

# John Ta

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## Education

**University of Pennsylvania | Vagelos Program in the Molecular Life Sciences** | Philadelphia, PA May 2022

*Candidate for Master of Science in Chemistry*

*Candidate for Bachelor of Arts | Majors: Physics (business & tech concentration), Biochemistry, Biophysics*

- 1 of 27 undergraduates selected for prestigious undergraduate master's degree program in science
- **Test Scores:** ACT 35/36 • SAT Math II 800/800 • SAT Chemistry 800/800 • SAT Physics 790/800
- **Courses** (graduate\*): Micro/macroeconomics I; Epidemics: Managing Global Business & Financial Uncertainty; Theoretical Neuroscience\*; Asian Americans in Contemporary Society; Writing Theory & Practice

## Professional Experience

**Business Development Intern**, The Finance Twins | *Remote* May 2020 — Present

- Create new personal finance education material and establish new partnerships in the credit card sector

**Teaching Assistant**, MATH-241 (Partial Differential Equations) | *Philadelphia, PA* Aug 2019 — Present

- Develop new and innovative teaching material by creating YouTube channel with 1.3k+ total views, run collaborative student question forum, and make teaching website for 200+ students with 5k+ pageviews
  - Spring 2020 (Rating: 3.72/4.00) – youngest ever course TA
  - Fall 2019 (Rating: 3.80/4.00) – highest ever rated course TA; won teaching award
- Write book with 100 different partial differential equation problems for publication

**Mark's Family Writing Center Tutor** | *Philadelphia, PA* Feb 2019 — May 2019

- Conducted individual tutoring sessions with students writing in a variety of disciplines
- Selected as 1 of 30 out of 2.5k students to tutor and partake in specialized writing theory course

**Research Assistant**, Morrissey Labs | *Philadelphia, PA* Aug 2018 — Jan 2020

- Analyzed effects of lung cell Tgf $\beta$ r knockouts in development of respiratory and cardiovascular systems
- Spearheaded yearlong plan to conduct experiments, manage mouse colonies, and culture cells

## Leadership Experience

**Electric Skateboard Startup**, Founder | *Philadelphia, PA* Jan 2020 — Present

- Lead team of 4 in developing a new electric skateboard design and awarded \$1k in WeissX start-up funding

**Penn Common Cents**, Founding President | *Philadelphia, PA* Jul 2019 — Present

- Found Penn's first undergraduate personal finance club, garner 500+ members, lead team of 8, and successfully raise \$2.5k+ to support 6 events, including credit card and investing basics, and speaker events
- Build relationships with Wharton MBA Common Cents, NFL player Brandon Copeland, Penn Student Registration & Financial Services, and Wharton Council to run joint events about importance of personal finance
- Devise pro-bono consulting branch to advise and teach personal finance to local Philadelphia schools and clinics

**Penn EduCare**, Finance Lead; Part of Founding Team | *Philadelphia, PA* May 2019 — Present

- Launch pro-bono nonprofit to develop patient material for COVID-19, diabetes, and surgeries
- Establish partnerships with 5 clinics and 2 physicians, and lead organization to file for 501(c)(3) nonprofit status

**Head Learning Assistant**, CHEM-241 (Organic Chemistry I) | *Philadelphia, PA* Jan 2020 — May 2020

- Created new teaching roles and led team of 3 to address problems of managing questions for 120+ students
- Implemented successful technologies to answer and organize a total of 1k+ questions and 4k+ follow-ups
- Guided incorporation, funding, and recruiting of new teaching positions in 3+ other courses

## Skills, Awards and Interests

**Technical:** Fluent in Python; proficient in HTML, CSS, and Microsoft Office Suite; familiar with Java

**Awards:** Goldman Sachs Summer Insight Series (Selected out of 5k+ applicants); Mathematics Good Teaching Award (1 of 9 out of 69 math TAs); MA State Science Fair (Fish & Richardson Patent Award/\$12.5k) (Honorable Mention/\$100); WPI Sustainability Fair (1<sup>st</sup> overall/\$1k); National Chemistry Olympiad Finalist (Top 1k of 18k participants)

**Languages:** Native English; Limited Working Vietnamese; Elementary Spanish

**Interests:** Powerlifting; Soccer; Smash Ultimate; Website Dev (<https://github.com/johnta2000>); Game of Thrones