

 **Alumni Spotlight: Ashley Thompson, M.Ed.**

Class of 2015 – Bachelor of Arts, Public Service/Human Service



Q: What were some of your favorite classes or professors at MGA?

Ashley: MGA has a host of great professors, but if I had to choose, I'd say Dr. Durr and Dr. Biek. They made their classes both fun and engaging. Anytime I saw that either of them was teaching a course, I made sure to sign up!

Q: How did your MGA experience help shape your career path?

Ashley: During my time as a student, I served as a Student Ambassador in Admissions and worked in the Counseling and Accessibility Office. These roles gave me hands-on experience in higher education and helped confirm that this was the right path for me.

Q: Have you stayed involved with MGA since graduation?

Ashley: Yes! I'm currently serving as the Assistant Director of Student Engagement & Experiences here at MGA. I've been with the university for 9 years and continue to stay actively involved in supporting students and campus life. It's a full-circle moment.

Q: What keeps you motivated and inspired in your work?

Ashley: I stay motivated because I truly love what I do. Helping students grow and succeed is incredibly fulfilling. Seeing their progress—and knowing I played a part in it—is what drives me. It’s not just a job; it’s meaningful work.

Q: If you could go back and take one class just for fun, what would it be?

Ashley: I’d take Research Methods again. It wasn’t the most fun at the time, but looking back, I really see how valuable it was. I’d love to take it again to strengthen those skills even more.

Q: What does being part of the MGA alumni community mean to you?

Ashley: It means being connected to a legacy of greatness. I’m part of a supportive, influential network that shares common experiences and values. It’s more than a title—it’s a lifelong connection to something bigger than myself, and I’m proud to be part of it.

Q: How can fellow alumni or current students connect with you?

Ashley: I’d love to connect! You can find me on LinkedIn:

 www.linkedin.com/in/ashley-thompson-m-ed-095382210