



**Lauren Williams**  
**BS in Early Childhood Education/Special Education**

**Graduation: May 8, 2015**

Home Town: Newnan, GA

Current Town: McDonough, GA

High School: Ola High School

**Honors:**

Honors Program Council Member 2013-2015

Honors Program Member 2012-2015

**Brief Bio:**

I began my journey at Gordon after a one year experience of living on campus at Oglethorpe University. It didn't take me more than a year to realize what a waste of money a big school like that was, and that I did not like being away from my family. Gordon became a very reasonable college to at least get my core classes completed and then I could transfer to a bigger school. But, plans changed once again and I fell in love with the atmosphere at Gordon. I loved (most) of my professors-I mean who really loves them ALL. And I really started enjoying my experience when I joined the Honors Program in Spring of 2012. The honors classes offered so much more than the "regular" classes and I loved really getting to know my classmates and professors on a personal level with study groups and in-depth class conversations. I will never forget my favorite honors professor-Dr. Parsons. When I signed up for her colloquium-The History of American Medicine, everyone told me I had made a huge mistake because she was the hardest professor ever. Let me just say, her class kicked my butt and it made me work but I loved every minute of it. There was something about the flow of her class that made it easy to learn and made you eager to learn more that I didn't care how much I had to read or what I had to write, I actually ended up loving it-and I'm an education major...in a medicine class! Crazy, I know. All in all, I have really loved my time here at Gordon. I have made many great friends that will stay with me for my lifetime, and I have met many professors that I continue to ask for guidance.

After this May, I plan on teaching at an elementary school-hopefully Kindergarten, and after a couple years of a break from classes, I plan to return to school-possibly the University of Georgia or Georgia State, to get my masters in Occupational Therapy and Speech Pathology-to learn sign language, and I would really like to license myself out to the public school system to work with the special needs students. My real passion is for autism so after I get my masters, I plan on going back for my doctorate so that I can carry out my long term plan on eventually opening up my own school for the Autistic for intervention purposes to help those kids become self-reliant and functioning members of society, but also for research purposes to help find new interventions to help with Autism.