

ANASTASIJA DROBYSEVSKAJA

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I am an enthusiastic and highly motivated postgraduate student, who is self-motivated and has a great passion for working in a team and currently interested in further development in medical laboratory and scientific research. I demonstrate critical thinking and can readily assimilate new information. I pay attention to detail and reflect on any mistakes made; incorporating others' ideas with ones already set to achieve greater outcomes. I possess laboratory and IT skills, performing wet-lab techniques and computational analysis, writing scientific reports and sharing presentations about my work.

EDUCATION

2019 - 2020

MSC MOLECULAR MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX

Relevant modules: Gene Technology and Synthetic Biology, Molecular Mechanisms of Disease, Genomics and Protein Technologies.

Research project: Nucleosome repositioning in breast cancer cells – Analysis of chromatin positioning in Breast cancer cells in patients using a range of bioinformatics tools and Next Generation sequencing techniques in order to study differences in nucleosome positioning in cancer. Analysis included average nucleosome occupancy profiles around a range of transcription factors, enrichment analysis as well as nucleotide frequency analysis, and results were analysed, discussed and presented in the format of a thesis.

Relevant Lab Skills: Running PCR - PCR amplification of a CRISPR/Cas9 modified gene fragment from HEK293S cells. Analysing PCR - setting up *in vitro* ligations specifically for cloning PCR amplified DNA fragments. Nucleic acid extraction - including plasmid DNA isolation and purification.

2016 - 2019

BSC BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX (IBMS ACCREDITED)

Relevant modules: Molecular Cell Biology, Medical Microbiology, Molecular Basis of Cancer, Cellular Pathology, Immunology of Infectious Diseases.

Final year research project: Expressing a novel protein 'Androglobin' in prokaryotic *e.coli* and exploring binding motifs between Androglobin and Calmodulin. I worked in the assigned laboratory using a range of different 'Thermo Fisher Scientific' mini-prep kits, working with cell culture, DNA isolation and purification, using IMAC columns for purification, extracting proteins and characterizing them through spectroscopy and size exclusion chromatography.

Relevant Lab Skills: Basic molecular biology techniques: isolation of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA from cells and performing gel electrophoresis, buffer preparation.

2009 - 2016

TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, WOODFORD GREEN, LONDON, UK

A-levels: Biology (B), Chemistry (B), Psychology AS (A), English Literature (A), Russian (A*)

GCSEs: 11 (A*-B) including Mathematics, English and Science

WORK EXPERIENCE

AUGUST 2020 – PRESENT

LABORATORY ASSOCIATE, RICHMOND PHARMACOLOGY

Covid-19 testing - Assisting in the processing of laboratory samples, maintaining accuracy and accessibility of all documentation related to the processing of laboratory samples, ordering laboratory supplies and maintaining records of all laboratory equipment.

APRIL 2017 – AUGUST 2020

HOSPITALITY STAFF, CATAPULT VENTURES LTD

This is an agency role where I was able to gain effective skills in hospitality (incl. bar/waiter staff, sales assistant, operations host) and confidence in customer service, due to the nature of the job being able to adapt to new work areas rapidly. I worked efficiently under pressure, developed teamwork proficiency, showed great leadership skills and provided quality outcomes with effective techniques.

DECEMBER 2019 – MARCH 2020

**FRONT OF HOUSE RECEPTIONIST, THE OCTAGON/THE CROWN
(COLCHESTER/IPSWICH)**

Responsibilities included working on the front of house reception desk, handling visitors to the offices promptly, managing meeting room bookings, answering incoming calls and handling queries, assisting colleagues with administrative duties. I was able to show my confidence in communicating with clients and customers at all levels. Here I gained an experience in customer communication and showed excellent administration and organizational skills.

NOVEMBER 2012 – AUGUST 2019

WAITRESS/BAR STAFF, DE RITZ CATERING

Responsibilities included either working on the bar or as a waiter, effective collaboration with the team, always being initiative and highly productive as well as demonstrating high customer service skills, solving major or minor problems on the go.

