

# Meet the December 2021 Graduates



**Emily Braun**



**Haleigh Casto**



**Hannah Courtney**

I am from Charleston, West Virginia. After graduating, I plan to continue my education in law school and earn a Juris Doctor degree. I am passionate about helping people and being a voice for the underrepresented. While attending West Virginia University as an English major with minors in both Communication Studies and Women & Gender Studies, I grew tremendously. Being an English major alone, provided me with a well-rounded education in language, history, literature, art, social issues, professional writing, and more. I am grateful for the opportunity I was given to not only learn more about Appalachian history, but also to spread awareness of it - thanks to Dr. Erin Brock Carlson & Professor Nina Riivald. I am thankful for all of my hard-working instructors, my amazing peers, and the skills that I have learned along the way.



## Allison Groves

Allison is graduating with a B.A. in English Literary and Cultural Studies and a B.A. in Spanish as an Honors Laureate. She plans to attend graduate school for Secondary Education, hoping to eventually teach high school English or Spanish. She particularly valued her time studying Appalachian Fiction with Dr. Pancake, and Dime Novels with Dr. Caronia. She is also thankful for the two semesters spent with Dr. Carlson, who made online classes something to look forward to. Allison is proud to be graduating with two degrees in the Humanities, and is a fervent advocate that the humanities teach us how to see shades of gray in a world that many view as black and white.



## Brandi Hall

I grew up in Proctor, WV, but I was born in Morgantown, so in some ways coming to WVU always felt like returning home. I'll never forget the experiences I've had and the people I've met, and hope to carry those things with me into the next stages of life. After this, I hope to get a Secondary Ed degree and take up teaching at local schools, all the while writing on the side to give space to the creativity my time here has helped nurture.



**Hannah Harbert**



**Grace Holstein**



**Aaryn Johnson**



**Macy Kile**

Being a part of the English department for the last few years has been an incredible experience. Coming into college, I was unsure what path to take. After a few English classes, I knew that this was the community I wanted to be a part of for the rest of my time at WVU. After graduation, I hope to find a job in the editing and publishing world and continue to write short stories. I hope to pursue creativity in any field that I enter and hopefully publish a collection of short stories.



**Ross Liggett**



**Thomas Lueckel**



**Sarah Mitchell**



**Emmalie Munson**



**Cameron Patterson**



**Lauren Pauley**



**Kaitlyn Perkins**



**Sarah Potter**

Receiving a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature with a minor in Native American Studies is the biggest accomplishment of my life. It's been a long time coming—13 years!—and while I could have achieved this on my own, without my loved ones the victory would be hollow. Thanks to my professors, my family and friends, and thanks especially to my boyfriend—my partner: you have supported me in every way possible, helping me make this dream come true in such a way that I could never convey the immensity of my gratitude. Next step, a Masters of Library and Information Science!

“And miles to go before I sleep / And miles to go before I sleep.”



## Jordan Pugh

To quote Octavia Butler, "all that you touch you change / all that you change, changes you." I hope that I left a small mark on the university, even if it is my name engraved on a plaque in the basement of Woodburn Hall—because WVU has profoundly impacted me.



**Sophia Riggleman**



**Damon Rouse**



**Katlyn Ruddle**



**Zachary Shreve**





**Samantha Sowka**



**Reagan Voigt**