

# Spencer Chase

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## Education

The Pennsylvania State University (August 2022 – March 2023)

- Graduate Assistant (Research)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Graduated May 2022)

- Experimental Neuroscience Valedictorian and top 8% for College of Science (78/1196)
- Honors College – Cumulative GPA: 3.92
- Nu Rho Psi National Honors Society (February 2020 – May 2022)

## Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant:

- Dr. Helen Kamens – State College, PA (December 2022 – current)
  - Primary author on the review, “Neuroimaging of opioid exposure: a review of preclinical animal models to inform addiction research” to be published by late Spring 2023
  - Applying basic RStudio knowledge to analyze data gathered from alcohol sensitization experiment
  - Expanding R/RStudio knowledge through a seminar series being provided through Penn State
  - Assisting Undergraduate Researchers in compiling a review that sheds light on the relationship between stress exposure during adolescence and later development of alcohol use disorders
  - Gained experience handling and applying intraperitoneal injections on DBA/2J and C57BL/6J mice
- Dr. Eric Claus – State College, PA (December 2022 – current)
  - Gaining experience using FreeSurfer software
  - Using MRI data to analyze changes in white matter and pial surfaces of smokers versus non-smokers

Undergraduate Research Assistant:

- Fralin Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship – Blacksburg, VA (May - July 2021)
  - Assisted Dr. Vijayan at Carilion Hospital in Roanoke, VA with his study of “Auditory Sleep Interventions for Improving Motor Learning in Parkinson’s Disease”
  - Presented findings at a symposium in a “poster presentation” format
  - Learned basic HTML/CSS Coding
  - Aided Dr. Vijayan with his other sleep studies independent of the fellowship requirements
  - Worked 40 hours per week with regular after hour professional development activities
- Dr. Sujith Vijayan – Blacksburg, VA (September 2019 – May 2022)
  - Assisted with sleep study protocol:
    - Prepared and clean-up materials such as syringes, EEG caps, and software programs
    - Explained instructions to participants on how to perform task portions of the protocol
  - Analyzed and collected sleep scoring data from patients ranging from 18 to 22 years of age
  - Assisted with Parkinson’s Disease sleep study and collating epilepsy data via HTML/CSS

Independent Undergraduate Research Projects:

- Dr. Jen Rainville (January – June 2022) – “Airborne Sound Sensation and Short-Term Memory in *C. elegans*”
- Dr. Ian Kimbrough (January – May 2021) – “Investigation of Pink Noise as an Effective Aversive Stimulus”
- Dr. Ian Kimbrough (August – December 2020) – “Effects of Varying Taurine:Caffeine Concentrations on Accurate Recollection of Aversive and Neutral Odorants”

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant:

- Dr. Dylan McDaniel – (August 2021 – May 2022)

## Volunteer Experience

Purcellville Volunteer Rescue Squad - Ambulance Driver - Purcellville, VA (April 2017 – May 2020)

- Total Time Volunteered: 840 hours