

Coming to Texas Woman's University I was excited to pursue the next steps in my education to become closer to beginning my career as a Child Life Specialist. Throughout this journey, in my three semesters, I have expanded my knowledge on the importance of child life, the importance of therapeutic play, ethics, professional practice, research, care for patients based on their situation, and so much more. I feel this program and level of education have equipped me for my future in this unique and important career.

I am very proud of myself for making it this far into my educational journey. I am a first-generation college student and felt very accomplished when I took it upon myself to graduate with my bachelor's degree in just two years after beginning college courses in high school and graduating with 53 college credits. I am the first individual in my family to seek a higher level of education such as a graduate degree. Pursuing this degree was a no-brainer. I absolutely had fallen in love with the field of child life and knew I had to take every and any step possible to accomplish this goal of mine, even if that meant furthering my education at a master's level, something I had no family guidance on.

Some of my favorite courses in this program have been the courses that have allowed me to reflect back on my own experience and apply them to current practice. For example, Grief, Loss, and Bereavement allowed me to use my own experiences with grief, loss, and bereavement and allowed me to further my education and dive more in-depth into tough topics and conversations. This really taught me how to be sympathetic and tailor treatment at an interpersonal level. This journey at Texas Woman's University has made me fall in love even deeper with child life. I cannot see where this journey takes me.