

GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



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Chemistry

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

I am a second year PhD student in the chemistry department. I completed my undergraduate and master's studies at the University of Saint Joseph; afterwards, I spent a few years teaching various chemistry lab courses before deciding to continue my education at Wesleyan. In my spare time, I love practicing archery and developing my skills as an archery coach, trying new recipes, playing games, and doing puzzles.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR CURRENT RESEARCH

I was drawn to the Westmoreland lab by its collaborative, supportive environment and the variety of work in the lab - although we are an inorganic chemistry lab, we also do some organic synthesis to prepare new ligands for our metal complexes. My current project has me investigating the effect of pH on transition metal complexes as MRI contrast agents. I recently was able to collect a new type of data to evaluate the effectiveness of metal complexes as CEST (chemical exchange saturation transfer) contrast agents, and I am very excited to see what direction my project takes now that I can test my complexes for multiple types of effectiveness!

WHAT IS THE FUN FACT THAT NOT MANY OF US KNOW ABOUT YOU?

I've found arrowheads on three separate occasions - I think it was foreshadowing my love of archery!

WHAT SONG HAS BEEN STUCK IN YOUR HEAD LATELY?

Message In A Bottle by Taylor Swift

WHAT IS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE WESLEYAN EXPERIENCE?

I had a blast at the Big Drop in May. Nothing captures the end of the year spirit quite like dropping objects off tall buildings!