



Estefany Lucila Cotto López

MHS IN ONE HEALTH

Why did you choose the University of Florida?

UF has my dream One Health program. I firmly believe it will give the tools and guidance I need to become a Public Health professional concentrated on the topic of One Health. Also, Florida has a big Puerto Rican community which will give me the feeling of being close to home while I acquire the knowledge needed.

What philosophy guides you in your education?

My education philosophy is that learning should be an enjoyable process. No matter how hard the subject is, there is always room to find it enjoyable, specially if it is directly related to your goal. I am always open to new information and adapt my thinking based on new facts and information that becomes available.

What is your research experience?

- Research Assistant- Neurobiology Research Lab in the Medical Sciences Campus at UPR
- Thesis Internship- USDA APHIS Division, Veterinary Services at P.R.
- Assistant Student- Ecology Research Lab, UPR-Humacao Campus with Dr. Dennis Fernández
- Research Intern- Immunology and Molecular Parasitology Research Lab in the Medical Sciences Campus at UPR with Dr. Ana Espino

What are your career goals?

My career goals are to gain a position that gives me the opportunity to do research and teach on areas such as Zoonotic Diseases Prevention and Zoonoses and the Animal-Human relationships.

Educational Background

Bachelor of Science in Microbiology
Master of Science in Environmental Health

Research Interests:

- Zoonotic Disease Prevention
- Zoonoses and the Animal-Human relationships
- Food Safety
- Non-sustainable agricultural practices
- One Health
- Infectious Diseases
- Climate Change
- Human Development and its negative consequences in ecosystems

If you could solve one environmental and/or global health problem, what would it be?

Infectious disease prevention.