1. USC faculty place an emphasis on interdisciplinary academic opportunities. **Describe something outside of your intended academic focus about which you are interested in learning.** (max. 250 words)

The environment has always piqued my interest, but especially so when I entered high school. It was a time when a surge of articles covering the deaths of whales due to the consumption of marine litter were published; this was a huge wake up call to the distressing state of our environment, and I wanted to do something about it. A common idea in the community was “If not us, then who?” which struck a chord and established a great sense of responsibility. It prompted me to not only make lifestyle changes, but to also protest in the streets to push for systemic change.

Finding out that my school provided Environmental Systems & Societies as an IBDP class further amplified this interest; I was bursting with excitement about how the knowledge I obtained in class could be implemented in everyday life. For instance, I’ve become vegan, I bring reusable bags everywhere, and even formed a clean-up crew in the Jakarta area.

At USC, I plan to further my studies by taking GE-C courses like “Climate Change: Science, History and Solutions” and “Sustainability Sciences in the City”. As a Trojan, I intend to participate in USC Sustainability student groups, such as the Environmental Student Assembly in order to continue my advocacy for environmental awareness and collaborate with others to create sustainable initiatives like the VegFest.

Though I may not solely direct my focus towards pursuing a career in the environmental industry, it is one of my desires want to learn and participate in the global society as a well-informed citizen, one that holistically understands the consequences of one’s actions on the environment and what one can do to contribute to sustainable change.