What does a focused, dedicated, biology major that loves performing dissections in animal physiology labs, or doing twenty-minute presentations on a new topic every week in her Senior Seminar, decide to do after graduation? Become a licensed Realtor, of course!

Real Estate has always been a passion of mine, but so has Biology. Growing up, my family lived in seven houses by the time I was in high school, so weekends spent house hunting and dinner discussions about the housing market were the norm. It’s always been a matter of birthdays as to when I would be legal to get my Real Estate license, so when I saw the opportunity to take the pre-licensing classes at the Chicago Association of Realtors on Michigan Avenue during winter break of my Senior year, I jumped at it and decided the question of “when” had been answered.

When people hear that I graduated with a major in Biology, but am now a practicing Realtor, they almost always look at me inquisitively. It is quite wild, but I always defend it by telling them I decided to do what I loved in a career. Little do they know, some basic skills that help me most with Real Estate dealings I perfected because of my choice in major.

Preparation, research, record keeping, technology and communication skills are all critical abilities that were nurtured while I was a Biology major.

As Biology majors, we are expected to research topics extensively for labs, exams, and presentations. While the specific knowledge gained through this research might dim over time, the practice of being able to gather facts and information, and then present it in a logical manner is relevant for all fields. As a Realtor, I spend two days a week dedicated solely to researching the new inventory on the market. Sometimes, I might visit 10 houses a day. While all properties have a million reasons as to why they are priced the way they are --- they have been on the market for different amounts of time, have different motivations to sell,