

# Dominique L. Hellmich | Curriculum Vitae

New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM, 8801

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## Education

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**New Mexico State University, College of Arts and Sciences; Las Cruces, NM**   **2016 - present**  
PhD candidate in Biology: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

**Cornell University, College of Arts and Sciences; Ithaca, NY**   **2011 - 2015**  
BA with honors in Biology: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
GPA 3.416/4.0  
**Senior Thesis in Biology:** “The effects of increased perceived predation risk on lay-date in Black-throated blue warblers (*Setophaga caerulescens*)”

## Research & Field Experience

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**Graduate Researcher, NMSU, Las Cruces, NM**   **2016 - present**  
*Avian Behavior and Communication Lab, Dept. of Biology*

**Mentor:** Dr. Timothy Wright, wright@nmsu.edu, (575-646-1136)

- **Doctoral Research Interests:** the behavioral, cognitive, and genetic adaptations underlying avian invasion success or avian adaption to human-mediated global change; behavioral flexibility; avian communication

**Research Assistant, NMSU, Las Cruces, NM**   **June 22<sup>nd</sup> – July 12<sup>th</sup> 2016**  
**PI:** Dr. Timothy Wright, wright@nmsu.edu, (575-646-1136)

- **Project:** Assessing spatiotemporal stability and new variants in vocal dialects of Nicaraguan and Costa Rican Yellow-naped Amazons (*Amazona auropalliata*)

**Field Technician, Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest, North Woodstock, NH**   **2013 - 2014**  
**Crew Leader:** Nicole Krauss, kraussne@gmail.com, (952-412-1537)

- Collected complete reproductive and behavioral data on all Black-throated blue warblers (*Setophaga caerulescens*) for a long-term population demography study:
  - **These duties included:** territory mapping using male counter-singing, predator and prey density surveys, vegetation growth surveys, locating and monitoring all female nesting attempts.
  - **Additional skills:** mist-netting, the collection of blood and morphological data from nestlings and adults.

**Undergraduate Researcher, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY**   **2012 - 2015**  
*Animal Behavior Lab, Dept. of Neurobiology and Behavior*

**Mentors:** Dr. Michael Webster, msw244@cornell.edu, (607-254-4362); Dr. Sara Kaiser, sak275@cornell.edu, (619-540-9261)

- Designed and implemented an original experiment investigating the effects of increased perceived predation risk on the breeding behavior (and specifically lay-

date) of Black-throated blue warblers (*Setophaga caerulescens*) using generalized and targeted predator playback.

## Teaching & Work Experience

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**Graduate Teaching Assistant, NMSU, Las Cruces, NM** **Spring 2017**

*BIOL309: Guided Biological Research; Dept. of Biology*

**Instructor:** Dr. Graciela Unguez, gunguez@nmsu.edu, (575-646-7963)

- **Topic:** The effects of regeneration on EOD characteristics in *Sternopygus* electric fish. **Duties:** Mentor 24 students through the analysis of EOD recordings, tail cuttings, slicing and staining of tail cross-sections, analysis of imaging data, and preparing presentations. Prep labs, collected EOD recordings, lecture on animal communication, grade weekly assignments, and give feedback on presentations.

*BIOGL111: Natural History of Life; Dept. of Biology*

**Fall 2016**

**Instructor:** Dr. Amy Marion, amarion@nmsu.edu

- Guided two sections of 23 and 24 students through lab exercises and rubrics on a variety of topics, from meiosis, to natural selection, to community ecology. Graded weekly lab reports.

**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY**

**Spring 2014**

*BIOEE274: Vertebrates: Structure, Function, Evolution; Dept. of Ecology and Evolution*

**Instructor:** Dr. Betty McGuire, bam65@cornell.edu, (607-254-4252)

- Guided two sections of 18-20 students through lab exercises. Hosted weekly review sessions and graded exams as needed.

## Presentations & Publications

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Wright, T.F. & C.R. Dahlin with A. Trimeloni, M. Dupin, **D.L. Hellmich**, and G. Smith Vidaurre. (2016) Notes from an expedition: Adventures studying the Yellow-Naped Amazons of Costa Rica and Nicaragua. For *PsittaScene*.

**Hellmich, D.L.**, Kaiser, S.A., Webster, M.S. (2016) The effects of increased perceived predation risk on lay-date in Black-throated blue warblers (*Setophaga caerulescens*). NMSU Biosymposium. Poster delivered: Oct. 1st, 2016

**Hellmich, D.L.**, Kaiser, S.A., Webster, M.S. (2015) The effects of increased perceived predation risk on lay-date in Black-throated blue warblers (*Setophaga caerulescens*). Dept. of Neurobiology and Behavior Biosymposium, Cornell University. Poster delivered: April 24th, 2015

## Awards, Honors, & Scholarships

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- Graduate Assistant Tuition Fellowship, NMSU: \$2,044 per semester (2016-present)
- Honors in the Biological Sciences, Cornell University (2015)
- Charles Tracy Fund for Student Research Scholarship: \$1,844 (2014)
- NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates Grant: \$5,500 (2014)
- Pauline and Irving Tanner Dean's Scholar Research Grant, Cornell University: \$3,000 (2014)
- Dean's List, Cornell University (2013 & 2015)
- Cornell Tradition Member, Cornell University (2011-2015)
- Pauline and Irving Tanner Dean's Scholar, Cornell University (2011-2015)