

Kurt Lawson

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Education

MS in Geology – August 2022 - Present

University of Utah – Salt Lake City, UT

Advisor: Dr. Sarah Lambart

Awards: Cooper-Hansen Fellowship

BS in Geology – January 2019 - May 2022

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Research Advisor: Dr. Stephen Turner

Awards: Dean's List 2020, 2021, 2022

Research

Experimental Study of Mantle Melt-Rock Interactions (Ongoing)

University of Utah

Advisor: Dr. Sarah Lambart

Trace Element Investigation of Holocene Volcanism in Eastern Oregon (August 2021 - May 2022)

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Stephen Turner

Study of Past Volcanism on Tenerife, Canary Islands (September 2021)

GeoIntern (Virtual) / InVolcan

Program Supervisor: Sharon Backhouse

Mosquito Larvicide Study (May 2020 - August 2020)

Norfolk County Mosquito Control

Supervisor: Kaitlyn O'Donnell (Entomologist)

Relevant Lab Experience and Skills

- Went on a field expedition to collect Andesites in the Cascade Mountains and Basalts in Eastern Oregon
- Experience with preparing samples for ICPMS
 - Cleaning rocks, creating powders from rocks, and digesting the sample with HF
- Experience with trace element analysis via Quadrupole ICPMS
 - Involves tuning and operating a Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer
- Learned to prepare olivine grain mounts in epoxy and do analyses via electron microprobe
- Geochemical modelling in MS Excel
- Geochemical modelling in MATLAB
- Experience with MELTS software
- Experience with GIS software (ArcGIS)
- Geologic mapping in the field
- Fluent in Spanish

Occupations

Research Assistant - University of Utah: Department of Geology and Geophysics (August 2022 - Present)

Advisor: Dr. Sarah Lambart

Bus Driver - UMass Transit (December 2020 - May 2022)

General Manager: Glenn Barrington

Shifts scheduled during the semester and Winter/Summer break

Summer Surveillance Technician - Norfolk County Mosquito Control (May 2020 - August 2020)

Supervisor: Kaitlyn O'Donnell

- Set mosquito traps to document species population and presence of disease
- Aided in larvicide studies

Outreach/Broader Impacts

Summer/Winter Volunteer Work with *Natiin* (Nonprofit Organization in Guatemala) [2013 - Present]

- Delivery of month-lasting food baskets to impoverished families in communities around Lago de Atitlán
- Helped with construction projects including house, septic, and playground construction
- Organized events for local preschools
- Sponsorship of young students to promote education