



# Ramona Frank-Lebo

**High school:** Beacon High School

**Hometown:** Petite Martinique, Grenada

**Majors:** B.S. Psychology

**Activities:** Secretary at S.T.A.Y (Suicide Prevention club), Student Ambassador for IPS

**Internships:** Working with Dr. Elizabeth Thyrum as a Psychiatric Technician at Philhaven

**Post-grad plans:** My post-graduation plans involve pursuing a master's degree in clinical psychology while also gaining some field experience through work opportunities. I believe that this combination will provide me with both academic knowledge and practical skills to excel in the field.



"It has been my pleasure to advise and teach Ramona Frank-Lebo through her journey at Millersville, though I must say that she made it easy. I know of few students who embraced the opportunities of education as completely or as enthusiastically as Ramona. She expected the best from herself and her presence in the classroom challenged me to be my best. I know that she would have thrived in any classroom and would have shaped an effective path without my help as an advisor, but I am proud to know that I played a small role in supporting what I am certain will be a remarkable professional career. Thank you for the opportunity to draw much-deserved attention to her achievements."

*– Dr. Shawn P. Gallagher  
Professor, Ph.D Behavioral Neuroscience*

## Why Millersville?

While searching for a university, I considered both affordability as well as academic excellence. Millersville offered a great psychology program with a rigorous curriculum and expert faculty and it was also cost effective for me.

## What surprised you?

As an international student, several experiences have surprised and enriched my academic journey. One notable surprise was the diversity and inclusivity of the university community. I was pleasantly surprised by the warm welcome and support extended to international students, fostering a sense of belonging and cultural exchange.

## Are you where you thought you'd be when you first came to campus?

Yes definitely! I am where I envisioned myself when I first arrived on campus. I set specific academic and personal goals, and through hard work and determination, I have achieved many of them. I've gained valuable knowledge, experience, and skills, and I've grown both personally and professionally. While there have been unexpected personal challenges and detours along the way, I'm proud of the progress I've made and excited about the opportunities that lie ahead as I graduate in May!

### **Who helped you get to where you are now?**

First and foremost, I owe immense gratitude to my parents for their unwavering support and belief in my abilities. They provided me with the foundation and resources necessary to pursue my education, constantly motivating me to strive for excellence and overcome obstacles. My family, including siblings, extended family members, and close relatives, also played a crucial role in my academic journey. Their encouragement, understanding, and occasional reminders to maintain a healthy balance between studies and personal life helped me stay focused and motivated throughout my undergraduate journey. Additionally, I am deeply indebted to my professors, whose expertise, mentorship, and dedication have been instrumental in shaping my academic and professional growth. Their passion for psychology, willingness to impart knowledge, and commitment to fostering critical thinking skills have inspired me to delve deeper into the field and pursue my academic goals with determination. Last but not least, my faith in God has provided me with guidance, strength and comfort during both the trials and triumphs of my academic journey. Trusting in God's plan and seeking his guidance has given me a sense of purpose, reminding me that I am never alone in my endeavors.

### **Advice for the Class of 2027?**

I would say to take advantage of the opportunity to interact with people from diverse backgrounds and perspectives. Engaging with individuals who have different experiences and viewpoints can broaden your horizons and enrich your learning experience. Also, don't hesitate to reach out for support when you're facing challenges, whether academic, personal, or emotional. There are resources available, including professors, advisors, counselors, and peer support groups, who are there to help you navigate difficult times. Finally, embrace the journey! The time flies.

### **Peak experience?**

During my internship, I have had the experience of working directly with patients, gaining firsthand experience in conducting assessments and collaborating with multidisciplinary teams to provide comprehensive care. The peak experience for me has been witnessing the resilience and courage of individuals with mental health challenges, and being able to contribute to their recovery and well-being; I have found this incredibly rewarding and impactful.

### **Which one(s) of the EPPIIC values of Millersville do you most identify with? Or which of the values do you think best describes your time here at Millersville?**

Compassion is a deeply meaningful value and I think one that I can identify with the most based on my personal experiences here at Millersville. The value reflects empathy, kindness, and a genuine concern for others' well-being. I have felt that this value describes my experience at the university while interacting with faculty and professors. Personally, embracing the value of compassion has enriched my relationships, deepened my connections with others, and inspired me to strive for empathy and understanding in all interactions. Whether it's offering a listening ear to a friend, supporting marginalized communities, or simply offering a smile to brighten someone's day, practicing compassion brings fulfillment and meaning to my life.

### **What will you miss the most?**

I will miss the stimulating academic environment where I had the opportunity to engage with knowledgeable professors and peers who shared my passion for learning. The school provided a space for intellectual growth and exploration that I will fondly remember.

