



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Medical laboratory science
major looking to solve
medical mysteries

Erika Olson is a detective in a lab coat. She's organized, has a sharp attention to detail and a compelling need to find answers to the problems in front of her.

She's been that way for as long as she can remember.

That's how she knew enrolling in the medical laboratory science program at North Dakota State University would be the perfect fit. She can use her strengths to help people live better lives.

"I wanted to be in health care, but not in the way most people think," said Olson, a senior from Bowman, North Dakota. "I wanted to be in a position where I could make an impact for people, but do it in a way that takes advantage of my best attributes."

Olson talks about how great the faculty in Allied Sciences are, and how they are always available and willing to help. The program's classroom experiences have had a profound impact, too. Her favorite classes include microbiology labs that furthered a passion for lab work. "They opened up a lot of doors for me. I fell in love with the labs and found an even deeper appreciation for science," Olson said.

Olson has been actively involved since arriving at NDSU. She's a member of the Students of Allied Sciences club, plays intramural sports, sings in a choir and belongs to the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society.

Olson recently began the yearlong professional class and clinical experience that is required for fourth-year students. After that, she's looking forward to putting her detective skills to work in a hospital laboratory.

LET'S CONNECT

We want to stay in touch and keep you updated about what's happening in the department. You can engage at nds.edu/healthprofessions, nds.edu/alliedsciences or facebook.com/nds.chp. You also can contact us at **701-231-8133** or polly.olson@nds.edu.

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