



**JULIA LUO**, Class of 2029

Education: BSc (Immunology), MSc (Microbiology & Immunology), McGill University

Supervisor(s): David Langlais

Dpt: Human Genetics

Work Location: Inflammation Genomics Lab, McGill Genome Centre

Project: Investigating macrophage innate immunity

Why did you decide to pursue both MDCM and PhD degrees? What are your career aspirations?

I had the good fortune of having a wonderful family doctor who inspired me to pursue medicine. However, I found that through undergrad and my MSc, I loved doing research and having the freedom to direct my own projects. I noticed that the projects I gravitated to the most always had a direct relation to understanding health and disease. Seeing this, I felt that being in the MD-PhD program would allow me to gain the skills and perspective to pursue both research & medicine and enable me to best serve people to the best of my abilities.

What aspect of the MD-PhD program do you enjoy the most or are looking forward to?

I am grateful for how welcoming the students in the program are, for how readily everyone offers their advice and experience to help each other. I've greatly enjoyed getting to know the group through seminars & socials and look forward to attending more of these events!

What advice do you have for incoming MD-PhD students?

My key piece of advice would be to find a good mentor who will support you throughout your career. More generally, it is crucial to surround yourself with people who both inspire you to reach further and also support you through both the good times and the hard times.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Read, play sports, try new foods