

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, 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
- **Relevant Coursework:** Micro/macroeconomics I; Epidemics: Managing Global Business & Financial Uncertainty

Professional Experience

Intern, The Finance Twins | Remote

May 2020 — Present

- Create new personal finance related material, establish new partnerships, and analyze website data to find trends

Teaching Assistant, MATH 241 (Partial Differential Equations) | Philadelphia, PA

Aug 2019 — May 2020

- Developed new and innovative teaching material by creating custom YouTube videos, running a collaborative student question forum, and making custom and original personal teaching website for over 70 total students
 - Spring 2020 (Rating: TBD) — youngest ever TA
 - Fall 2019 (Rating: 3.8/4.0) — highest ever rated course TA; 1 of 9 (out of 69) math TAs awarded for excellence
- Actively writing book with 100 different partial differential equation problems for students

Teaching Assistant, BCHE 404 (Biochemistry Research) | Philadelphia, PA

Aug 2019 — May 2020

- Reached out to professor to successfully implement pilot platform for 40 students to facilitate Q&A

Mark's Family Writing Center Tutor | Philadelphia, PA

Feb 2019 — May 2019

- Conducted individual tutoring sessions with students writing in a variety of disciplines
- 1 of 30 (out of 2500 students) selected annually to work as a tutor and to partake in specialized writing theory course

Research Assistant, Morrissey Labs | Philadelphia, PA

Aug 2018 — Jan 2020

- Analyzed effects of AT1 and AT2 lung cell Tgfr knockouts in development and regeneration of respiratory and cardiovascular systems within murine models
- Spearheaded yearlong plan to conduct experiments, manage mouse colonies, and culture cells

Leadership Experience

Penn Common Cents, Founding President | Philadelphia, PA

Jul 2019 — Present

- Founded first undergraduate personal finance club with 500+ members and successfully raised over \$2,500 to support 6 events, including speaker events, credit card and investing basics, and general information sessions
- Build relationships with Penn Student Registration & Financial Services, Wharton MBA Common Cents, and Wharton Council to run joint events about the importance of personal finance

Penn EduCare, Marketing Lead; Part of Founding Team | Philadelphia, PA

May 2019 — Present

- Develop and create patient wellness material to facilitate communication between physicians and patients

Head Learning Assistant, CHEM-241 (Organic Chemistry I) | Philadelphia, PA

Jan 2020 — May 2020

- Created new teaching roles and lead team of 3 to address problems of managing questions for over 100 students
- Implemented new technologies and drove a target driven team to successfully enhance student learning experience

Honors and Awards

National Chemistry Olympiad Finalist | Auburn, MA

Mar 2018

- Administered to the top 1,000 highest scoring (out of 18,000) National Chemistry Olympiad Exam participants

Massachusetts State Science Fair, "Fish & Richardson Patent Award" | Boston, MA

May 2017

- Facilitated polymer biodegradation and awarded \$10,000 to file patent (US Patent App, No: [20190276632](https://patent.uspto.gov/patft/20190276632))

1st Overall @WPI Sustainability Fair & 3rd Award at Worcester Science and Engineering Fair | Worcester, MA

Mar 2017

- Presented cutting-edge research in novel biodegradability techniques

Skills and Interests

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

Languages: Native English; Conversational Vietnamese

Interests: Powerlifting | Soccer | Cooking | Smash Ultimate | Website Development