Fall 2012 Reflection

 Last year was all about discovering where I belonged; taking courses and participating organizations that Bethany College had to offer. This year, however, was different. After the spring semester of my freshman year, I decided to double major in Chemistry and Mathematics. I told myself I had to stick to things I excelled in as well as areas that intrigued me. Unlike freshman year, where I had free time, my sophomore year was challenging. Diving deeper into my majors, I honestly did not know what I was getting myself into. I still had the mindset similar to freshman year, thus not prepared for the rigorous classes I enrolled in. I was struggling in the classes I needed to excel in order to pursue my major. I’ve never been so stressed about school. Then reality struck me. I had to make sacrifices. I bid adieu my social life, and became best friends with my textbooks. I knew what was best for me in the long run, and because of this mature mindset, I was able to complete the first half of my sophomore semester with a 4.0 GPA. I learned a lot about myself this semester. I knew through dedication and sacrifice, I was able to overcome stress and adversity my courses were causing. I realized many things: college was not easy; I needed to focus on my studies; connecting with my professors was vital; most importantly, I needed to grow up. Graduate schools are not looking for prospective students who cannot handle time management, who complain about their classes, who cannot focus and challenge oneself. What they are looking for is mature, dedicated individuals who are willing to challenge him or herself to the max; and that’s what I’m trying to learn as I continue my undergraduate studies at Bethany College. Unlike fall semester, I am prepared for what is to come in the spring.