

## The Student Files

**Name:** Teresa Smith

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**Major:** Physical therapy

**City:** Northridge, Calif.

It is a challenge being a student. And being in this physical therapy master's program has been like doing human revolution at microwave speed — it hasn't been slow cooking. But I have expanded my life tenfold by accomplishing my goals.

It was when I was diagnosed with an idiopathic disorder, ending up in the hospital with a blood clot in my brain, that I received my letter of acceptance into my program, which is a highly competitive one. I spent my first year of school visiting the neurologist, hematologist and gynecologist, and had to have a cystectomy (major surgery to remove two cysts sitting on my ovaries) last summer. Today I am very healthy.

So there have been many obstacles along the way, and I appreciate every one of them for forcing me to expand my life and enjoy the process of education. I can truly say now that I enjoy getting my education.

**WT**