

NICOLE RONCZKOWSKI

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2795 Timberline Road
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EDUCATION

MS Georgia State University, Neuroscience July 2021

BS University of Georgia, Biology May 2019
Minor in Spanish
GPA: 3.65, Science GPA: 3.63

Study Abroad, Seville, Spain May to July 2017

Improved ability to speak Spanish over a 2 month period while traveling with 23 students and being immersed in the language.

Lived with a host family and communicated with professors and people around the city solely in Spanish.

Earned credit for SPAN 4120 and SPAN 3020 by attending classes taught in Spanish and participating in daily activities to increase cultural awareness.

Institute for Leadership Advancement, Leadership Fellow August 2018 to May 2019

Developed self and organizational awareness through a one-year program which emphasized building values-based, impact driven leaders. Then used these skills in action through a service learning project in which our team created a marketing plan for a historic opera house in south Georgia.

Earned a certificate in personal and organizational leadership through completion of the program.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Dean's List Fall 2016 to Spring 2019
Achieved a GPA of 3.50 or higher and earned at least 14 hours of course credit

Zell B. Miller Scholarship Fall 2015 to Spring 2019
Maintained a GPA of 3.30 or higher while attending an accredited university in Georgia

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia August 2019 to Present
Graduate Research Assistant, Forger Lab

- Investigating the role of gut microbiota in neurodevelopment. Specifically, determining how early are microbiota present in the gut of postnatal mice.

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

August 2017 to May 2019

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Holmes Neuropharmacology Lab

- Earned course credit for BIOL 4960 and BIOL 4970, then awarded the CURO assistantship for Fall 2018, a stipend given to 500 undergraduates pursuing interests in research.
- Mastered techniques pertaining to two ongoing experiments, one studying the effects of endocrine factors on gene expression in the brain and stress-related behaviors using rat models, and another studying the impact of instruction on comprehension of original scientific research.
- Attended weekly lab meetings and lead discussions on papers from neuroscience literature over the course of the semester.
- Taught another affiliated lab techniques in microdialysis so they could analyze neurotransmitter in their experiments investigating gut microbiota.

Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

May to August 2018

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Castellino Pediatric Oncology Lab

- Used techniques in histology to assist in improving a model of diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma in mice and characterizing these cell lines.
- Characterized genes and proteins present in DIPG cells to see how they differ, particularly in PPM1D gene expression.

Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia

May to August 2018

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Huhman Behavioral Neuroscience Lab

- Analyzed behavior and tissue samples to find the effects of probiotic on social stress in a Syrian hamster model.
- Used immunohistochemistry to study how neuroinflammation is affected by social defeat in Syrian hamster model.

PRESENTATIONS

Poster Presentation, “Involvement of Monoaminergic Transmission in the Anterior Cingulate Cortex in Chronic Pain,” UGA Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Symposium, April 2019.

Poster Presentation, “Undergraduate Student Experiences with Reading Scientific Literature,” UGA Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Symposium, April 2018.

Poster Presentation, “Undergraduate Student Experiences with Reading Scientific Literature,” UGA Psi Chi Symposium, April 2018.

SHADOWING EXPERIENCE

Pediatric Professionals, Marietta, Georgia

July 2017 to May 2018

Enid Colon, M.D., *50 hours*

- Observed Dr. Colon as she worked with patients and their families during well check-ups and sick visits.

Froedert Hospital, Milwaukee, Wisconsin December 2017

Mark Klingbeil, M.D., Peter Rossi, M.D., *40 hours*

- Spent three days shadowing Dr. Klingbeil, a Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Doctor, in the traumatic brain injury clinic, watching as doctors assessed each patient physically and cognitively.
- Observed surgery and meetings with patients and their families for pre and post operation visits with Dr. Rossi, an attending vascular surgeon.

Kauffman Clinic, Woodstock, Georgia July 2017

Elizabeth Nesmith, M.D., *30 hours*

- Learned skills in patient interaction and problem-solving to solve patient care issues while shadowing Dr. Nesmith, a primary care physician.

Kennestone Hospital, Marietta, Georgia July 2016

Acute Care Physical Therapy, *24 hours*

- Communicated with a team of physical therapists and physicians in many areas of the hospital to learn the steps to patient rehabilitation.

UGA Women's Basketball, Athens, Georgia February 2016

Shannon Dolezal, Athletic Trainer, *4 hours*

- Worked with athletes and athletic trainers to learn how to prevent injuries and rehabilitate past injuries.

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

UGA Miracle August 2016 to February 2019

Alumni and Parent Relations Committee Co-Chair (2018-2019), Color Group Captain (2017-2018), Committee Member (2016-2017)

- Participated in weekly leadership meetings and lead weekly committee meetings as a member of the executive board in order to communicate with the leadership team, committee members, parents, and alumni about events concerning alumni and parent outreach.
- Aided in set up and execution of all UGA Miracle events, such as the 24 hour Dance Marathon in February where our organization total is revealed.
- Led a group of 60 underclassmen in their first year of UGA Miracle to inspire fundraising and organization involvement.
- Used social media and other platforms to fundraise over \$1,200 to contribute to the organization total of over \$1 million.

UGA Dawg Camp December 2016 to December 2017

Discovery Camp Counselor

- Participated in an eleven-week training program gaining skills in communication, group facilitation, and other leadership development components.

- Worked with a group of 50 other staff members and a co-counselor to guide a group of 11 first-year students through a weekend-long extended orientation program built to ease their transition to UGA through exposure to student life.

Biochemistry 3100, UGA

August to December 2017

Peer Learning Assistant

- Attended weekly meetings with the professor and two other peer mentors in order to prepare for the topics of class each week.
- Communicated difficult topics between 50 students and the professor while acting as a resource for students to enrich their understanding of biochemistry.

MEMBERSHIPS

Alpha Chi Omega, Beta Sigma Chapter, August 2015-Present

VP Ritual Appreciation (2017), Alumnae Chair (2016)

Acted as an upstanding member by attending chapter meetings, participating in events supporting our philanthropy, and upholding chapter standards. Planned and executed monthly events as VP Ritual Appreciation to educate members on traditions, and communicated with the rest of the executive board to tailor the events to chapter and national standards.

Alpha Epsilon Delta, Georgia Alpha Chapter, February 2018-Present

Upheld a GPA of at least 3.40 and networked with medical professionals and peers pursuing the same career path through meetings and other events such as a weekend-long retreat.

Order of Omega, Gamma Pi Chapter, February 2018-Present

Acted as an upstanding member by retaining my status as a member of the top 3% of academically achieving greek leaders.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Piedmont Athens Regional Hospital

August 2018 to December 2018

Volunteer, Athens, Georgia

Assisted weekly in the cardiac, pulmonary, vascular diagnostics department by helping with the transport of patients, data collection during stress tests and EKGs, and greeting outpatients.

Hospice Compassus

September 2016 to May 2017

Volunteer, Athens, Georgia

Visited elderly palliative care patients weekly to foster a trusting relationship with both them and their families. Provided the patient with anything they would need in order to offer comfort and care, and relieve the caregiver of excess duties.

LANGUAGES

English: Native Language

Spanish: Advanced Listening, Intermediate Speaking, Advanced Reading and Writing

Italian: Basic Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing