

Lauren Weiss

AY 2018-19 All-S.T.A.R. Fellow

College of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Neuroscience and Cognitive Science Program

4th year Doctoral Candidate, RA



Throughout my graduate training at the University of Maryland, I have actively sought opportunities to enrich my education through service. I am in my fifth year as a graduate assistant, having earned my master's degree in Kinesiology before continuing to pursue my Ph.D. in the Neuroscience and Cognitive Science (NACS) Program. In this time, I have enthusiastically served as a teaching assistant for several undergraduate courses. I am now a research assistant, where my efforts focus on a clinical trial investigating the effects of exercise on indicators of brain health in older adults at genetic risk for Alzheimer's disease. As a research and teaching assistant, I have worked to improve the student experience, serve my department and academic program, and engage with the community as a scientist.

As a teaching assistant (TA), I am dedicated beyond expectation to helping my students gain transferable skills. In Motor Control and Learning (KNES), I worked on the amendment of a research project to improve active learning and guidance around experimental design. These changes enabled students to more successfully extend existing research, and therefore to address unique questions on an interesting topic. The Department of Kinesiology recognized me as Teaching Assistant of the Year (2014-2015) due to my dedication to student success. I have since continued to purposefully gain experience in different areas and improve my teaching through the University Teaching and Learning Program.