

Kennedy Smucker

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EDUCATION

University of Michigan - College of LSA | Ann Arbor, MI

2023 - 2027

B.Sc. Biomolecular Science

Relevant Coursework: Organic Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Psychology

Organizations: Volunteer at Michigan Medicine Extracorporeal Life Support (ECLS), Transfer Connections Organization

SKILLS

Technical: R/R-Studio, Microsoft 365 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)

Professional: Teamwork, communication, scientific reporting/presentations, project coordination, research methods

EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant | Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center | Kalamazoo, MI **June 2022 - August 2024**

- Fostered STEM curiosity and foundational understanding in K-8 students through interactive courses like *Rock Science* and *Fun with Physics*.
- Demonstrated ability to connect with children by adapting teaching methods to their needs, fostering curiosity, and creating supportive learning environments.
- Designed and implemented educational activities tailored to diverse learning needs, promoting engagement and inclusivity among students.
- Presented research-driven science activities at community events, generating interest in underrepresented groups and building connections with local families.

Research Assistant | Zoetis Pharmaceuticals | Kalamazoo, MI **August 2022 - April 2023**

- Conducted prostate cancer research under Principal Scientist Dr. Mark Wolfe, analyzing the impact of plant extracts on PC-3 cancer cells.
- Executed live/dead cell assays in multi-well plate formats, ensuring precise and repeatable viability measurements.
- Identified effective compounds like *Bunge Articulate Root* by quantifying cancer cell death and ATP activity through intracellular markers.
- Communicated findings and presented results at local university events and science fairs such as the Science and Engineering Fair of Metro Detroit.

Student Researcher | Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center | Kalamazoo, MI **August 2020 - May 2023**

- Conducted and completed diverse research projects during accelerated secondary education. Listed below.
- Inhibition of sAPP Genes Associated with BACE1 to Decrease the Accumulation of amyloid- β in regions of the brain affected by Alzheimer's (2023)
- Ethics of Human Genetic Modification (2023)
- Effects of Various Caffeine Concentrations on the Carbon Dioxide Production of *Saccharomyces Cerevisiae* (Yeast) During Fermentation (2022)
- Effects of Varying Temperature on the Percentage Fat of French Fries Using Solvent Extraction (2021)
- The Role of Cytokines in Autoimmune Diseases: Hashimoto's Thyroiditis (2020)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- Lyman Briggs Dean's Honors List (2023)
- Western Michigan University: In Vitro Cell / Tissue Engineering and Biology 1st Place Award (2023)
- Science and Engineering Fair of Metro Detroit: American Statistical Association: Certificate of Recognition (2023)
- National Center for Women in Technology: NCWIT Certificate of Distinction (2021)