

Christian Boudreaux

337 Tanner Drive, Oxford, MS

662-832-8026 | ctboudre@go.olemiss.edu, cboud127@gmail.com

EDUCATION

University of Mississippi

Oxford, MS, 2021-2022

GPA: 4.0

Oxford High School

Oxford, MS, 2017-2021

GPA: Weighted: 4.37 / Unweighted: 4.0

EXPERIENCE

Green Student Internship- Ole Miss Office of Sustainability

Oxford, MS

Compost Collective Manager

2021-2022

- Compost collection, outreach design, member recruitment, plan training events

As the Compost Collective Manager, I assist in the facilitation of the UM Compost Program and all related responsibilities. This includes taking part in compost pickups, having weekly meetings, creating a yearly composting report, introducing students to the benefits of composting, creating a dining waste profile to track waste production on campus, and helping other interns wherever they may need it. I physically work with the compost, ensuring that it is at the proper temperature and oxygenation levels, with ample new organic material that can decompose into the pile and feed the resident microbes. Additionally, I am expected to design outreach materials, plan training events, and assist the Associate Director of the Office of Sustainability in finding and pursuing opportunities that will help to expand the program and its reach.

Aqua Culture

Oxford, MS

President, Founder

2021-2022

- Event coordination, planning, recruitment

Aqua Culture is an organization I founded that works in and around the Oxford community to maintain and preserve our aquatic environments, including rivers, swamps, and lakes. Currently, I am contacting various protected areas, national forests, nature preserves, and other conservation entities in an effort to find projects in which the group can participate. I have already heard back from several interested parties and I am moving forward with planning to secure dates and volunteers to take part in trash clean-ups, invasive species removal, water quality monitoring, and educational events. It is my goal for Aqua Culture to be a self-sustainable organization with a network of contacts from around the state of Mississippi to work towards preserving marine and fishery environments. It is also my ambition that, as support grows, those within the organization will have the resources necessary to devise their own conservation projects within the community.

Hill Country Roots

Oxford, MS

Advisor/Transitioning President

2021-2022

- Event organization, volunteer and outreach coordinator; group leader.

Hill Country Roots is a group of tree-loving citizens in Oxford, Mississippi who plant trees in areas of need. This work is fueled by a desire to preserve Mississippi's forests and native trees, beautify Lafayette County, provide shade

and opportunities for hands-on environmental learning and volunteering, and to mitigate climate change. I work closely with the President of the organization to coordinate volunteers in the various projects of the organization, including a massive tree-planting day in February where two-thousand trees will be planted. I have also had talks with the president about inheriting his position in the near future where I will continue to support the projects in progress as well as devise new ones where the efforts of the volunteer force can be properly utilized.

Green Roofs

Oxford, MS

Member

2021-2022

- Initial member/volunteer working to beautify the Ole Miss Campus and teach sustainable gardening

Green Roofs is an organization with the goal of instructing the student population on how to grow sustainably-sourced food through gardening. It is our goal that the area for the garden also becomes a beautiful location with a wealth of flowers and pollinator attractants where students would like to visit and study. The club will host workshops to teach gardening and ultimately use the harvest to give back to the community that helped to create it, donating the produce to those in need.

Magnolia Grove Audubon

Oxford, MS

Member

2021-2022

- Nature appreciation, bird watching

The Magnolia Grove Audubon is the chapter of the Audubon Society at the university that I attend. The group takes semi-frequent trips into the natural parks and reservations in our area to bird watch, truffle hunt, or simply be in nature to discover what flora and fauna exist there. The organization is a wonderful way to experience the natural world and learn about the animals and plants that make their homes in our region, all with those individuals who are similarly interested in its preservation and appreciation.

