Alexander Grev Allison

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Academic experience

New Mexico State University. New Mexico. August 2022-present.

Master of Science in Biology.

MS thesis entitled "Assessing Fledgling Dispersal, Mortality, and Social Integration to Advance Conservation of the Critically Endangered Great Green Macaw (*Ara ambiguus*)." Field work will begin in February 2023. Advised by Dr. Timothy Wright.

University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Massachusetts. August 2019-May 2022.

Bachelor of Science in Biology earned. Cum Laude (3.916 GPA), member of the Commonwealth Honors College (Honors with Greatest Distinction). Dean's list all semesters.

Honors thesis entitled "Modulation of Vocal Amplitude Across Social Contexts in House Wrens." Advised by Dr. Jeffrey Podos and Dr. Paul Sievert.

Community College of Vermont. Vermont. September 2018-May 2019.

One year of college credits earned through the Vermont Early College program. Dean's list both semesters.

Lab and field experience

Undergraduate Honors thesis field research. Vermont. March 2021-May 2022.

Organized, managed, and conducted solo field work to gather vocal amplitude data on house wrens. Made 43 visits over the course of the breeding cycle to eight sites across Vermont (~130 recordings), locating and recording singing wrens using a sound level meter (Larson Davis 831C Model). Performed playback trials and collected behavioral observations. After quantitative analysis of songs, results were written up in a format suitable for publication in a scientific journal. Project advised by Dr. Jeffrey Podos (UMass).

Avian vocalization analyst (Podos Lab). University of Massachusetts, Amherst. 2020-2021.

Developed a database and method for analysis of avian vocalizations recorded in Amherst, MA, using house wrens as a prototype. Designed a workflow for database management in conjunction with a faculty advisor. Gained a solid foundation in describing and discussing characteristics of birdsong.

Avian vocalization analyst (Byers Lab). University of Massachusetts, Amherst. 2019-2020.

Worked in a lab studying bird vocalizations of chestnut-sided warblers. Components of research included data management in Excel, documenting frequency of vocalizations using RavenPro software, and analyzing song types using Syrinx software.

Work and teaching experience

Graduate teaching assistant. New Mexico State University. August 2022-present.

Teaching two sections of an introductory biology laboratory, entitled "Biodiversity, Ecology, and Evolution." Students are primarily 1st and 2nd years at the university. Topics include experimental design, genetics, anatomy and physiology, animal behavior, landscape ecology, and climate change. Lectures are given, students are guided through experiments in lab, and support is furnished for analysis and write-up outside of lab.

Undergraduate teaching assistant. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. January 2022-May 2022.

Helped teach an upper-level Mammalogy laboratory. Students were 3rd and 4th years at the university. Hands-on investigation of skeletons and skins guided discussion of topics that included the evolution of mammalian groups,

comparative anatomy, taxonomy, and behavior. An emphasis was placed on local New England species, but skeletons and skins were representative of species globally.

Field and lab research intern. National Wildlife Federation. May 2018-August 2019.

Worked with a licensed forester and certified wildlife biologist on projects relating to wildlife habitat, especially riparian corridors. Conducted bird surveys and analyzed results. Installed and maintained wildlife cameras and bat audio detectors. Scored camera trap photos and created a database using Excel. Reviewed bat calls with SonoBat software.

Volunteer and community engagement experience

Officer of the Biology Graduate Student Organization. New Mexico State University. August 2022-present. Assist with event planning and organizing, run general body meetings, and coordinate the access of funds for graduate students within the Biology Department for research and travel.

Officer of the UMass Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. September 2021-May 2022.

Assisted with event planning and organizing, communicated with the student body of the club, maintained membership records with national organization, and coordinated club registration with the university.

Citizen scientist and educator. Central Vermont and Massachusetts. 2013-2021.

Co-led annual bird walk for four years in the Stranahan Town Forest, Marshfield, VT. Participated in the Christmas Bird Count and Breeding Bird Survey for seven years (VT) and Superbowl of Birding for one year (MA). Submitted all sightings to eBird.

Oral presentations

Animal Behavior Society Annual Conference. San José, Costa Rica. July 2022.

Presented the results of my 2022 Honors thesis research as a talk during one of the main oral presentation sessions.

Awards

Outstanding Research Award in Biology. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. May 2022.

To acknowledge outstanding undergraduate researchers.

Dean's List Honors. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. September 2019-May 2022.

Awarded all semesters while at the university. To be placed on the Dean's List, an undergraduate student must have had full-time status and attained a minimum grade point average of 3.5, based on at least twelve graded credits.

Sherwood-Delaney Scholarship. June 2021.

Awarded for Honors thesis research while at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Irving and Joan Ratner Scholarship. May 2021.

Awarded for Honors thesis research while at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Dean's List Honors. Community College of Vermont. September 2018-May 2019. Awarded both semesters while at the college.

Certifications

Wilderness First Aid. Desert Mountain Medicine. October 2022-present.

Completed two-day course on wilderness first aid. Certified to provide backcountry first aid, including epinephrine administration to treat anaphylaxis and single person adult CPR with AED use.

Wilderness First Aid. Wilderness Medical Associates International. June 2019-June 2022. Completed two-day course on wilderness first aid. Certified to provide backcountry first aid, including epinephrine administration to treat anaphylaxis and single person adult CPR with AED use.