

## JUANA ALULEMA

Quito

### How many siblings do you have?

In my family, we have a total of 6 sisters and one brother.  
The oldest are Anita, Gaby, Diana, and the youngest are Adriana, Lady, and me.

### Do you have any pets?

We have 5 kittens and 5 puppies; all of them were rescued and sterilized.

### What are your favorite pastimes or hobbies?

I like Ecuadorian dance, singing, and reading; however, if I could take some course, I'd choose beauty.

### Studies

**Academic program:** Law

**School name:** Indo-American Technological University

**Graduation:** 2024

### What work will you pursue with your program?

International Law or Criminal Law

### The Foundation

I have several memories of Mike and Maggie, one of them, the songs that Margarita made for certain moments of our grade school English class. (Juanita was Mike and Margarita's English student in first, second, and third grades.) Before we left we used to sing "Five more minutes", another song was about "Don't make bad faces". Another memory was our walk through Carolina Park. Also, Maggie and Mike helped Anita, who is one of my sisters. She finished her studies in the night school thanks to them.

Since I have entered DEOF, they have supported me in college entrance. I took pre-university classes. I was also studying English at Centro Educativo Continuo; and then I advanced to intermediate level 1. After this time, when Covid-19 started, at this moment was when I received more support from them. We provided a commercial uniform service, but we had no more work from this, and most of my family was out of work, because of the pandemic. Also, the help of part of the group, the zoom meetings, English Club Conversation with Rubén, and reading club. These activities helped me to keep and develop my abilities.

Another memorable moment was when I passed the admission test of USFQ (San Francisco University of Quito). I don't mind not having entered that university, but I passed the exam, and it made me feel that I was still worth something to DEOF. The second is the start of classes in Indo-America because I am studying the career that I like. I enjoy the classes and I feel very good about the fact that I am already studying.



**2024 Update:**

I am currently on vacation, I have already finished the sixth semester of law school. I participated in the “thematic hearings before the IACHR-OAS 2023” contest as a civil society, in addition to contributing as a researcher for the hearings held in Peru.

Among the experiences offered by DEOF, one of the ones I enjoyed the most was the self-defense course. I can say that each of the courses that have been offered have been beneficial in various aspects of my life from leadership to public speaking. In my personal life I decided to venture into singing and guitar.