IASA

Oxford, MS

Member

2021-2022

- Conversation partner with multiple students from abroad

As a part of IASA, the International and American Student Alliance, I have been an active participant in the conversation partner program where I have been paired with two students who are studying in the United States from countries abroad. One of them, Den, is from Mongolia and the other, Abdullah, is from Saudi Arabia. My roommate, a part of the program as well, also has a partner, Stefano from Argentina, that I have become close friends with. We will frequently go to lunch together or take walks on our local nature trail. It has been exceptionally rewarding to get to know these individuals that I may not otherwise have had the opportunity to meet. It has been fascinating to learn about their individual cultures, listen to their anecdotes from home, and learn about their experiences in coming to the United States. I look forward to meeting new international students and continuing to foster these relationships for years to come.

Ole Miss Men's Club Soccer

Oxford, MS

Player

2021-2022

- Attend practices, games.

In an effort to continue my soccer career, I have joined the University of Mississippi club soccer team and take part in practices twice a week. The club offers a great opportunity to stay in shape while meeting a range of students from different ages and backgrounds. The team travels to games against other college club teams and these trips make for fun excursions out of Oxford to experience the various universities around the southeast.

Jinsei**Oxford, MS***Sushi Chef*

2021

- Worked to prepare ingredients for and make a range of sushi options for customers.

The position at Jinsei has been my only formal work experience, but it taught me a great deal about responsibility and commitment in my work ethic. Throughout the course of my time at Jinsei, although it was only a summer job, I was promoted to a higher paying position and began to take on more responsibility and hours as I proved my ability to work hard and effectively. This job was a great lesson in performance under pressure and adjusting to the sharp learning curve that often accompanies new places, skills, and expectations.

Oxford High School Boys Soccer**Oxford, MS***Captain*

2020–2021

- Lead training, consult with coaches and players to optimize team functionality and compatibility.

As part of the Oxford soccer program, I grew extensively as a student, player, and leader. The environment provided by the program to participate in a team dynamic as players naturally grow into a leadership role helped to teach me humility and forethought in my every action as my decisions had a lasting effect on not only my own outcome, but on those of my teammates and coaches as well. Throughout my four years of participation, I subtly undertook more of a teaching position as I grew in confidence, ability, and experience. I was tasked with being a leader that my teammates desired to collaborate with and ultimately learn from, both in soccer and, more importantly, in their personal lives. I understood the severity of that responsibility and remembered and respected it each day when I stepped into the classroom, weight room, or out onto the field.

Tupelo Football Club Travel Soccer**Tupelo, MS***Starter*

2017–2021

- Practiced twice per school week forty-five minutes from where I live so I learned time management skills for completing school work while making time to attend practice (totalling about seven hours a week).

The ability to be a member of the Tupelo Football Club travel soccer team is something that I learned a great deal from. Although leadership does not operate in quite the same way as at the high school level, the need to take charge, whether it be on the defense or with the whole team, was something that I always felt. Furthermore, because the practices took place forty-five minutes from where I live and occur twice during the school week, being a part of this team taught me a great deal about time management. In addition, my weekends were sometimes completely overtaken by tournaments that the team was participating in. Whether it was homework that I needed to complete or a test the following day that I needed to study for, the fact that I had two practices that typically took about four hours each overall in the middle of the school week is something that I had to learn to work around. The inability to solely rely on weekends for bigger assignments and projects as well as anything outside of school taught me to be more proactive in the way that I approach tasks and perseverance in the fact that I sometimes had to work between games. Most importantly, it taught me that if you are passionate enough about something, a way to make it work with everything else can and will be found given that the effort is put in to achieve it.

Student Ambassadors**Oxford, MS***President*

2020–2021

- Organize outreach efforts, lead and coordinate students toward various goals.

Being the president of the Student Ambassadors helped me to better consider the situations of others and the impact that subtle acts of kindness and inclusion can make. My family and I moved to Oxford the summer before my seventh-grade year, and I remember the anxiety, loneliness, and lack of belonging that often accompanies being the

new kid. As a result of the overwhelming outpouring of kindness and inclusion afforded to me when I began school at Oxford, I now feel more comfortable and accepted into the community than I ever had previously. As a direct result, I wanted to play a role in providing that same beneficial experience for other new students as well as teachers. Because of the complications presented by the virus and the inconsistency of an in-person education, we were limited in the impact that we were able to make. However, as cliché as it may be, small acts of kindness matter a lot to someone that may feel otherwise unnoticed or forgotten. In these difficult times it is especially important to continue these gestures to bring a little light into someone's world. The unique ability to have been a part of and head an organization that provided those heartfelt and personal moments was a privilege that I will not soon begin to forget.

