

# Michele Lau

Physics/Education Enthusiast | Amateur Woodworker

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## EDUCATION

### Rutgers University

New Brunswick, NJ

Overall GPA: 3.74/4.00

Graduation: May 2023

- B.A. Physics
  - School of Arts and Sciences
- B.A. Communication – Specialization in Leadership in Organizations and Community
  - School of Communication and Information

Graduation: May 2024

- Ed.M. 5-Year Program with Certification in Physical Science and Physics Education (K-12)
  - Graduate School of Education

### East Brunswick High School

Overall GPA: 3.82/4.00

High School Diploma

Graduation: June 2019

- Executive Positions/Activities: President of Student Council, Stage Manager for TEDx, Secretary in Video Productions, Co-captain of Marching Band Color Guard, National & Math Honors Society

## PROFESSIONAL/WORK EXPERIENCE

### Part-Time Lecturer | Course: Physics for Sciences

September 2022 – Present

Supervisor: Prof. Michael Gentile | Rutgers University Physics and Astronomy Department

- Instructed recitations and labs directed toward teaching physics concepts to undergraduates
- Assisted professor by holding weekly office hours and tutored students independently or in small groups
- Utilized demonstration instruments to help further students' understanding of the topics.
- Evaluated students' recitation workshops and lab reports on a weekly basis.

### Machine Shop Apprentice | Machine Shop

August 2022 – Present

Supervisor: Paul Pickard | Rutgers University Physics and Astronomy Department

- Built and assisted with a wide variety of research and laboratory equipment
- Set up and operated machine tools to fabricate parts to specifications; used a variety of hand tools.

### Honors Research Assistant | Physics Education Research

May 2022 – Present

Supervisor: Charles Ruggeri, Ph.D. | Rutgers University Physics and Astronomy Department

- Current Projects:
  - Expert Physicists' Proportional Reasoning Strategies
  - Comparison of Instructional Explanation Skills Between Undergraduate Instructors, Graduate Students, and Faculty Members in Physics

### Center and Website Assistant | Center for Materials Theory

May 2022 – Present

Supervisor: Jedediah Pixley, Ph.D. | Rutgers University Physics and Astronomy Department

- Administrated the Center for Materials Theory website: <https://cmt.rutgers.edu/>
- Installed and maintained the equipment in the Center's conference room

### Peer Instructor | First-Year Interest Group Seminars (FIGS) – Exploring Physics

May 2022 – December 2022

Supervisor: Susan Bennett | Rutgers University School of Arts and Sciences

- Taught a 1-credit undergraduate course
- Created all lesson plans by combining physics knowledge and the nine FIGS elements for student development

**Demo Instructor** | Course: Physics Summer GRE Prep **May 2022 – August 2022**  
Supervisor: Saurabh Jha, Ph.D. | Rutgers University Physics and Astronomy Department

- Collaborated with the professor in designing the course
- Used physics demonstrations to help students understand physics GRE questions

**Lab Assistant** | Physics Lecture Hall **Fall 2019 – Present**  
Supervisor: David Maiullo | Rutgers University Physics and Astronomy Department

- Set up and built demonstrations for physics classes (soldering, disassembling mechanical equipment)
- Assistant for physics demonstration shows and taught physics concepts to the public
- Administrated the Rutgers Physics Demonstration website: <https://demos.physics.rutgers.edu/>
- Delegated and trained new members of the team

**Aresty Research Assistant** | Project: Proton Radius Puzzle **Fall 2020 – Spring 2020**  
Professor: Ronald Gilman, Ph.D. | Rutgers University Physics and Astronomy Department

- Learned how to use CERN ROOT, code with C++, and analyze data
- Learned the basics of quantum mechanics, run simulations, and work with graduate students who have traveled to Switzerland to test their hypotheses and their measurements

#### **AWARDS/CERTIFICATES:**

- Rutgers Dean's List x6 (semester GPA of 3.50+) **2020, 2021, 2022**
- President's Volunteer Service x2 – Corporation for National and Community Service **2018, 2019**
- Standard First Aid Certificate – Emergency Care & Safety Institute **2019**

#### **ORGANIZATIONS**

Member, Rutgers Astronomical Society **Fall 2019 – Present**

Position: Secretary – 2 years

Member, Rutgers Society of Physics Students **Fall 2019 – Present**

Member, RU Makers **Fall 2019 – Present**

#### **RELEVANT HOBBIES/ACTIVITIES**

Physics Channel on Instagram ([@PhysicsDIY](https://www.instagram.com/PhysicsDIY)) **April 2019 – Present**

- Taught physics demonstrations and explained physics concepts to the public
- Posted pictures and edited videos about physics weekly: <https://www.instagram.com/physicsdiy/?hl=en>
- Account is followed by multiple verified educators on Instagram

Woodworking/Soldering **May 2020 - Present**

- Here is a link to my woodworking projects:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qbEiYzLF5h1xT5bSpYuhAUB2eZ6SDojk?usp=sharing>

NASA L'Space Proposal Writing and Evaluation **May 2020 – August 2020**

- Learned the skills needed to secure funding for ideas that will solve problems or fill needs for NASA
- Worked virtually with teams
- Learned how to write proposals how to critique proposals by using NASA criteria