

# COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

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## SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

*HSS Scholar*

# Lucy Paige Anderson

**MAJOR:** RELIGIOUS STUDIES

**MINORS:** ASIAN STUDIES AND

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

**Educational Highlights:** I am so grateful for what I have been able to experience and learn as a religious studies major; any other major would never have felt “right.” Throughout my time at the College I have maintained a 3.9 GPA while working as a peer facilitator for the Center of Excellence and Peer Education at the College. I was President of the Religious Studies Club during my senior year, and in the club I worked with the other members to organize trips and other events. One of the events that the club organized was a trip to the Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion in Greenville, South Carolina, which I also attended. I also recently received the Outstanding Student Award from the religious studies department.



**Research Focus or Project:** For the past two years I have maintained an interest in LGBTQ issues and religion. During my senior year I worked on my independent study with Dr. Katie Hladky and Professor Louise Doire as my advisors for the project. My research focused on how Christian constructions of suffering have affected the treatment of people with HIV/AIDS in America. I also discussed the way in which language has been used to shape the perception of HIV/AIDS in both religious and secular communities.

**Future Plans:** After graduation I plan on taking a year off to work closely with the LGBTQ community in the South. I may also have an opportunity to move to Cambodia and work with a non-profit organization that helps impoverished women start their own businesses. Eventually I would like to apply to graduate school and continue my education in religious studies, LGBTQ studies, and possibly sexual health education.

*This award presented by Maureen Hays, Interim Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the Department of Religious Studies at the College of Charleston on the 10th day of May 2013.*