HOPE AMOS

POST GRADUATE RESEARCHER

IMMUNOLOGY AND COMPUTATIONALBIOCHEMISTRY

"I love that I'm always learning new facts and techniques."

Academic profile

Degree

BSc Biochemistry (HONS)

Post grad

MPhil Cancer Sciences

Qualification/achievement you are most proud of

Being offered a funded research studentshipe

Subjects you enjoyed at school

Biology, English lit, Art

Career Summary

Science subjects weren't my favourites yet when I chose my GCSEs, but I got drawn in by Biology and then Chemistry at A level because I wanted to know more about how the natural world and bodies work. I chose to study Biochemistry at Bath Uni and did a year's work experience in a medical research lab. I really loved running experiments and problem solving so I decided to keep researching as a postgraduate student at Southampton Uni. Now I look at how the protein machines that run our cells 'know' how to do their jobs, and how they can cause disease when they malfunction.

What inspired you?

After I started doing experiments I was hooked. The technology is so exciting (like using single cells as mini laboratories, or building a computational simulation to predict how a molecule moves) and there is always more to discover. As I've become more experienced, I've been able to design experiments to answer my own questions which is awesome. I thought I'd like to be an author when I was younger, and I'm thinking about becoming a medical writer after I finish my studies.

Describe your job

Challenging

Molecular

Medical

Simulations

Did you know .....

Scientists don't know how many different proteins exist because they haven't all been discovered yet! We predict between 10,000 and a billion!

Top tip

If you're not sure about a career and don't know exactly what you want to specialise in, it's good to pick a range of subjects you enjoy, and narrow it down as you learn more. If you go to university you'll have 3/4 years to try things out and help from careers services, so don't panic. I didn't know what I wanted to do until I'd had some work experience in my 3rd year of uni.

Best thing about my job

Making connections between my experimental results and other scientists' data to discover new things.

Find out more

- www.linkedin.com/in/hopeamos