Melissa Chen (NMS #: 12509)

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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX   Expected Graduation May 2022
Bachelor of Science, Biology
GPA: 3.89
Concentration in Genetics
Minors in *Business* and *Forensic Science*

PREREQUISITE COURSES

- **GENETICS:** BIO 325 – Genetics (A), BIO 325T – Human Genetics (A)
- **PSYCHOLOGY:** PSY 301 – Introduction to Psychology (AP Credit), PSY 352 – Abnormal Psychology (Fall 2021)
- **BIOLOGY:** BIO 311C – Introductory Biology I (A), BIO 311D – Introductory Biology II (B+)
- **CHEMISTRY:** CH 301 – Principles of Chemistry I (A-), CH 302 – Principles of Chemistry II (A)
- **BIOCHEMISTRY:** BCH 369 – Fundamentals of Biochemistry (A)
- **STATISTICS:** SDS 328M – Biostatistics (A), SDS 348 – Computational Biology and Informatics (A)

GENETIC COUNSELING EXPERIENCE

INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWS

- Brittany Dyr, MS, CGC   1 Hour, August 2021
  Laboratory GC at Women's Health and Genetics, LabCorps
- Kalisi Logan, MS, CGC   1 Hour, June 2021
  Oncology at Livestrong Cancer Institutes, Dell Medical School
- Catherine A. Buchanan, MS, CGC   1 Hour, June 2021
  Pediatrics at Dell Children's Medical Group
- Sarah Casner Ahmed, MS, CGC   1 Hour, October 2020
  Prenatal at LabCorps

SHADOWING

- Deanna R. Darnes, MS, CGC   3 Hours, August 2021
  Prenatal at Fetal Care Center, Medical City Hospital, Dallas, TX
- Ellie Gould, MS, CGC   3 Hours, June 2021
  Prenatal at Austin Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Austin, TX

CONFERENCES/WEBINARS

- NSGC New Attendees Event   1 Hour, September 2021
- Master Genetic Counseling Series   3 Hours, July 2021
  Online at The National Society of Genetic Counselors

GENETIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & LEADERSHIP

FRESHMAN RESEARCH INITIATIVE, The University of Texas at Austin   January 2019 – Present
Peer Research Mentor and Researcher

- Mentored and taught over 30 students lab demos, scientific writing, and independent research projects pertaining to human histone expression in yeast
- Facilitated meetings with Research Educator, other peer mentors, and students about scientific journals
- Researched human histone variant expression in model organism yeast by gel electrophoresis, PCR, transformation, phenotypic assays, and sequencing

CRISIS COUNSELING EXPERIENCE

CRISIS TEXT LINE, Austin, TX   April 2021 – Present
Crisis Counselor
- Counseled and actively listened to over 50 texters in an emotional crisis ranging from suicide to sexual assault
- Communicated efficiently and timely within minutes to offer emotional support and resources for texters
- Received 8 positive feedback on the emotional support, patience, and empathy provided to texters

TEXAS YOUTH HOTLINE, Austin, TX   April 2021 – Present
Crisis Hotline Intern
- Presented run away and at-risk youth with options to remove themselves from dangerous environment
- Multitasked by answering calls and responding to messages from multiple people in crisis simultaneously
- Provided information to shelters about receiving additional funds and licensing from the state

WORK EXPERIENCE

HUA YI CONSTRUCTION INC, Plano, TX   June 2020 – Present
Administrative Assistant
- Disseminated information such as material acquisition to key stakeholders and project managers
- Compiled and organized relevant data including but not limited to account statements and transactions
- Contacted City administration and other governmental agencies about application information for commercial projects using written and oral communication skills

HONORS

COLLEGE SCHOLARS, University of Texas at Austin   2020
UNIVERSITY HONORS LIST, University of Texas at Austin   2018 - 2021

SKILLS

Laboratory Skills: gel electrophoresis, PCR, DNA/plasmid/gel extraction, agar plate preparation, spotting assay
Computer Skills: Familiar with Microsoft Word, Excel, and R programming
Languages: Intermediate Chinese

PROJECTS *(milly-chen.github.io)*

Analysis of Happiness Score and Alcohol Consumption per Country – Fall 2020
- Explored and wrangled data predicting the correlation between alcohol consumption by country and the Happiness Report ranking

Modeling Medical Insurance Data – Fall 2020
- Modeled and predicted the relationship between medical patients' sex, age, BMI, etc. and medical charges using R

Proposed Gli Enhancer Target Gene *SMOC1* Involved In Limb Development By Hedgehog Signal – March 2020
- Discussed the probability of Sonic Hedgehog dependent genes regulating limb development through USCS Genome Browser and GREAT

Loss of copy number variant in *RGS10* and *GRK5* in human patient to potentially cause Horner Syndrome through increased neuronal inflammation – April 2021
- Analyzed DECIPHER patient loss of copy number variant genotypes to predict the chances of it causing Horner Syndrome through neuronal inflammation

Analysis of the Epigenetic Causations of Fragile X Syndrome and Potential Methods of Treatment – April 2021
- Researched the epigenetic causes of Fragile X Syndrome and discussed potential treatment options such as CRISPR, DNA demethylation, and histone demethylation