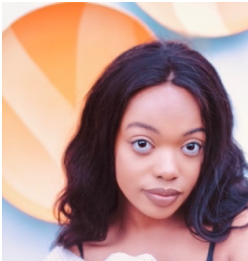


# ***Becoming the Reflection: Exploring the Experiences and Sense of Belonging of Black Women Graduate Students at Indiana University - Bloomington***

## ***Reflections from the Team***



**Faith Baker (she/her)**

I've genuinely enjoyed my experiences with GAP this semester, it has taught me the importance of intentional research and addressing a problem. My team has been marvelous and extremely supportive, and I believe all of our created a study we were all passionate about in the hopes of uplifting some of the most underrepresented voices of the Bloomington campus

**Lauren Harris (she/her)**

I have had a great time this semester in the GAP course. It has been a pleasure to work with my group. We all very passionate about our research topic and I think that is evident through the work we've put into this course. I give credit to Dr. Maurice Shirley and our GAP mentor Da'Ja Askew for guiding us throughout the semester and being great examples of exemplary scholars in the Higher Education field.



**Jayla Langford (she/her)**

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I thoroughly enjoyed my experience in GAP. Although it was a quick semester, Maurice and the readings showed me the importance of research as a student affairs practitioner. At the beginning of the semester, I was leery that our work had already been researched in plenty of different ways. However, there will always be valuable and essential work regarding the sense of belonging for Black graduate women. I also loved how My GAP team was intentional on encouraging one another as we navigated this rigorous work.

**Macarena Pelaez Salinas (she/her)**

GAP has left me reflective and hyperaware of every environment I go into. I am so appreciative of such an engaging class that cultivated rich discussions and brought me knowledge that I take with me every day. I am beyond proud of the creativity I put behind every assignment and I am especially thankful for my GAP team who filled me with encouragement and pure joy. Research was a scary word at first, but it has become second nature to me as I went through this class. I am glad I have gained a skill in research to better understand the experiences of the students I interact with in my student affairs career.

