## Courtney M. Smith

A Texas native, I attended University of St. Thomas in Houston where I earned a B.S. in Biochemistry in 2011. Currently, I am a PhD candidate in veterinary pathobiology at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine, and also a first year DVM student. I plan to graduate with both degrees in 2019, and afterwards pursue a residency and post-doc with the ultimate goal of a career in academia. My thesis work has focused on characterizing the skin-associated fungal microbiota in companion animals through DNA sequencing technologies, and developing PCR diagnostic tests to classify fungal infectious agents. Outside of research and veterinary medicine, I enjoy cooking, Texas two-step (dancing), and spending time with my husband, one-year-old daughter and three dogs.