

SUSAN R. COOPER



Susan R. Cooper is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and is advised by professors James Hutchison and Darren Johnson.

Her research focuses on iron oxide nanoparticles that can be used to cleanse water of environmental toxins and in potential new treatments for cancer. She uses X-ray scattering to explore the hard-to-detect first steps in nanoparticle formation to help tune both size and properties with atomic-scale precision.

Prior to coming to the UO, Cooper received a bachelor's degree in chemistry at California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo, and she worked for a San Francisco Bay Area start-up, Bio Architecture Lab, converting sugars in seaweed into ethanol. She was

drawn to the UO because of its innovative research in sustainable chemistry and materials.

Cooper's goal is to return to industry, work in a sustainable materials start-up and, eventually, start her own company. At the UO, she helped start the University Innovation Fellows leadership circle, which is part of a national organization founded at Stanford University.

She holds a National Science Foundation graduate research fellowship and is the UO's first winner of a Josselyn Family Scholar Award given by the Achievement Rewards for College Scientists Foundation.

She is the first member of her family to pursue a doctorate.