

Jo SMITH

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## EDUCATION

**MSc Epidemiology** - London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) 2020-21

- Distinction current average
- Analysis of longitudinal data: Analysed and interpreted data from a birth cohort using Poisson regression with random effects and Lexis expansion in a report format.
- Analysis of linked administrative data: Studied the practicalities of analysing and interpreting routine data, using CPRD and OPENSANELY as case study.
- Project management and research creativity: Created a proposal in the style of a grant application for a study to investigate the impacts of ambient air pollution on child cognition in Scotland, awarded a distinction.
- Social determinants of health: Studied a social epidemiology module with a focus on causal analysis and measurement theory applied to complex social variables, including causal mediation analysis. Critically appraised the use of such methods in studies exploring health issues strongly characterised by inequalities, including mental health, violence, HIV and TB.

**1<sup>st</sup> class BA(Hons) Biological Sciences** - University of Oxford 2017–20

- Distinction in Prelims (78%), 2<sup>nd</sup> year exams (77%), 3<sup>rd</sup> year exams (81%)
- In receipt of Undergraduate Scholarship 2018-19 and 2019-20.

**A-levels** – Local School 123 2015–17

- A\* in Mathematics; Government and Politics; Biology; Chemistry. Biology Prize.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**I-SHARE International Sexual Health and Reproductive health survey** 2021  
**Correlates of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) during COVID-restrictions**

- Analysis of epidemiological data from complex surveys: Collaborated with an international group of colleagues working on gender-based violence to plan analyses of data from a large, international, crowd-sourced survey.
- Analysing social determinants of health: Leading an analysis using logistic regression modelling to identify individual and country-level correlates of experiencing IPV, among women during COVID-19 restrictions for my MSc Thesis. Exposures of interest include economic support policies and social distancing regulations during COVID restrictions.
- Scientific writing: Currently preparing a manuscript for publication.

**Equity in international researcher consortia for young researchers**

- Project management and efficient delivery of outputs: Leading a team of young researchers assessing how far international research networks create equitable access to career development opportunities. Organised a survey to collect experiences from young-researchers across the I-SHARE consortia, and am currently writing a commentary piece for publication.

**University of Oxford, Zoology Department** 2019 – 20

**Critical review: The Holobiont Concept (Distinction)**

- Scientific writing: Completed a critical literature review exploring the utility of the holobiont concept in social evolution

**Dissertation Project: Vertebrate olfactory evolution (Distinction)**

- Problem solving: Worked in an Evolution and Development laboratory to investigate the origins of the vertebrate olfactory system, using *Ciona intestinalis* as a model organism. Responded to issues with equipment by researching and learning new cellular techniques including in-situ hybridisation and electroporation.

**Academic Presentation: Plant Pavement Cell Adaptations**

- Oral communication: Presented findings from a literature review exploring the evolution of plant pavement cell shapes

**College Prize: An essay proposing a chlamydia vaccine programme**

2019

University of Oxford

- Initiative: Responded to publication of a Phase 1 trial of a chlamydia vaccine by writing an essay entitled “*A chlamydia vaccination programme in the UK: lessons from 11 years of HPV immunization*”
- Research creativity: Evaluated the success of the HPV vaccine implementation in the UK using changes in HPV prevalence and feedback from HPV vaccine providers and combined this with a comparison of the distribution and health impacts of HPV and chlamydia to discuss how a chlamydia vaccine could be best implemented in the UK.
- Written communication: Awarded the College Prize in Science and Mathematics.

**Extended Project Qualification: Barriers to HIV testing (A\*)**

2016–17

- Experience researching the social determinants of health: Literature review comparing barriers to HIV testing in South Africa and the UK and analysing what strategies could be used to overcome barriers in each country.

## **ACTIVITIES AND SKILLS**

**Statistical analysis**

- Familiarity with statistical analysis packages including STATA and R
- Data analysis and management skills: Experienced using multivariable regression models for the analysis of cohort, case-control and cross-sectional data, including clustered data and multi-level modelling. Familiar with methods including use of instrumental variables; principle component analysis; multiple imputation.

**LSHTM STI Research Interest Group**

**Student representative**

2020-21

- Independent working: Established a monthly student journal club at the London School Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

**Climate crisis**

**Projects and Campaigns Officer of the Oxford Climate Society**

2018–19

- Problem solving: Established a campaign to put climate crisis on the curricula across all courses. Worked with several departments to introduce new, integrated modules on climate.

**Co-ordinator of Oxford Climate Justice Society**

2017-19

- Public presentations: Presented the campaign to promote divestment from fossil fuels in a public panel discussion, the recording of which has been viewed 2.5k times on social media.
- Interpersonal skills: Organised and attended training by People and Planet on meeting facilitation and campaign planning.

## **WORK HISTORY AND FUTHER EXPERIENCE**

**Biology and Mathematics Tutor with Blue Tutors**

2020 – Ongoing

- Communication skills: Tutoring mathematics and biology up to IB level. Awarded Professional Tutoring Certificate with Merit from Tutoring Standards.

**Assistant Dinghy Sailing Instructor at Whitstable Yacht Club Sailing School**

2015–18

- Team working: Taught and assessed RYA dinghy sailing qualifications working closely with an instructor team to ensure the safety of participating children.

**Volunteer with Refugee Community Kitchen, Calais**

2018

- Problem solving: Brainstormed and piloted strategies to achieve more dignified distributions of hot meals to refugees in Dunkirk.

**Volunteer at the Samphire Project and Kent Refugee Action Network**

2016-17

- Presenting research findings for non-academic audiences: Developed a series of educational videos on the asylum process.