

## Marissa Yepez (MBA '26)

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**Name:** Marissa Yepez

**Hometown:** Chicago, IL

**Program:** Full-Time MBA Program

**Concentration or Specialization:** Finance and Data Analytics

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### **Following graduation, what's on the horizon for you professionally?**

I'm staying in New Orleans and working toward a role in energy and utilities. I don't have something locked in just yet, but I'm deep in the interview process and excited about where things are headed! Ideally, I'm looking for something where I can use

my analytics background but also be part of projects that impact the New Orleans community.

**Who was your favorite business professor and why?**

Ashley Nelson! She was my business communications professor our first semester, and I still use what she taught us almost daily. She gives very direct, honest feedback, but in a way that actually makes you better instead of just pointing out what's wrong. She also genuinely cares about you as a person, not just how you perform in class, which made a big impact early in the program.

**What was your favorite business course? Why was it your favorite?**

That's a tough one! I'll compromise and give you my top three. I loved advanced spreadsheet modeling because of how applicable it is to my post-grad career. My Renewables and Grid Integration class took us on so many trips to local energy companies and led me to pursue a career in energy. My final favorite was our one week intensive course on Global Sustainability in Madrid! Getting to network with Spanish companies and learn their business culture was inspiring.

**What's the most important thing you learned at Freeman?**

Probably that you're not meant to do this alone. Everyone has different strengths and learning how to lean on each other makes a huge difference. Some of the hardest days in the program were also the ones where that support mattered most.

**What's your favorite New Orleans memory?**

Riding in Tucks and getting to see all of my favorite people in one afternoon!