University of West Florida | Graduate School

Student Spotlight: Joseph Kennedy

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Joseph Kennedy, Mathematics

For my program, the master's level was... it was a natural continuation of what I was doing. So it just felt like I just kept going, you know, as far as the undergrad degree was concerned. It was just such an easy transition, and they wanted me there, and they were willing to get me funding. So it really was a no-brainer.

I actually starting working the Tutoring Lab in undergrad, and I worked in the Tutoring Lab at other colleges as well.

And the work that you do when you're dealing with courses, usually it's a 1000-level class, so a freshmen class. And you are, for the most part, given some instruction as to, "Okay, you have to do this, this, and this," but for the most part, you teach the class the way you're going to teach the class. And there's lecturers and instructors that are there to guide you along the way, but for the most part the class is entirely yours.

And the department works with different grants and scholarships to ensure that while you're there, that somebody's going to be paying for it, and that you can focus on school and you can focus on your duties as a graduate student.

You know, already being here, being familiar with the faculty, and having them be familiar with me, it just seemed like a very natural thing to do just to keep going with it. I was very interested in it, and I have the ability to do it as well.