in economics and mathematics and international studies.

Taking full advantage of all that Yale has to offer, Amandla is immersed in a demanding academic work load, and she is also a member of Yale's Model UN team, the hip-hop dance group Rhythmic Blue, and the ballroom dance team. In summer 2007, Amandla traveled to Argentina to intern with a medical software company through the Bulldogs International Internship Program — an experience she credits with introducing her to the smartest person she's ever met, Richard M. Low '76 M.D., her Bulldog mentor and a graduate of the Yale School of Medicine. “I had no experience in medicine or in computers, but he said he picked me because I was so excited about learning,” she explained. “We developed a great relationship, and now we talk about once every three days or so.”

Amandla is an enthusiastic student of economics and the application of mathematics in economic analysis — she says the best book she has read at Yale is her econometrics textbook. After graduation, she plans to first gain work experience and then attend graduate school. But with so many different interests and the freedom to pursue them all at Yale, Amandla acknowledges the possibility of a future she hasn't yet imagined. “Before I came here, I had a set plan for my life,” Amandla said. “Now I feel like I am more free to try new things than I was four years ago.”

A robust financial aid program brings exceptional students like Amandla to Yale, regardless of their financial circumstances. To learn more about ways to support these students, please visit www.yale.edu/yaletomorrow or call 800.395.7646.