

“Learning to fly”

Majo Orozco

Lake Forest College
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

Dr. Becky Delventhal joined Lake Forest College in the middle of a global pandemic and has brought joy and transformation to many students' experiences since then. In and out of classrooms, Dr. Delventhal has been an essential part of Lake Forest College's growth in the last few years. From walking the cutest dogs, Olivia and Oliver, to catch-up talks during her office hours; Dr. Delventhal is a faculty member that has students' wellbeing and growth as a priority which translates into every interaction she makes.

Dr. Delventhal earned her BA in Biology at Macalester College and entered a doctoral program at Yale, earning her PhD in Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology. She continued into her postdoctoral fellowship at Columbia University. Through her extensive academic career, she identified areas where she could help her students learn as much as they can to develop into professionals. She takes this philosophy to the classroom by implementing a partially flipped classroom modality where she is able to facilitate students' learning with an interactive, non-lecture driven approach.

Her teaching approach translates into mentorship in her lab and her advising. This summer was her second consecutive year running her own research lab assisted by undergraduate students from different majors giving the Delventhal Lab a unique, multi-perspective profile. This has led her to focus on diverse scientific questions and support individual interests from her students in the lab with *D. melanogaster* as a model. Currently, her research students are following up on Dr. Delventhal's previous findings on immune responses after a traumatic brain injury; phenotypes upon different injury paradigms; sex differences in response to TBI; and the effect of gene knockdowns on locomotion, protein aggregation, and development. Lake Forest College is lucky to have Dr. Delventhal share her expertise and knowledge on the biological sciences.