

MASON OUREN

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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin	Bachelor of Science, Biology, Genetics and Genomics	December 2019
	Overall GPA: 4.00	

SUMMARY

Motivated Researcher specializing in complex molecular assays, including highly multiplexed PCR/CE kit development and Next Generation Sequencing for liquid biopsy. Mason has 2.5 years of experience engineering plasmids in an academic laboratory, with 1 year of industry experience at Asuragen performing Illumina NGS experiments and developing an upcoming PCR/CE diagnostic assay.

EXPERIENCE

Asuragen - <i>Research Intern</i> ; Austin, TX	May 2018 - Present
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- Prepare Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) libraries and sequence on Illumina MiSeq for liquid biopsy, advancing grant goals
- Optimize NGS library prep protocol to fulfill grant requirements
- Develop multiplex PCR/CE assay technology for upcoming diagnostic kit, including primer design and troubleshooting
- Plan and execute experiments, generate Capillary Electrophoresis and NGS data, and interpret results for future application
- Ensure reproducibility by maintaining detailed records of experiments in Electronic Laboratory Notebook

Freshman Research Initiative - <i>Peer Mentor and Undergraduate Researcher</i> ; Austin, TX	January 2017 - May 2019
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- Created novel gene-promoter constructs for cell fate regulation research
- Generated plasmid library and transformed *A. thaliana* to produce visible phenotype, contributing to peer-reviewed article
- Managed lab by maintaining instruments and training peers in protocols and independent research projects
- Exercised sterile technique to avoid contamination and produce high quality reaction products
- Guided students on assignments and explained fundamental knowledge of molecular biology and its applications in research

Jump! Gymnastics - <i>Coach</i> ; Austin, TX	May 2017 - December 2017
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- Supervised classes of up to 8 students while simultaneously offering improvements and promoting student safety
- Exhibited thorough knowledge of skill progressions and led student advancement to upper levels
- Engaged with parents to develop relationships and increase trust for further participation in the program

SKILLS

Computer Skills: Genemapper, Geneious (basic), R (basic), Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Outlook

Laboratory Skills: PCR, NGS, CE, Electroporation, Protein Chromatography, Cloning, DNA isolation, Cell Culture, ELISA

Languages: Intermediate Spanish

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE AND ACTIVITIES

Ignite Texas - <i>Co-Chair</i>	October 2017 - August 2018, October 2018 - August 2019
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- Mentored incoming Longhorns and helped them establish strong relationships and foundations for success
- Planned and managed team meetings for groups of 13 students to train them as camp counselors
- Led camps of 40 incoming freshmen in team building exercises and focused times of learning
- Volunteered 8 hours per week to invest in the lives of fellow students and strengthen the organization

Terry Scholar - <i>Scholarship Recipient and Organization Member</i>	August 2016 - Present
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Distinguished College Scholar - <i>Award Recipient</i>	April 2018, April 2019
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ACADEMIC PROJECTS

Computational Biology and Bioinformatics - <i>Data Wrangling in R</i>	October 2019
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- Applied both established and recently developed dplyr functions to combine and manipulate datasets concerning national statistics around the globe
- Performed Principle Component Analysis to reduce data dimensionality and visualize obscure trends in data