

**Francis Mijares**  
**Mechanical Engineering Student**  
**Innovation Fellows Program - University of Florida**  
**Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering/Warrington College of Business**

Francis Mijares is a 5<sup>th</sup>-year mechanical engineering student at the University of Florida. He was born and raised in Miami, FL to Cuban and Lebanese parents. Francis has a competitive spirit and is passionate about the outdoors, service and sports.

Before attending the University of Florida, he was actively involved with the Escuelita Maya Non-Profit in Lake Worth, FL. For his work with the Escuelita Maya, he earned the Charity and Social Service award by the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington, DC. Francis was a varsity athlete and captain of his baseball team for three years in high school.

Since enrolling at the University of Florida, Francis has worked at Edwards Lifesciences in CA, GE Healthcare in SC and Gainesville Prosthetics in FL. He has acquired diverse professional experience in rapid prototyping, process validations and R&D in the cardiovascular, medical imaging and prosthetics space. He is passionate about using his technical skills to improve the quality of life of others through medical devices.

Outside of the classroom, Francis has been involved with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity, and the Generational Relief in Prosthetics (GRiP) organization at UF. On the weekend, you can find him cheering on the Florida Gators football team or enjoying a nice trip down Ginnie Springs in Alachua County.

Francis will be earning his Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering in December of 2019. He will then enter the medical device industry and begin his journey of impacting others as a professional engineer.

