

THROWBACK THURSDAY

Gounah Choi, M.Ed., BCBA

Meet Gounah, a Barton Lab graduate!

- Graduated with a Master's in Early Childhood Special Education and specialization in Applied Behavior Analysis from Vanderbilt in 2016
- She is currently pursuing her PhD in Special Education at the University of Washington- Seattle



Swipe for her
story!




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What does your
role look like?

As a graduate research assistant, I support research that aims to develop a Tiered Coaching Model for early childhood educators' professional development. I also coach special education teacher candidates at UW. I have also been involved in instructional planning for graduate-level courses related to family-professional collaboration and teaching children with developmental disabilities.






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**How did VU
prepare you
for this role?**

VU prepared me for my current role in many ways! The research-focused program at VU helped me develop the skills to conduct rigorous studies. Also, I had opportunities to work in various settings, including clinics, preschools, elementary schools, and homes, through fieldwork and internship at VU. Those experiences eventually helped me understand different needs of teacher candidates in various settings.



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What are two of your greatest accomplishments since graduating from Vanderbilt?

1

Performing family-centered practices and training instructional aids on this in Korea!



2

Getting accepted to the PhD program at the University of Washington



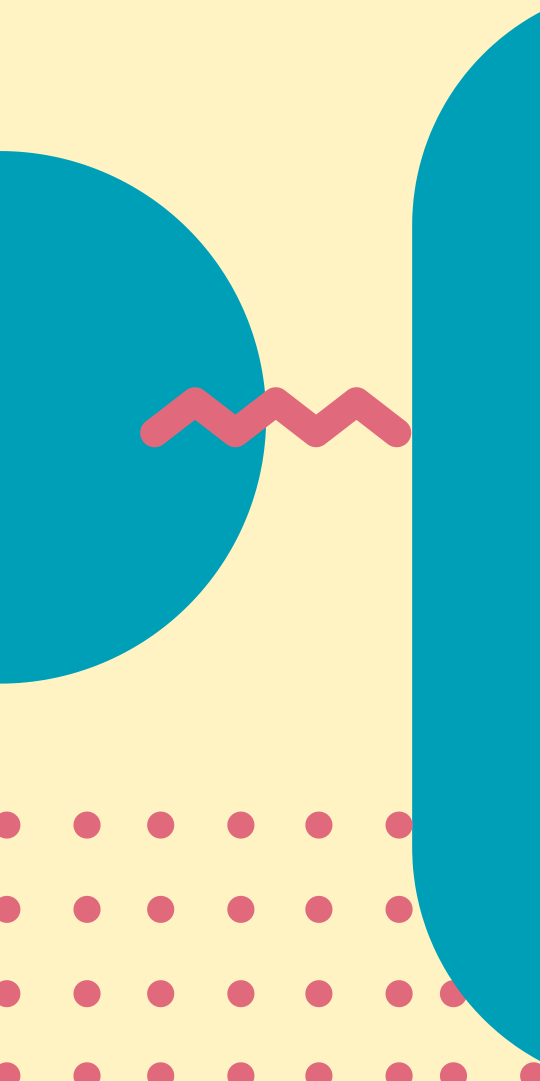


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What is one piece of advice you would give to current or prospective Early Childhood Special Education students?



Be open-minded about your career choices and prepare for all options if possible! Even if you are there to train as a BCBA and not interested in becoming a teacher or a researcher, you never know which opportunity you will encounter, and each career path can offer learning opportunities that you might not have anticipated.