

# Daniel Sanabria, putting it together

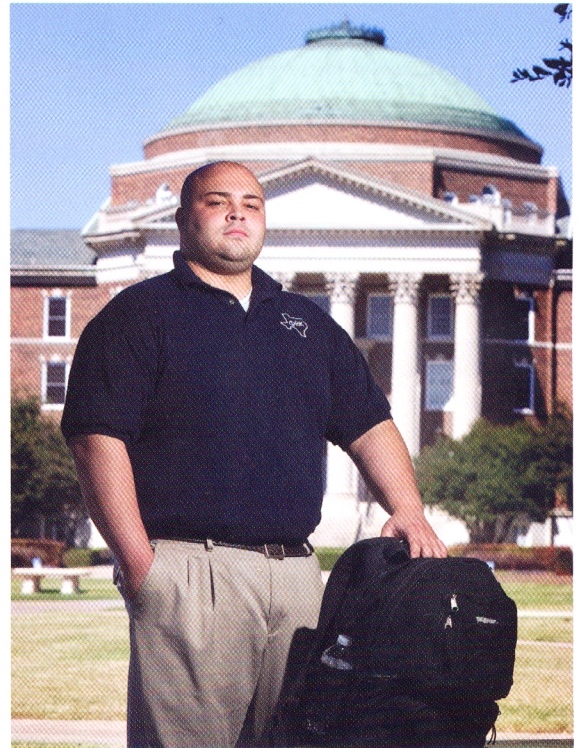
**E**VER SINCE HE WAS a small child, Daniel Sanabria loved puzzles, word searches, crosswords, and anything else that required analyzing and thought.

Now, the puzzles have gotten bigger. Instead of compiling pieces into picturesque nature landscapes, Sanabria takes information, data and statistics and compiles it to create economic forecasts that provide information about job markets, migration patterns, and poverty's effect on economies and more.

"I grew up absolutely loving puzzles, and now that I'm older I look at complex problems and try to solve them," Sanabria said.

He started out at Collin College in the fall of 2008 where he studied history and completed most of his core courses. There, he became involved in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society,

"While I was a part of Phi Theta Kappa, I became interested in local issues such as policy initiatives addressing poverty and sustainable development," Sanabria explained. "I realized I was very interested in social sciences and I wanted a career that could combine history with current policy and changing trends to see how economic opportunities can affect people."



Daniel Sanabria on the campus of Southern Methodist University in Dallas. © Nick Young / Collin College

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He enrolled in Collin College's pre-admission partnership program and was accepted to Southern Methodist University. Through Pre-Admission Partnerships, students complete the first two years of their bachelor's degrees, pay Collin College's tuition rates, and are guaranteed admissions to the partner university if admission requirements are met. He eventually received one of 10 annual full scholarships to SMU that are marked specifically for community college students.

"Being part of the Pre-Admission program really did help me receive that scholarship. It also allowed me to meet with the transfer advisors, and that helped me to have a basic knowledge and familiarity with SMU."

Though he enjoyed history as his field of study, he switched to anthropology so he could gain a better understanding of the applied social sciences.

"I'm a very curious person by nature, which is great for anthropology," Sanabria said. "I got to learn about human interactions and society as a whole, which helped explain why people do what they do. As I was studying poverty and immigration, it came down to understanding how people gained access to resources. I realized for me there was a gap in my studies, and that was the quantitative side of my analysis along with economic theory."

After receiving his bachelor's degree in anthropology, he began studying for a master's degree in economics to strengthen his research skills.

"It was exciting for me to be able to use my knowledge of society and trends and combine that with economic data," he said. "With economics I could bring in my anthropology and learn how to model and forecast data into valuable

information that could shape policy."

Now, Sanabria works as an economist for Comerica Bank conducting regional analysis. His job includes analyzing information from states such as Texas, Michigan, and California, and developing and managing the bank's regional economic models.

"The great thing about economics is that the world changes and the trends change," he said. "I get to learn new things every day."

For more information about Collin College Pre-Admission Partnerships, visit [transferu.collin.edu/index.html](http://transferu.collin.edu/index.html). **P**

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