

Amara Okonkwo

Graduate Lab Technician

Chemistry graduate from the University of Bath with 12 months of industrial placement experience at GSK. Skilled in HPLC, GC-MS, UV-Vis spectrophotometry, and wet chemistry techniques. Processed 40+ analytical samples per week during placement with a 98.7% first pass rate. Looking to apply my analytical skills in a permanent lab technician position.

SKILLS

HPLC (Agilent 1260 Infinity II) • GC-MS (Shimadzu GCMS-QP2020) • UV-Vis Spectrophotometry • FTIR Spectroscopy • Titration (potentiometric & volumetric) • ChemDraw & MestReNova • Microsoft Excel (pivot tables, VLOOKUP) • GLP Compliance & SOP Writing • Sample Preparation & Wet Chemistry • Lab Safety & COSHH Risk Assessments

LANGUAGES

English (native)

EXPERIENCE

Analytical Chemistry Placement Student, GSK, Stevenage

Jul 2024 – Jun 2025

Worked in the analytical chemistry lab supporting Process Development across 3 active pharmaceutical projects.

- Ran **HPLC assays on 40+ samples per week** using Agilent 1260 systems with a 98.7% first pass rate
- Performed GC-MS headspace analysis on **15 solvent residual batches per month** to support release testing
- Prepared and standardised **120+ reagent solutions** following documented SOPs under GLP conditions
- Maintained calibration logs for **8 analytical instruments** and flagged 2 out of specification results that prevented batch release errors

Undergraduate Teaching Lab Demonstrator, University of Bath, Bath

Oct 2023 – Apr 2024

Demonstrator for first year practical chemistry sessions, supporting groups of 24 students per session.

- Supervised **48 practical sessions** across organic, inorganic, and analytical chemistry modules
- Prepared reagents and checked apparatus for **6 different experiments** each week
- Marked 120+ lab reports per term with written feedback on technique and calculations

EDUCATION

BSc (Hons) in Chemistry (with Professional Placement), University of Bath, Bath

Sep 2021 – Jun 2025

First Class Honours (expected). Modules include analytical chemistry, organic synthesis, spectroscopic methods, and chemical thermodynamics. Awarded the Departmental Prize for Best Placement Report 2025.

CERTIFICATIONS

RSC Associate Member (AMRSC), Royal Society of Chemistry

Jan 2023

PROJECTS

Final Year Project: Biodegradable Polymer Blends for Pharmaceutical Packaging

Oct 2024 – Apr 2025

Investigated the thermal and mechanical properties of PLA/PCL polymer blends as sustainable alternatives to conventional pharmaceutical packaging.

- Characterised **180 polymer blend samples** using FTIR, DSC, and SEM
- Identified an optimal blend ratio that improved tensile strength by **23%** while maintaining biodegradability
- Presented findings at the University of Bath Chemistry Research Showcase to an audience of 90+ staff and students

REFERENCES

Dr. Helen Cartwright, Senior Analytical Scientist, GSK, helen.cartwright@gsk.com, +44 7700 900 412

Prof. James Sheridan, Senior Lecturer in Analytical Chemistry, University of Bath, j.sheridan@bath.ac.uk, +44 7700 900 553

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

Committee Member, Bath University Chemistry Society

Sep 2022 – Jun 2024

Organised 8 industry speaker events and 3 lab tours (including Johnson Matthey and Syngenta). Grew society membership from 85 to 140 students.