



Michael Vasconcellos '26

BS in Biomedical Engineering, minor in Materials Science



Why did you choose to study at WPI?

I chose WPI due to its ever-expanding array of opportunities to learn and engage in unique experiences. I knew that WPI emphasized project-based learning in many courses, which was exciting for me as someone who learns much better through hands-on activities. I also loved how WPI encourages and promotes students to travel abroad through sports, activities, and most notably the Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP).

How are you involved with the WPI community?

I am a member of the Wind Band Association and jazz groups, which have been an integral part of my experience at WPI. I played the trombone throughout high school, so I knew I wanted to participate in some of the many music groups on campus and I have been a part of these two ever since. I have enjoyed growing as a musician, creating friendships with other members, and

Hometown

Swansea, MA

Mentor/Advisor

- Mitchell Lutch

Achievements

- Charles O. Thompson Scholar
- Dean's list
- Tau Beta Pi (Engineering Honor Society)

Interests

- Weightlifting
- Playing trombone
- Cooking
- Music composition
- Boxing

performing at concerts. I also went on tour with other jazz players to New Orleans, which was a great experience.

What's your favorite thing about WPI?

My favorite thing about WPI is the community. It is great to see how so many students with unique interests and backgrounds support each other in coursework, projects, and everyday life. An equally integral part of this community are the professors, which I have found to be supportive and insightful. I also like the countless different clubs and groups that are on campus. Although it's impossible to be a part of them all, it is always cool to see the various things students are doing around campus.

Do you have a faculty or staff mentor?

Professor Lutch from the music department has been very influential for me in many ways. He organized the WPI Wind Band into a great community of musicians that are supportive and successful. Due to this, I truly enjoy being a part of it each week. Through the many stories he tells and conversations we have had, he taught me that no matter what you do, always put your best foot forward and always take advantage of the opportunities given to you. I would also like to extend my gratitude to all the music professors for bringing music to campus, creating a supportive environment, and always challenging students to improve.

How has WPI's project-based learning influenced your education?

Being someone who is more introverted and prefers to work alone, project-based learning has taught me many things. Through working on various large projects with short timeframes, I have learned the importance of communication, new

- Reading about history and philosophy

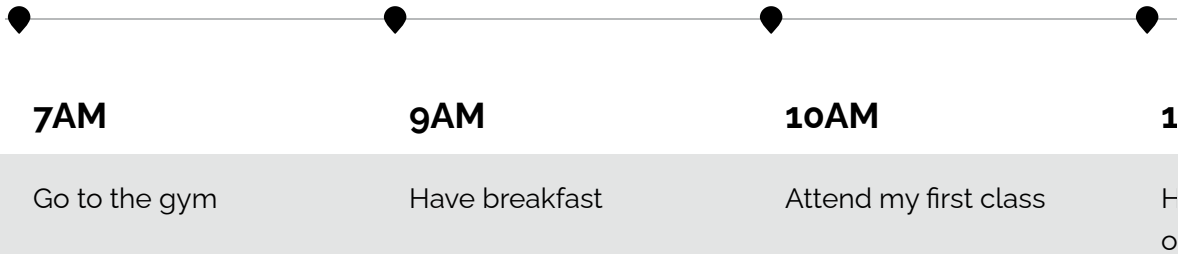
Campus Activities

- Wind Band Association
- Jazz groups
- Habitat for Humanity



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perspectives, constructive criticism, and being supportive. In addition to the many life skills I learned, I also gained great friendships through project-based learning.



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