

Microbiology and Immunology PhD Program Entering Class, Fall 2023



Ezzeldin's undergraduate research centered around gastrointestinal diseases and ectoparasitic infections. He later worked at the Center for Infectious Diseases at Stony Brook University where he focused on host-pathogen interactions, bacterial pathogenesis, and immune response to infection. His current research interests include the study of host-pathogen interactions and immunological interactions.

Ezzeldin Enan



Marissa's undergraduate research focused on antibodies as a therapeutic for carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and the development of a capsular polysaccharide vaccine for CR-Kp. Her undergraduate thesis investigated the binding of mAb24D11 against various isolates of CR-Kp. Her current research interests are mainly in bacterial pathogenesis and cellular molecular mechanisms.

Marissa Lindner



Craig's current research interests include understanding how the immune system functions in the context of lung disease. Previously, Craig has investigated Gram-negative cell envelope biogenesis and novel cancer diagnostic methods.

Craig Podszus



Danielle is interested in mechanisms to modulate immune cell functions for therapeutic design, particularly in the contexts of infectious diseases, cancer immunotherapeutics, maternal fetal immunology, or autoimmune syndromes. A student in the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP), Danielle is pursuing a PhD in the lab of Dr. Charles Vorkas. Her research focuses on harnessing innate lymphocyte populations to act within the tumor microenvironment and identifying unique ligands for these populations for therapeutic use.

Danielle Xie



Huzaifa graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with High Distinction in Research and a B.S. degree in Molecular and Cellular Biology. His thesis described his research on interactions between *Helicobacter pylori* and the human gastric cell lining. Following graduation, Huzaifa worked in industry in microbiology in food science and biotechnology. His current research interests are the host response to infection and ways to optimize host mechanisms to eradicate pathogens.

Huzaifa Zohair