Kitt Murphy ‘05

What are you doing now?
I am currently in my third year as an investment banking analyst. While I was in New York for 2 years, I am now doing a 6 month rotation in London.

What was your major at W&L?
BA in Russian Area Studies and BA in Economics

What do you miss most about Lexington and the W&L community?
One of my favorite things about W&L is that you can look around on the Colonnade or on Main Street and recognize just about everyone. W&L is such a warm and welcoming environment that it encourages a feeling of safety and security. In Lexington, you are always welcomed with a warm smile, and you rarely come across this outside of the W&L community.

What was your favorite class and/or who was your favorite professor?
I could never pick a favorite professor or class, but some of the classes I really enjoyed were labor economics with Kaiser, imperial Russian history and Soviet history with Bidlack, and all of my literature courses with Brodsky.

What is your most memorable moment as a member of the women’s lacrosse team?
It is sort of strange but most of my memories from lacrosse did not actually take place on the game field - many are from practices, bus trips and other team gatherings. Seeing as I spent almost every waking moment with various members of the women’s lacrosse team, it is also extremely difficult to narrow down to my single most memorable moment as a member of the team.

What was your favorite game?
My favorite game and probably the most memorable game for me was our 12-8 loss to TCNJ my senior year. This game was the most difficult game I had ever had to play in and was also one of the most challenging mental and physical struggles of my life so far. I had come straight from the funeral of a very close friend and re-joined up with the team in the hotel late in the night on the day before the game. I will always remember the support and encouragement I received from all of my teammates and friends in the days following the accident and specifically in the locker room before the game. This support is what carried me through that day and the weeks to come and I will always remember my teammates and coaches for it.

What do you miss most about the team?
The laughter.

Do you have any advice you would give to current players or rookies coming in?
Just to cherish every moment because it all ends too quickly. When I started as a freshman, it seemed like having 8 more seasons to play field hockey and lacrosse was an eternity, but it absolutely flew by. My time as an athlete at W&L is what defines who I was when I look back on my four years at W&L, and it was such a privilege to represent our school on the playing field during that time.

To that end, also always remember that wearing the Generals uniform is a privilege that should be treated with respect. I would suggest working as hard as you can in every practice and every game so that you can look back and know you left it all on the field.

What is one thing you learned at W&L that you have taken with you into the real world?
I think that some of the skills you develop as a college athlete are the most helpful skills to have in the real world. My ability to manage my time, prioritize, develop creative solutions to problems, make difficult decisions quickly, and endure most challenges I’m faced with are definitely characteristics which help me do my job day in and day out.

If you could start your four years over at W&L, what would you do differently?
Maybe I’ve been out of school for too long to think of what I might have changed now, but I honestly don’t think I would have done much differently. If I have to suggest something though, it would be to spend time abroad. Since I played two sports, I never had the opportunity to go abroad, and I really wish that I had put effort into finding a summer program for the summer after my freshman year. I consider myself very lucky that I have gotten a second chance to do this by doing a 6 month rotation in London with Bank of America. I consider this a true blessing, because it is not often that you are given a second chance like this in life. Although I am trying to make the most the opportunity, I think my experience abroad has been very different than it would have been if I had come over while in College.

What is your favorite book?
My favorite books are Crime and Punishment, Lolita, and The Kite Runner. I am currently reading Shantaram, and I imagine it will rank up there with these other favorites.

What is the last movie you watched?
The last movie I saw in the theatre was Superbad; the last movie I watched at home was either Gladiator or Boondock Saints.