Maria Dolak

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Education

The University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom **IX 2017 – VII 2021**
BSc Neuroscience
Year 1 and year 2 average grade: A
Selected courses: Biomedical Science (A3), Genes and Gene Action (A3), Microorganisms, Infection and Immunity 2 (B), Biological Chemistry (A3), Medical Biology (A3), Introduction to Linear Algebra (A2).
Elective courses: Introduction to Cognitive Science, Calculus and its Applications.

The University of Texas at Austin, United States **VIII 2019 – V 2020**
Student Exchange
GPA: 3.87 out of 4.00
Courses: Neurobiology of Diseases (A), Principles of Drug Action (B+), Hormones and Behavior (A), Brain Imaging In Psychology (A), Individual Differences (A).

III High School in Gdynia, Poland **IX 2014 – V 2017**
International Baccalaureate School No 0704
Final score: 40 out of 45

Experience

Intern in the Dr. Michael Drew's lab, The University of Texas at Austin **XI 2019 – V 2020**

- Reanalyse Mice Water Maze data from the study (2006) of hippocampal neurogenesis using a new R package "Rtrack"
- Prepare cages, handle model animals, and perform mice behavioral experiments that use stress-enhanced fear learning (SEFL model) to test changes in neuronal activity in animal models of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Techniques I perform: slicing mice brain tissue using cryomicrotome, mounting brain sections, taking pictures from light and fluorescence microscopes using ZEN 2011 software, counting active neural cells using Fiji software

Intern for the School of Psychology, The University of Edinburgh **VI 2019 – VIII 2019**

- Performed research on university lecture recordings usage and its effect on students' performance
- Subsequently assisted with the design of experiments for the upcoming academic year

Edinburgh University Young Scientific Researchers Association **X 2018 – II 2019**

- Participated in a group project exploring the usefulness of *C.elegans* as a model organism for gut microbiota studies and usage of OpenWorm software to visualize its connectome

Other laboratory skills:
Gel electrophoresis, PCR, bacteria identification using different agar plates, agglutination immunoassays, bacteriophage T4 intragenic recombination, interrupted mating, constructing plasmid maps

Languages & IT skills

Polish (native) **| English** (advanced) **| Spanish** (intermediate)

Microsoft Office, R, Reconstruct (serial section microscopy editor), Python (basic), PyMOL (basic)

Awards and Interests

- Edinburgh Award for the Summer Internship in the Psychology Department 2019
- SYNAPSE society at the University of Texas
- Online course "Introduction to Neurobiology" on the Polish platform Copernicus College
- Salsa and Bachata Society
- Graduated from music school playing the piano