JUNE 2015 – SEPTEMBER 2015

INTERN/RECEPTIONIST, FIRST INTERNATIONAL GROUP PLC

Responsible for administration, greeting clients, answering phone calls, taking messages for colleagues and meeting all the objectives set by the manager. Here I was able to gain experience in communicating with people at a high-level organization. Achievements included sharpening skills in Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel.

JULY 2014 – DECEMBER 2014

BOOKKEEPING ASSISTANT, LAS INTERNATIONAL (UK) LTD

Responsibilities included bookkeeping, delivering documents to Company's House, and filing paperwork. Here I also developed new skills in Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel.

JUNE 2013 – JULY 2014

SALES ASSISTANT, LLOYDS PHARMACY

Responsibilities were keeping the stock on the shop floor full and tidy, assisting customers. Here I gained experience in general customer service.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- **Verbal Communication** - important in any work environment. It has always been an immense part of my roles in customer service as well as for the relationships with colleagues. Experience in delivering interactive presentations in front of a public.
- **Written Communication** – I can adapt my writing style, and have experience in writing reports in a scientific paper format.
- **Teamwork** – an important factor for a friendly workspace as well as for efficient work progress when working in a pressured environment, therefore I always strive to be an effective team player. Teamwork has played a big part in my laboratory experience as well as challenging hospitality events.
- **Organisation & time management** – during my master's degree, I was one of the organisers for the virtual MSc Student Conference. I was responsible for on-time project abstract submission for every student participating. Submission of abstract completed with time to spare and I received compliments for the organisation.
- **Problem solving** – working in customer service presented many challenging scenarios, which I worked through efficiently, being able to deal with customer complaints and receiving excellent customer service feedback.
- **Listening** – whilst working in the lab along with PhD students and supervisors, I was able to listen and use their advice, and progress in the ability to easily understand and carry out directions from superior members of the laboratory team.
- **Research and Analytical** – I can gather, interpret and analyse information independently, having experience in doing so through undergraduate dissertation and master's research project.
- **Languages** – English, Russian, Lithuanian.

KEY LABORATORY/COMPUTER SKILLS

- **Molecular Biology Techniques** – isolation of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA from cells, using IMAC column for purification and performing gel electrophoresis.
- **Cell culturing, buffer preparation**
- **Assays** – DNA, Protein, ELISA
- **Nucleic Acid Extraction** - plasmid DNA isolation and purification, using the GeneJET Plasmid MiniPrep kit from Thermo Fisher Scientific.
- **Using laboratory machines** - Avestin C3 emulsiflex, Agilent 8453 diode array spectrophotometer, Agilent SX20 stopped flow spectrophotometer.
- **Running PCR** - PCR amplification of a CRISPR/Cas9 modified gene fragment from HEK293S cells.
- **In vitro DNA ligation** - setting up *in vitro* ligations specifically for cloning PCR amplified DNA fragments.
- **Lab information documentation** – experience with documenting results in LabArchives electronic laboratory notebook.
- **Next Generation Sequencing** - data analysis (ChIP-seq, MNase-seq)
- **Programming** - knowledge of Linux command line, using bash files to execute commands.
- **Bioinformatics tools/programmes** - Benchling, BLAST, Galaxy, HOMER, MEGA7, WinSCP, data visualisation in Origin.

INTERESTS & ACTIVITIES

Sport: I was a member of the Essex Blades Fencing Club, participating in weekly training sessions for BUCS tournaments, organizing and participating in many fundraising events, and elected as part of the club committee two years in a row, running the positions of the social secretary and social media secretary respectively. I was also a member of the Eurasian Society while continuing my studies.

Music: I have achieved grades 1 to 6 in ABRSM Piano.

Other hobbies: I like to indulge myself in canvas painting in my free time. During holidays, I like to travel to different destinations to explore new foods, cultures and atmospheres.

REFERENCES

Available on request