

ISHA CHHABRA

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EDUCATION

University of Texas, at Austin, Austin, TX

May 2024

Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience with minor in Health Communication

GPA: 3.9717

Awards: Presidential Service Award, College Scholar in the College of Natural Sciences, University Honors, Girl Scouts Gold Award

Research Interests: Cognitive Neuroscience, Memory, Aging, Emotions, Decision-Making, Motivation, Sleep

CERTIFICATIONS & SKILLS

Certifications: L1 MRI, CITI Human Research and Responsible Conduct of Research, Microsoft Office Specialist

Skills:

Python, R Studio, MATLAB, Adobe Illustrator, PsychoPy

Microsoft Office Programs

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Research Assistant in the Memory and Aging Laboratory

2023-Present

University of Texas, at Austin- Dr. Audrey Duarte

- Researcher on Skintronics study: Investigates the impact of poor sleep on age-related episodic memory decline through the implementation of EEGs, cognitive exams, and sleep masks.
 - Investigate the associations between sleep architecture and memory performance
- Studying the relationship between emotions and episodic memory throughout the lifespan using fMRI.
- Responsible for data management and analytical studies

Research Assistant in Vertebrate Interactome Mapping Laboratory

2019-2021

University of Texas, at Austin- Professor Albert MacKrell

- Studied interactions between two families of proteins that work to regulate the production of RNA molecules and their function in gene expression
- Explored three RBM10 mutations to gain insights into their functional implications

PRESENTATIONS/POSTERS

Presentation at Fall Undergraduate Research Symposium at UT Austin

Fall 2023

Poster Presentation at APSS Sleep Conference

Spring 2024

LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES

President of S.M.I.L.E. (Students Making Impacts Through Love and Empathy)

2020-Present

- Volunteer at diverse locations, including Dell Children's Hospital, Austin State Hospital, Eyes with the Blind, etc.
- Host the annual Brave the Shave event, where all proceeds go to St. Baldrick's Foundation
- Raised \$30,000 in the past 3 years of participation, and already accumulated another \$4,500 before the start of year 4.
- Finalist for the UT Swing Awards

American Academy of Neuropsychology

2023-Present

- Participated in the annual conference in Washington D.C., featuring workshops that focused on diverse subjects, including frontotemporal dementia, cognitive capacity of adolescents, and executive functions

United Nations Foundation, United to Beat Malaria

2018-Present

Ambassador and Austin Chapter Representative

- Advocate for United to Beat Malaria, successfully raising awareness and funds to support the fight against malaria
- Champion Council Member for United to Beat Malaria
- Collaborated closely with Texas Legislators and members of congress to ensure continued support and focus on the cause

WORK EXPERIENCE

Teacher Assistance for Biology 1 and 2

2022-Present

- Facilitated and mentored weekly discussions to review course material for a class of 25 students
- Assisted the professor in teaching and grading coursework
- Hosted regular office hours to provide additional support to students and enhance their comprehension of the subject matter

Projects Abroad Medical Internship in Hospital

2022

- Worked in the Maternity and Children's Hospital in Nanyuki, Kenya
- Performed successful cannulation and bladder catheterization, pre-operative and post-operative care, assisted in surgeries as instruments assistant, scrub assistant, and circulating assistant, conducted normal deliveries under supervision, conducted post-natal care to neonates, and administered oral and parenteral medication.
- Actively participated in medical outreaches to underprivileged communities, taking patients vitals, blood sugar levels, and conducting Malaria tests.

Peer First Year Interest Group (FIG) Mentor at UT Austin

2021-2022

- Mentored first year university students, conducting weekly presentations to a class of approximately 20 students
- Assisted in acclimatizing students with UT Austin and provided guidance on various aspects of the university life

Sysco Data Analyst

2021

- Conducted competitive market analysis for leading food distribution company

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

Alpha Delta Epsilon (200 members) at UT Austin

2021-Present

- Pre-Health organization
- Engage in volunteering activities and collaborate with doctors at diverse events
- Participate in "Pie a President" event which raises funds for Operation KidDocs

Synapse (150 members) at UT Austin

2021-Present

- For Neuroscience Major
- Actively involved in reading research papers, have organized speaker sessions where professionals share their experiences and insights related to Neuroscience.

Outdoor Club

2020-Present

- Hiking, camping, swimming, and competitive sports

Survivor UT

2023-Present

- Based off of the show Survivor
- 12 contestants- compete in weekly challenges, vote players out until there is one winner

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Brave the Shave

2020-Present

- S.M.I.L.E annual shave event benefitting the St. Baldrick's Foundation
- Volunteers shave their head in solidarity to children battling cancer
- Donates all raised funds to researchers in the field of pediatric oncology, actively working to combat pediatric cancer

Austin Energy Regional Science Festival

2017-Present

Judge and Volunteer

- Judge students from 3rd to 6th grade on their science projects
- Provide feedback and guidance on specific students' projects