

Susanna French

Dover, Kent

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Final year Biology student, with extensive lab skills, the ability to analyse and present data, and a thorough understanding of sequencing methods. Seeking a role as an Associate Scientist that will allow me to contribute to the transformation of healthcare.

Education

BSc (Hons) Biology (First Class), University of Portsmouth, 2022 – 2025

A life science degree, accredited by the Society of Biology, providing a broad range of scientific knowledge, which then through choice of units specialized in relevant areas such as Gene Organisation and Expression (70%) and Genetics (75%).

Laboratory Skills

- Carried out PCR using bacterial plasmid for DNA amplification
- Extracted and analysed plasmids from bacterial cultures
- Confident with reagent making and pipetting and DNA isolation techniques
- Set up and ran gel electrophoresis as well as SDS-Page, Western Blotting and Coomassie blue stain and protein purification
- Understand quality management and control, able to follow and adhere to laboratory health and safety protocols
- Developed the ability to use analytical techniques including homogenisation, centrifugation and spectroscopy analysis

IT Skills

- Experienced user of specific software including SPSS, Seaview, FigTree for data organisation and analysis
- Used Chromas, Bioedit and Network to carry out statistical analysis of complex data in relation to genetics and DNA
- Competent user of Microsoft Office

Final Year Research Project: Can a Single Dog Hair Solve a Crime?

A study to investigate if a canine can be identified through the isolation of mtDNA from hair for forensic investigation. Successful isolation of mtDNA from canine hair and amplification, tested on agarose gel assays using PCR cycling and sequenced to provide successful chromatograms that were analysed for SNPs to distinguish between individual dogs and establish family relationships. Worked methodically and by paying close attention to detail was able to achieve accurate results.

Relevant Experience

Research Lab, University of Portsmouth Summer Placement, June – August 2024

Completed an independent lab project examining cell signalling and neurogenesis using chick embryo cell culture and FGF/MAPK inhibitors. Experience obtained includes chicken whole embryo culture, PCR and in-situ hybridisation. Main procedures/protocols carried out:

- Preparing and pipetting various solutions needed for In Situ Hybridisation
- Handling RNA probes and harvesting chicken embryos requiring attention to detail

- Imaging chicken embryos via photo microscopy
- Micromanipulation and microdissection of chicken embryos
- Disposing of waste adhering to laboratory protocols
- Gained valuable experience in new techniques such as restriction fragment polymorphisms

Extracurricular activities

Biology Course Representative, University of Portsmouth, 2023 - 2024

- Liaised between staff and students to address issues and advocate for improvements to the course
- Successfully lobbied staff to make changes to assessment hand in dates, demonstrating strong negotiation skills

Other work experience

Sales Assistant, Next Retail Ltd Portsmouth, January 2023 -present

- Deliver high quality customer service by assisting shoppers and resolving queries on the shop floor
- Maintain efficiency and accuracy in the store's order collection area, showcasing strong organisation skills
- Work flexibly as often required to change task quickly to support other members of the team

NHS Test and Trace Operative, June 2021- September 2021

- Provided clear and concise instructions to patients regarding the COVID- 19 test procedure
- Assisted with registration and accessibility needs, ensuring a welcoming and inclusive environment
- Ensured a safe working environment at all times by following strict infection and control measures and managing social distancing through orderly queuing

Other Qualifications

- A levels in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology and General Studies from Dover College, June 2021
- 10 GCSEs including Maths, English and Double Award Science, from Dover Academy, June 2019

Interests

- Enjoy many outdoor pursuits, including running, cycling and hiking, also love practicing yoga
- Recently joined the university rowing club, keen to race in the near future, so am dedicating myself to a training regime
- Passionate about travelling and visited South East Asia, Australia and New Zealand on my gap year, thoroughly enjoyed the variety of culture I experienced

References available upon request