National Honor Society

Oxford, MS

President

2020–2021

- Lead the effort to collaborate with members to enact change within the community while completing service hours for charitable causes.

I was the proud president of the National Honor Society chapter at my school, an organization of exemplary students that utilize their abilities to reciprocate generosity to the community that fostered their growth through charitable efforts. This group was an avenue through which to collaborate with my peers and form lasting relationships not only within the club itself but with the people throughout my area by making a positive impact. As president I worked with our advisor to broaden the outreach that the club was able to provide as well as to ensure the inclusion and willing participation of every member. Participation and leadership within this group ultimately benefited and expanded my outlook on life. In the past I have been far too caught up in the minutiae of everyday activities and this organization has assisted in my understanding of what holds true importance both in my life and in the lives of those around me.

Competitive Debate

Oxford, MS

Varsity Member

2020–2021

- Educate and guide new members while continuing to craft personal cases to compete with.

Although I have taken many classes and have been engaged in multiple extracurricular activities, none will have a greater impact and benefit on my life and future career than competitive debate. Becoming a debater and traveling to tournaments to compete with my friends and peers taught me an exorbitant amount about how to be a person that others want to follow. My eleventh grade year was my first year engaging in competitive debate and therefore I was considered a “novice.” Although I had taken a debate course in the second semester of the previous year, entering into the world of competitive debate was a complete and utter learning curve, from the terminology and jargon to the number of events that one could participate in. Needless to say, I felt rather overwhelmed by it all and that I was an outsider looking in on a completely foreign world. I would still feel this way if it were not for the “varsity” debaters and captains that stepped up to help out each and every novice. Their relentless effort, patience, and kindness is the best example of selfless and total leadership I have seen. The experience and the knowledge that I gained from joining the debate team allowed me to understand not only the position of the helplessly lost and confused student, but also the leadership and reinforcement necessary to guide them. In addition, the researching, writing, and oratorical skills that debate is fundamental in creating and sharpening will be imperative in all of my future endeavors, no matter what they may be. Many of the topics covered in typical high school education have very specific applications in the real world and in one's future career, if they are ever applied at all. The complete opposite is true concerning debate, as every single day that is spent crafting a convincing argument, researching information to fortify claims, and developing speaking skills to make one's point clear and convincing is contributing to honing skills that I will be able to apply in every avenue of my life, whether it be professionally, politically, socially, or otherwise. The specialization of skills that are fundamental in being a successful debater are those same skills that are found in the most successful professionals and citizens. Most importantly, debate has proven to me just how powerful a well thought-out, researched, organized, and thoughtfully presented argument can be.

Chargers Helping Chargers

Oxford, MS

Senior Class Representative

2020–2021

- Organization committed to assisting students in need.

Chargers Helping Chargers is an organization that is committed to assisting students in need both financially and educationally with tutoring availability and monetary donations. It consists of students within the school community that have a desire to help their peer group. The organization is also available to help with any task on the school or community level. Because it was started last year, the organization is just getting off the ground in its efforts and it will pick up speed as time passes. Being one of the first members and the representative for the senior class was a unique exercise in the foundation of a new group that will make a real difference in students' lives for many years to come. Through the club I gained a new perspective and consideration for the necessity of charity work and community service at Oxford High School. The presence of those in need was apparent before my joining but, the extent of which was not realized until I began to volunteer my service. Through the participation in that service I became more confident in my merit as an individual and for the empathy of the Oxford community as a whole.

