






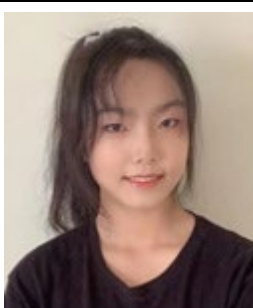




Graduate Program in Genetics: 2023 Entering Class

	<p>Shivani Deshpande: Shivani graduated with an integrated BS-MS degree from the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune in May 2023. For her MS thesis project, she investigated a trafficking protein involved in the transport of AAV (adeno-associated virus), a viral vector used commonly for gene therapy. During her doctoral studies, she looks forward to learning about and contributing to more therapeutics and genetic technologies. She loves cats and has one tattooed on her arm (not her cat, she doesn't have a cat).</p> <p>Likes: Music, Bollywood, reading, and discussions over tea</p>
	<p>Fatima Ejaz: Fatima earned her Bachelor's degree in Neuroscience and Behavior from Wesleyan University. She recently completed her Master's degree in Biology, with a focus on a thesis investigating the genomic divergence among six distinct populations of the freshwater fish species <i>Rhinichthys atratulus</i>. At SBU, her aspiration is to explore research in the realms of cancer genetics and genomics, facilitating its translation into therapeutics and medicine.</p> <p>Likes: Walks, cartoons, food, prayers, and sleep</p>
	<p>Sogol Ghanbari: Sogol was so highly interested in Genetics that she earned both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in this field. During her master's thesis at Tarbiat Modares University in Iran, she worked on non-coding RNAs to find and validate a great internal control for miRNA qRT-PCR experiments in breast cancer using TCGA miRNA-seq data. She then worked as an R&D manager in a genetics laboratory to help prevent cancer in susceptible people by having a personalized healthy lifestyle dictated by their genomes. Now she wants to pursue her doctorate at Stony Brook University in the field of cancer diagnosis.</p> <p>Likes: Dancing, traveling, cooking, hot tea, and Persian foods</p>
	<p>Snigdha Kanadibhotla: Snigdha graduated with a B.S. in Biochemistry from Stony Brook University in 2021. During her undergraduate studies, she examined antimicrobial peptides and their therapeutic effect on mucosal candidiasis. Snigdha joined the MSTP program and is now pursuing her dissertation research in Dr. Mehdi Damaghi's lab.</p> <p>Likes: Traveling, listening to history podcasts, hiking, and hanging out with friends</p>
	<p>Yijie Kang: Yijie earned her Bachelor's degree in Biological Science from Sun Yat-Sen University in 2020 and MS in Biology from New York University in 2022. For her master's thesis, she combined transcriptome data with neural electrophysiological activities. She is interested in using mathematical or computational methods to understand genetic topics.</p> <p>Likes: Badminton, anime, hanfu, video games, and fan fiction</p>

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	<p>Abinash Kaur: Abinash graduated with a B.S. in Biochemistry from Adelphi University in 2019. She used NMR-based activity assays to explore fragment-based drug discovery for Trichomoniasis during undergrad. She joined the MSTP at Stony Brook in 2022 and is now working in Dr. Mehdi Damaghi's lab at Stony Brook. Abinash is currently interested in investigating carcinogenesis under the control of the tumor microenvironment, specifically for patients diagnosed with ductal carcinoma in situ. Likes: Reading, playing the dilruba, traveling, food, and hanging out with family/friends</p>
	<p>Hamidreza Khodajou Masouleh: After graduating with a B.Sc. in Biology-Animal Sciences from the University of Guilan in 2015, Hamidreza continued his studies in the Biochemistry Master's Program at Kharazmi University and earned his M.Sc. in 2018. For his master's thesis, he worked on herbal bioactive compounds, cancer chemoprevention, and discovering natural-based remedies against hepatocellular carcinoma. Being fascinated with exploring new approaches in cancer treatment, Hamidreza is highly interested in cancer epigenetics, where he believes the future of personalized cancer therapy lies. Likes: Soccer, hiking, swimming, jogging, reading, and thriller movies</p>
	<p>Longling (Silvia) Shui: Silvia graduated in 2022 with a B.S. in Cellular, Molecular, and Developmental Biology from North Carolina State University, with double minors in Genetics and Statistics. As an undergrad, she studied long non-coding RNA in HIV disease using CRISPR-dCas9 knockdown technology in Dr. Xinxia Peng's lab. After graduation, she joined Dr. Mikala Egeblad's lab as a technician helping with breast cancer metastasis and immunology research. She is interested in immunology and cellular interactions. MBTI personality: ENTJ Likes: Animals but no insects, singing, anime, video games, MBTI personalities</p>
	<p>Kamil Taneja: Kamil graduated from Johns Hopkins University in 2019 with a degree in Neuroscience. During his undergraduate and post-graduation years, Kamil studied retinitis pigmentosa, Marfan Syndrome, uveal melanoma, and genetically high myopia in cell lines and mouse models. Kamil joined the Medical Scientist Training Program at SBU in 2021 and is currently studying small cell lung cancer in the lab of Christopher Vakoc at CSHL. Likes: Coffee, reading, movies, and tennis</p>
	<p>Alice Wang: Alice graduated with a BS in Allied Health Science and a minor in Molecular and Cell Biology from the University of Connecticut in 2019. After graduation, she worked as a postgraduate research associate in Dr. William Damsky's lab at Yale University studying inflammatory skin diseases. She joined Stony Brook MSTP in 2021 and is currently studying cancer cachexia with Dr. Tobias Janowitz at CSHL. Likes: Running, reading, gardening, star watching (astronomy)</p>

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Yuqianxun (Harriet) Wu: Harriet graduated with a BS/MS degree in Bioengineering with highest honors from Northeastern University in 2022. During college, she worked to discover a 3D model for predicting natural *C. elegans* intestinal bacteria interactions. For her master's project, she investigated deep reinforcement learning for the control of microbial co-cultures in bioreactors. After graduation, she worked for a year at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute as a full-time research technician studying translocations in renal cell carcinoma with Dr. Srinivas Viswanathan.
Likes: Traveling, skiing, frisbee, food, and aero club