**Our Experimental College encourages current students to develop and teach a class for the Tufts community. Previous classes have included those based on personal interests, current events and more. What would you teach and why?**

I close my eyes and remember spicy aroma filling the air, the sweet and tangy taste of the curry my mom prepared for dinner. The crunchy exterior of the cauliflower making the soft inside even more delectable. My mother’s Indian cooking defines my childhood, my identity. By teaching this class I’m able to connect with my heritage, my past, as well as other cultures, while also giving others the opportunity to do so as well. For this reason, I would teach a class on international cuisine. Attached below is the course description.

CI-0001: International Cuisine (Ananya Srinivasa-Gopalan)

K+ MW 10:30 ‐ 11:45 a.m. | Halligan Hall, Room 111A | Max enrollment = 25

Every week we will focus on a different culture and international dish. Students are invited to prepare and teach the class to cook a specific cultural dish of personal meaning. This class is catered to exposing the students to new ethnicities and cultures through food. The class is a cultural melting pot, distinguished by dishes passed down generations and family traditions. It is an outlet for students to embrace their heritage and express themselves in a welcoming, supportive environment. Students are able to connect with one another and forge new and lasting friendships. We will visit local ethnic restaurants and supermarkets to broaden our scope of international cultures and cuisine. Students learn from each other and dictate the direction of the course. At the end of each class, we will sample the food we made that day.

What excites you about Tufts’ intellectually playful community? In short, Why Tufts?

I took my seat amongst the other fifty or so other high schoolers and their parents, waiting to hear an admissions officer describe Tufts’ School of Engineering. At the time, my premonition was that Tufts’s liberal arts focus took away from its engineering programs. What I came to realize, however, was that Tufts’ emphasis on liberal arts actually only made its engineering program better. It elicits creativity, resulting in a truly brilliant amalgamation of unique and diverse perspectives vital in creating the technology of the future. I was astonished by not only how easy it is to get involved in research opportunities, but also the myriad of robotics clubs and Woman in STEM outreach programs the school offers. Tufts’ proximity to Boston is another major bonus, whether it be to have an exciting night on the town or in regards to future job/internship prospects from one of Boston’s copious number of tech companies.

What most excites me about Tufts is the passion and empathy exhibited by its students. While on a college visit, I heard students discussing the mathematics of dancing. They were so enthralled with the conversation, that I was sucked in as well. The students even invited me to lunch with them to continue the discussion and at that moment I knew Tufts was where I belonged. I fell in love with the diverse and beautiful campus and its people. I had found a place where I fit in, I had found a home.