



Academics

My Favorite Professor

DR. MICHAEL ROBINSON, BIOLOGY



Ashley Taggart

My name is Ashley Taggart. I am a Microbiology and Immunology major with Chemistry and Anthropology minors. I was in PRISM (Advanced Program for Integrated Science and Math) my freshman and sophomore years, and through this program I was able to have [Dr. Michael Robinson](#) as my teacher for General Biology and Evolution & Biodiversity.

Overall, I loved Dr. Robinson's teaching style. He wanted students to be involved in the learning process, so he created a class environment where students felt comfortable enough to ask questions. Most of his classes started with music from The Clash while students strolled in to take their seats. He would then quiz us on what song was playing. Every class was interactive with questions from students and questions posed to the students.



Dr. Michael Robinson, Biology

Dr. Robinson's classes were not just about memorization, but also about understanding. I believe that you cannot say that you have learned about something until you can understand its functionality and applications. Dr. Robinson was constantly striving to show us the importance of the topics we were learning in his classes. I had a Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) lab with Dr. Robinson in which I was able to apply a vast majority of the concepts that I learned in Evolution & Biodiversity. I developed a research project with five other students to test the intersexual selection in *Poecilia reticulata* (a freshwater fish known as the "guppy").

Throughout all of my classes with Dr. Robinson, I have seen that he really cares about his students and their understanding of biology.

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