

Disability Support Services

Rising Star

Joe Stroud II



Outstanding Alum

Rooshad Irani



Joe Stroud II, current senior at Wichita State is a basketball fanatic. He has often been found camping out before WSU basketball games and following the team on many road trips. Additionally, he is a TRIO Disability Support Services (DSS) participant.

When asked of the impact that DSS has had in his life and education, Joe shared that the programs have provided financial relief through textbook lending opportunities and described the benefit of meeting with program advisors regularly. According to Joe, advising has helped with planning his class schedule each semester and has relieved much of the stress surrounding the new semesters.

Joe is a model DSS participant, who meets with advisors regularly and seeks opportunities for his personal and professional growth. His strengths include his desire to learn and his ability to identify what works for him.

Joe describes his TRIO experience as absolutely terrific and requests the current program staff to “Please keep helping students like him with their dreams.” He goes on to say, “Because of the TRIO programs, I will be able to graduate in May of 2017 with a Bachelor’s of Fieldwork in anthropology, sociology and criminal justice and also with a major in psychology.” When giving advice, his message to other students is, “TRIO workshops also help with learning about real life situations and income. They have become super important in my maturity as a college student and as an adult.”

Rooshad Irani is currently a police officer with the Derby, Kansas Police Department. He graduated from Wichita State with a Bachelor’s of Arts in criminal justice and intends to soon pursue a master’s degree in international affairs at Texas A&M University. In addition to his work in law enforcement, Irani devotes time to the community as a YMCA swim coach and mentor to teens at the Wichita Children’s Home.

When asked how DSS helped him, Irani stated, “Being a participant of TRIO DSS helped me build a network of advisors and mentors who were always willing to go above and beyond to help out. Whether it was for classes or looking over resumes, they provided honest feedback and tips to be a more effective learner. I struggled at times with notetaking and organizing my essays and the help I received in those two areas is immeasurable. My advisor taught me to pay more attention to detail and that I need to be able to articulate reasons for making critical decisions or forming opinions. These are skills I use now on a daily basis in my professional life as a police officer.

My advice for current student participants would be to take advantage of the workshops provided by your program, look at them as professional development opportunities that will strengthen you as a person. Lean on your advisors, they are there to help you. Believe in yourself and the effort that you put forth. At the end of the day, your success is up to you.”