

# Bailei Hughes

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Where are you from, and where did you complete your undergraduate studies?

I am from Winona, Minnesota. I crossed the border to study at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, where I majored in Biology and minored in Spanish and Chemistry.

Why did you choose the FIU Master in Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program?

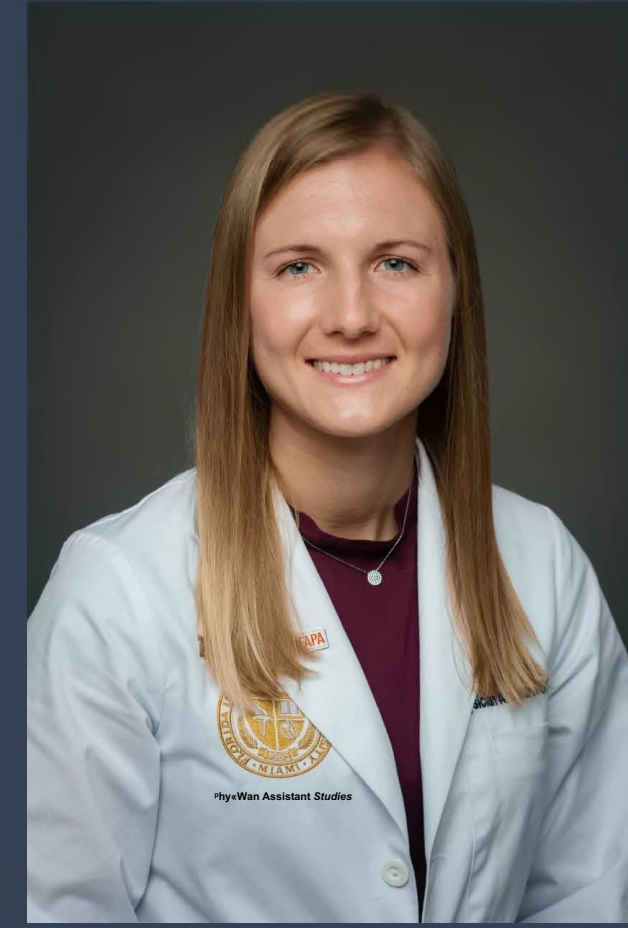
As I studied abroad in Costa Rica learning medical Spanish and the culture of their public healthcare system, I was inspired to serve both the underserved and Hispanic populations. I therefore, pursuing my medical education in the diverse city of Miami, FL aligned with these goals. In addition, the passionate faculty and Neighborhood HELP program drew me to FIU MPAS.

How would you describe FIU MPAS?

FIU MPAS provides students with an abundance of resources to promote their success. The faculty and clinical preceptors are dedicated to teaching, challenging, and supporting students at every step along the journey.

What is your favorite part of FIU and/or the FIU MPAS program?

I loved clinical rotations. All my preceptors and sites offered me a rich learning experience with constant opportunities to step outside of my comfort zone while caring for patients of all backgrounds. The program places you in clinical blocks with 6 peers all of whom have the same core rotation preceptors/sites. My block was very helpful because they gave me an idea of the preceptor's expectations, workflow, parking, etc. I am very thankful for my block and cohort; we've made it through PA school as a team.



What are your other personal interests?

I enjoy running, hiking, camping, going to the beach, and exploring local coffee shops with friends.

What is your favorite quote, and what does it say about you?

"Be fearless in the pursuit of what sets your soul on fire."  
I believe it's always worth taking a risk and stepping outside of your comfort zone to follow your callings and passions.

What advice would you give a prospective student?

Remember your 'why' and celebrate the small victories along the way! Taking a moment to slow down and appreciating how far you've come will motivate you to study for the next exam.

What is your greatest accomplishment thus far?

My recent acceptance as a Mayo Clinic Emergency Medicine PA Fellow is my greatest accomplishment. During clinical year, my preceptors advised me to start in UC or apply to a competitive fellowship because it's difficult to land an ER position as a new graduate. Emergency medicine is the specialty for me, and I'm so proud of myself for pursuing my dream.

Where do you see yourself in the next five years?

I envision myself taking my emergency medicine clinical knowledge and skills to the next level through an 18-month fellowship. Mayo Clinic's mission is to equip ER PAs to run rural ERs in the Midwest region, so I look forward to developing the skills to care for high acuity patients and perform life-saving procedures. I see myself mentoring PA students as a preceptor in 5 years' time.