

<u>A Life Changing Assignment</u> -When I was a student nearing the end of my Bachelor's degree, considering which path to take with regard to graduate school, my closest professor who served as a mentor to me at the time gave me an assignment that changed my life forever. My professor assigned me to speak with at least three students from the different types of graduate programs that I was considering to get their viewpoint with regard to what to expect in each program. That simple exercise was critical for me in choosing the path that I eventually chose in my career in substance abuse and coexisting issues. I can remember how speaking to those individuals who were actively enrolled in each situation gave me a renewed perspective about what I actually wanted to do and was a critical factor in helping me choose the path I ended up taking for my career.

