

Kassandra Cain

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EDUCATION

University of California, Riverside (UCR)

Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences

September 2025

Specializations: Physiology / Immunology

University of California, Irvine (UCI)

Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences

June 2019

- **Minor in Medical Anthropology**
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LAB & TECHNICAL SKILLS

Flow Cytometry, *In Vitro* Cell Culture, RNA and DNA isolation, ELISA, immunofluorescence staining, PCR, Western Blot, mice dissection, multiplex assays, RNAseq, nanoString, chemoreflex testing, RStudio, GraphPad PRISM, FlowJo, MS Office Suite

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher

September 2020 – September 2025

UCR, Riverside, CA

- Designed experiments to test inflammatory responses of peripheral blood mononuclear cells with the study goals to identify how high-altitude exposure or COVID infection alters the inflammatory profile
- Led collaborations with interdisciplinary labs to conduct experiments in order to analyze changes in immune and vascular parameters via flow cytometry and multiplex assays
- Communicated with IRB to establish human subjects' projects for clinical research
- Led and managed multiple projects concurrently for self and PI
- Served as technical consultants for lab's physiological tests and immunological applications
- Established several standard operating procedures (SOPs) for future lab personnel
- Presented studies in multiple conferences and published work in distinguished journals

Laboratory Project Director

June 2021 – September 2025

UCR, Riverside, CA

- Trained incoming research personnel (undergraduates, volunteers, and graduate students) in laboratory techniques necessary for their projects
- Mentored students and assisted with developing experimental designs, data collection, and data analysis
- Advised students in interpreting finalized results and assisted with developing poster and oral presentations
- Served as the liaison to EH&S for biohazard management, and communicated with IRB to establish human subjects research projects

Technical Graduate Student Researcher (Flow Cytometry)

July 2023 – July 2025

UCR, Riverside, CA

- Trained new users for use of the Quanteon Novocyte and introduction to flow cytometry design
- Designed multi-color flow cytometry experiments and developed new experimental designs for a variety of research projects
- Provided technical and troubleshooting support for experimental applications and data analysis
- Performed regular maintenance for instrument performance and maintained equipment records for machinery