Work Experience Job Description

AHRINGER LAB

About the Gurdon Institute

The Gurdon Institute is a world-leading centre for research into the biology of development and how normal growth and maintenance can go wrong in diseases such as cancer. Many of our scientists have made pioneering contributions to the fields of basic cell biology, cellular reprogramming, epigenetics, and DNA repair.

Dates of Placement

15-19 July 2019

Placement Description

Area of the Gurdon Laboratory Research

General topic area
Gene expression, epigenetics, animal development

About the team
All cells in the body have the same DNA sequence, but different sets of genes are expressed in different cell types. We study how the correct "on" and "off" patterns of gene expression are determined. This process is essential for cells to have the right functions and for the overall process of development from a single cell to an organism. It is also important to understand because many human diseases are caused by disruption of gene expression regulation.

Main model(s) used
C. elegans (nematodes)

What will you do?

Spend 3 hours in the lab each day, learning and practicing techniques such as molecular biology, picking worms, immunostaining, confocal microscopy.

You will attend four, two-hour interactive workshops to help you develop scientific knowledge and practical skills.

Additionally, you will create and deliver a scientific presentation to other work experience students.

You will also have the opportunity to network with postgraduate students and scientists, talk to them about their jobs and lives and find out how research is done in the lab.
About the successful student

We expect all students to be punctual, responsible, reliable, curious, and willing to listen to advice and act on feedback.

You must also be available for all of the days during the placement week.

Ideally interested in: Biology and/or chemistry

Key skills include: Attention to detail, proactive, inquisitive

What you will need

You will need to bring

- Closed-toed shoes
- A positive attitude

We will provide

- Lab coat
- Protective eyewear
- Gloves
- Computer access
- Free lunch at the Institute (up to £10 per day)
- Transportation reimbursement (receipts required, up to £50 per week)

Questions?

If you have any questions about this job description, the work experience programme or the application process, please reach out to Naomi at workexperience@gurdon.cam.ac.uk