

## **Biography**

Being the daughter of Mexican immigrants, I was the first person in my family to graduate from UC Merced and UW-Milwaukee with a Physics and Geosciences bachelor's degrees and recently completed my Masters in the Geosciences. My parents instilled in me the importance of having a good education from a young age, since they never got that opportunity in Mexico. My parents taught me to never give up on my education, even if I experience obstacles that discourage me from reaching my ideal career. My primary goal is to obtain a doctorate in Geology at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. This program is going to give me the proper preparation to help me reach my ideal career, becoming a well-rounded scientist at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

My research project this year is to examine whether variable detections of organic matter in Gale crater can be explained by differences in preservation potential during diagenesis by comparing samples from Vera Rubin Ridge and Glen Torridon at Gale crater, Mars. To test this, I'll be looking at the  $H_2$  concentrations from both areas along with sulfide-containing reducing minerals, such as the manganese sulfides which may preserve the organic compounds.

