

Sean Chien, M.S.

College Station, Texas
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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Texas A&M University—College Station, Texas Biology <i>PI</i> : Heath Blackmon	2022 – Present
M.S.	Eastern Illinois University—Charleston, Illinois Biological Sciences <i>Thesis</i> : “Beetle Diversity in Temperate Deciduous Forests with Different Management History in Central Illinois” <i>Committee</i> : Ann Fritz, Scott Meiners, Zhiwei Liu(chair)	2020 – 2022
B.S.	Tunghai University—Taichung, Taiwan Animal Science	2013 – 2017

PUBLICATIONS

Terrence Sylvester, Zachary Hoover, Carl E Hjelman, Michelle M Jonika, Leslie T Blackmon, James M Alfieri, J Spencer Johnston, **Sean Chien**, Tahmineh Esfandani, Heath Blackmon, A reference quality genome assembly for the jewel scarab *Chrysina gloriosa*, *G3 Genes|Genomes|Genetics*, Volume 14, Issue 6, June 2024, jkae084, <https://doi.org/10.1093/g3journal/jkae084>

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Research Assistant	2022 – Present
Department of Biology, Texas A&M University PI: Heath Blackmon	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Developed and implemented custom scripts in R, Python, or Bash to extract meaningful biological insights from the database- Designed and executed fieldwork experiments, including sample collection for <i>de novo</i> genome assemblies and population genomic projects- Performed DNA and RNA extractions, including high molecular weight DNA extractions- Acquiring grants to secure project funding and ensure financial support for initiatives	
Research Assistant	2021 – 2022
Department of Biological Sciences, Eastern Illinois University Advisor: Zhiwei Liu	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Designed and conducted a study to understand the relationship between beetle diversity and forest management in central Illinois- Developed skills related to experimental design, data collecting, and data analysis- Collected and analyzed field data- Submitted a manuscript about the study finding	

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant	Spring, 2025 – Present
Course: Medical Narratives	
Biology Undergraduate Program, Texas A&M University	
Teaching Assistant	Fall, 2024
Course: Critical Writing in Biology	
Biology Undergraduate Program, Texas A&M University	
Statistic Coding Instructor	Fall, 2023 – Spring, 2024
Course: Experimental Design	
Biology Graduate Program, Texas A&M University	
Teaching Assistant	Fall, 2022 – Spring, 2023
Course: Introductory Biology I, II	
Lower Division Instruction Program, Texas A&M University	
Teaching Assistant	Spring, 2022
Course: Introduction to Ecology and Evolution	
Department of Biological Sciences, Eastern Illinois University	
Teaching Assistant	Fall, 2021
Course: General Biology, 2 sections	
Department of Biological Sciences, Eastern Illinois University	
Teaching Assistant	Spring, 2021
Course: Systematics	

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS & HONORS

Research and Presentation Travel Award	2025
2025 Biology Art Contest – Third Place	2025
SRW Oral Presentation – First Place	2025
Mark and Nancy Deyrup Visiting Scholars	2024
SSB Graduate Student Research Award	2023
NATEA-Dallas Scholarship Honorable Mentions	2023
Distinguished International Student Award, Eastern Illinois University	2022
Distinguished International Student Award, Eastern Illinois University	2021
International Student Scholarship, Eastern Illinois University	2020

PRESENTATIONS

Southeast Texas Evolutionary Genetics and Genomics (Talk)	2025
Entomological Interdisciplinary Research Symposium (Talk)	2025
Ecological Integration Symposium (Talk)	2025
Texas Genetics Society (Talk)	2025
Student Research Week (Talk)	2025
Student/Postdoc Research Conference (Poster)	2025
Ecological Integration Symposium (Poster)	2024
Student Research Week (Poster)	2024
Student/Postdoc Research Conference (Poster)	2024
Texas Genetics Society (Poster)	2024
Evolution (Poster)	2023