University of Mississippi

Oxford, MS

Student Researcher

2019–2022

- Participated in two extensive research projects, one in a laboratory setting concerning congenital heart disease in zebrafish models and one using linux to build and test chemical models computationally

The summer before my eleventh-grade year of high school, I had the opportunity to work in Dr. Joshua Bloomekatz's lab of molecular biology through the ARISE program at the University of Mississippi. The goal of the lab is to utilize the rapid growth of zebrafish to better understand the effects that ethanol has on heart formation and the ways that it can result in congenital heart defects. While in the lab, I read scientific papers and journals to better understand the background, processes, and goals of the research. I assisted in breeding the fish, harvesting the offspring, and observing them through a microscope as they matured from eggs into adolescent zebrafish. Later in my time there, I was given the opportunity to propose and conduct my own experiment, as well as summarize my project in a brief paper. The experience and knowledge that I was able to gain from the short month that I was able to work in the lab has been unparalleled by any other academic experience I have had in my life. Working with a professional in a laboratory setting doing real research in my prospective field of study was crucial in solidifying my thoughts about being a scientific researcher. The specific activities I engaged in throughout the day such as reading research papers or observing live specimens as they matured under the microscope will provide me with far more beneficial expertise for my future career than would any traditional working opportunity. In addition, I have gained knowledge of the expected behavior and regulations within a lab. This will allow the transition to begin research in the future to be far smoother. While in the lab I understood the community that was built among the research group and, while I only spent a short month within it, felt the compassion for the work and care for one another that existed within the team. In the future I plan to utilize this experience to join and contribute to an established group of researchers and some day begin my own lab.

I engaged in additional research which focused on Chemistry by using the Linux program to model and test molecules computationally. This research was made possible through the assistance of Dr. Greg Tschumper, a Chemistry professor at UM, and his graduate students. The research focused on computational chemistry and uses computer modeling and the Linux operating system to build molecules in order to understand the basics of chemical interactions and attractions. The research began in July and continued for over half a year. I met with the graduate students every week to discuss progress and learn more about how to create molecules using the computer. This experience taught me greatly about the new realities of collaboration online and the growing

utilization of computers and coding in science and research. The exposure to the operating system Linux will undoubtedly aid me in my future endeavors in the lab whether it be through the further use of the operating system or a system that operates similarly. While not in a traditional laboratory setting, the work with Dr. Tschumper in the field of computational chemistry will also inform my future endeavors in my scientific life. It is no secret that every day the world becomes more heavily reliant on technology, and scientific research has certainly been no exception. With the near necessity of coding in the modern research world, I believe that working with the Linux operating system has been effective in introducing me to this aspect of researching for many laboratories. Although I may not use this specific program in the future, the exposure to a basic coding interface will ultimately aid in my willingness and overall literacy in working with other software. Ultimately, the exposure to research and topics that I otherwise have not seen up to this point in my high school science career helps me to better understand Chemistry past the AP level and broadens my understanding of science and the processes required to participate in it in our world today.

I am also currently in a lab group that meets weekly to discuss research papers. I will be meeting with the head researcher soon to discuss ideas for an independent project concerning generational evolution in bacterial colonies.

AWARDS/HONORS

- **Stamps Scholarship:**

Awarded to a select few freshmen undergraduates each year across the country that have demonstrated potential for excellence. (Freshman)

- **Oxford High School Hall of Fame:**

Awarded to those who have made a lasting and wide-sweeping impact during their time in high school. (12th grade)

- **National Catholic Forensic League Tournament Qualifier:**

Awarded by The National Catholic Forensics League for qualifying for a national debate competition (canceled due to COVID-19). (11th grade)

- **Mississippi Forensic League District Finalist:**

Earned a top spot in the district due to success at a tournament. (11th grade)

- **Charger Award:**

Awarded by teachers to students who excel in the classroom. (10th grade)

- **Best Defense:**

Accolade for best defensive player on Boys Soccer Junior Varsity team. (10th grade)

- **All District Honorable Mention:**

Award given to the players who have the greatest positive impact on their team and the game across the entire district. (11th grade)

- **National Speech and Debate Association Degree of Excellence:**

Awarded for success in debate tournaments and accumulation of NSDA points (11th grade)

ADDITIONAL SKILLS/EXPERIENCE

Experience with Linux, intermediate/advanced Spanish, scuba certified, experience in laboratory research, research paper analyzation, leadership and accountability