

RINA E. NEWHOUSE

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

August 2023

Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Minor in Communication

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Merit Teaching Assistant in Organic Chemistry and General Chemistry

August 2022-Present

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

- Conducted dynamic biweekly classroom sessions in Organic Chemistry and General Chemistry, using self-designed problem-of-the-day timed-mini games, mini-lectures, problem sets across 143 students; achieved placement on the "List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students" for three consecutive semesters
- Created YouTube channel "Chemistry But Simple" to deliver accessible chemistry tutorials and exam walkthroughs: boosted average exam retake scores by 25%
- Assessed student feedback from daily end-of-class surveys, strategizing its optimal application to cultivate a collaborative learning atmosphere, stimulate critical thinking, and address challenges effectively

Peer Tutor

March 2021-Present

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

- Tutored eleven students in chemistry, calculus, and physics, enhancing understanding, problem-solving, and resulting in an average full-letter-grade improvement in final grades
- Developed and delivered customized study materials, practice problems, and explanatory resources, with the collaboration of chemistry faculty and fellow students to more efficiently identify, tackle, and solve common areas of difficulty for students

Undergraduate Researcher in Chemical Biology

September 2021-December 2022

Wilfred A. van der Donk Laboratory

- Performed laboratory work towards the discovery and design of novel antibiotics, namely, ribosomally synthesized and post-translationally modified peptides (RiPPs) through synthetic organic and protein chemistry
- Utilized laboratory technology to formulate predictions, refine previous data, and execute findings on cellular growth
- Pioneered an ongoing project in finding the chemical structure, of a new class of RiPP, using NMR; having presented work at a Chemical Biology Poster Session in August 2022
- Communicated research findings to diverse audiences, explaining complex topics and answering a wide set of questions

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Jewish Education Team (JET)

August 2021-May 2024

President

- Directed the creation, execution, and oversight of events and initiatives in collaboration with the JET couple and the executive board
- Fostered meaningful relationships to facilitate valuable Jewish conversations among Jewish students on campus
- Represented JET at various platforms including Shabbatons, conferences, Olami classes, Wisdom Classes, Positivity Classes, and Fellowships
- Coordinated with the original founding rabbi of JET, Rabbi Zev Kahn, to manage logistical operations
- Ensured compliance of the student organization with University Registered Student Organization standards

Illini Hillel at Cohen Center for Jewish Life

August 2020-May 2021

Engagement Intern

- Engaged the freshmen class during the COVID-19 academic year, successfully building and maintaining relationships with fifteen freshmen who remained active in Hillel throughout their four years at the University of Illinois
- Collaborated with engagement cohort peers to enhance teamwork and cohesion, focusing on building strong interpersonal relationships to ensure effective collaboration and mutual support
- Led and supported peer-based communication within the internship team through group messages and emails
- Organized and attended events to connect students to the Jewish community, discuss Jewish topics, and understand their interests

SKILLS

Languages: English (Native), Spanish (Fluent), Hebrew (Beginner)

Technical: Microsoft Office Suite, Google Workspace, Zoom Video Communications, Webex, Final Cut Pro, YouTube Studio

Non-Technical: Entrepreneurship, Analysis, Strategic Problem-Solving, Communication, Work Ethic, High Social Intelligence