**Esther Putman, Ph.D.**

Space Operations Engineer II, Astronaut Training

BIO:

Esther Putman is a human systems-focused Aerospace engineer passionate about using innovation in space to improve life on Earth. She completed a B.S. in Biology and a B.S. in Neuroscience at the University of Kentucky before graduate school at the University of Colorado Boulder where she received an M.E. in Engineering Management, an M.S. in Aerospace Engineering, and a Ph.D. in Bioastronautics. Her career began in life sciences research developing experiments for the International Space Station at Space Tango, investigating astronaut bone density loss at NASA, and facilitating human research on commercial missions at SpaceX. During graduate school, she explored how vestibular changes in pilots and astronauts can impact performance and constructed virtual reality training systems to support mission success in long duration spaceflight.

At SpaceX, Esther is an astronaut trainer teaching crews how to fly the Dragon spaceship and building novel training methods for a future where we make humanity interplanetary.