

CURRICULUM VITAE

Leleña A. Avila

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Education

- 2012 Ph.D. Ecology and Evolution, University of Virginia (expected graduation Fall 2012)
(Edmund D. Brodie III, advisor)
- 2006 M.A. Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior, Indiana University
(Edmund D. Brodie III, advisor)
- 1998-2003 Graduate Coursework and Research, Ecology & Systematics, Concentration in Behavioral Ecology, San Francisco State University
(Janet A. Randall, advisor)
- 1996 B.S. Conservation and Resource Studies, Area of Interest in Conservation Biology and Environmental Education, University of California, Berkeley
(Gordon W. Frankie, advisor)

Awards and Fellowships

- 2010 Ford Dissertation Year Fellowship – Honorable Mention
- 2009 Kepner Teaching Award, University of Virginia
- 2008 & 10 Walton Fellowship Award, University of Virginia, MLBS
- 2007 Miller Fellowship, University of Virginia
- 2006 Mrs. Charles E. Bryant Fund Award, University of Virginia
- 2005-06 EEB Summer Fellowship, Indiana University
- 2005 Ford Pre-Doctoral Fellowship – Honorable Mention
- 2003 J.P. Holland Fellowship, Indiana University
- 2001 ARCS Scholar
- 2001 California Pre-Doctoral Scholar
- 2001 University Women's Association Scholar, San Francisco State University
- 2000-03 NIH MBRS-RISE Fellow
- 1999-01 Hispanic Scholarship Fund

Research and Travel Grants

- 2010 Robert J. Huskey Travel Grant, University of Virginia (\$250)
CLU Grant – Research Computing Lab, University of Virginia (\$980)
- 2007 Explorers Club Washington Group Research Grant (\$2000)
Sigma Xi Grants-In-Aid of Research (\$400)
- 2006 ASIH Student Travel Grant (\$200)
CISAB Travel Grant, Indiana University (\$500)
GPSO Research Award, Indiana University (\$500)
- 2005 ASIH Gaige Fund Award (\$500)
- 2004 CISAB Travel Grant, Indiana University (\$500)
Biology Enrichment Fund, Indiana University (\$250)

	COAS Graduate Student Travel Grant, Indiana University (\$275)
2003	GSCB Travel Grant, San Francisco State University (\$150)
2002	COSE Student Project Fund, San Francisco State University (\$150)
2001	Animal Behavior Society Ethnic Diversity Fund Travel Grant (\$150)
	COSE Student Project Fund, San Francisco State University (\$450)
2000	COSE Student Project Fund, San Francisco State University (\$300)

Publications

Avila, L.A., R. Wiggins*, E.D. Brodie Jr., E.D. Brodie III. 2011 Garter snakes do not respond to TTX via chemoreception. *Chemoecology*: published online DOI 10.1007/s00049-011-0094-2.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Avila L.A., A.P. Terry*, E.D. Brodie III. Invasive earthworms potentially facilitate native garter snakes.

Avila L.A., E.D. Brodie Jr., E.D. Brodie III. Prey recognition response and the evolution of toxin resistance.

*Undergraduate collaborators

Professional Presentations

2011	Avila, L.A., E.D. Brodie Jr., E.D. Brodie III. Prey Recognition Response and the Evolution of Toxin Resistance in a Non-specialist Predator. Poster. <i>Animal Behavior Society</i> .
2006	Avila, L.A., E.D. Brodie Jr., E.D. Brodie III. Assessing Predation on <i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i> Exhibiting a Potential Aposematic Cue. Poster. <i>American Society of Ichthyologists & Herpetologists/Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles</i> .
2006	Avila, L.A., & E.D. Brodie III. Proposed Research - The Evolution of TTX Resistance and Aposematism in <i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i> : Is Predation Pressure the Driving Force? Poster. <i>Center for the Integrative Study of Animal Behavior, Indiana University</i> .
2004	Avila, L.A. & J.A. Randall. Physical and Behavioral Correlates to Mating Success in the Western Fence Lizard (<i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i>). Talk. <i>Animal Behavior Society</i> .
2001	Avila, L.A. & J.A. Randall. The Effect of Predation on the Courting Behavior in the Western Fence Lizard (<i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i>). Poster. <i>Animal Behavior Society</i> .

University Teaching Experience

Dept. of Biology, University of Virginia, Graduate Teaching Assistant

2010-11	BIOL 2030, Introduction to Cell Biology and Genetics (lab)
2009 & 11	BIOL 2040, Introduction to Organismal Biology (lab demonstrator)
2008-12	BIOL 2040, Introduction to Organismal Biology (lab)
2007, 09, 11	BIOL 3400, Vertebrate Functional Morphology (lab)

Dept. of Biology, Indiana University, Associate Instructor

2005	BIOL M255, Microorganisms, for majors (lab)
2004	BIOL M215, Microorganisms, for non-majors (lab)

Dept. of Biology, San Francisco State University, Graduate Teaching Assistant

2003	BIOL 240, Introductory Biology II (lab preparator)
2001	BIOL 230, Introductory Biology I (lab)

Educational Outreach and Curriculum Development

Mountain Lake Biological Station, University of Virginia

- 2009-10 Demonstrator: field techniques reptiles and amphibians. Virginia Tech, Wildlife Field Techniques (undergraduates).
- 2009-10 Demonstrator: field research. Youth Conservation Day (middle school).
- 2009 Mentor: field research project. Ecological Society of America SEEDS Program (high school).
- 2009 Demonstrator: exploration of reptiles and amphibians. Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute Nature Trip (families).

Department of Biology, University of Virginia

- 2009 Panelist: graduate school application and experience. Biology Society (undergraduates).

Department of Biology, Indiana University

- 2005-06 Associate Instructor: curriculum development and dissemination. HHMI Inquiry-Based Curriculum Enhancement (undergraduates).
- 2005 Mentor: summer internship project. HHMI Summer Research Institute (high school teachers).
- 2003-06 Co-coordinator: outreach activities. Science Exploration and Education for Kids (elementary school).
- 2003 Presenter: conservation education activities. Brownie Math & Science (elementary school).

State of California

- 2003 Consultant: scored exams for Biological Science. California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET).
- 2002 Consultant: field techniques in capturing and handling lizards. East Bay Regional Park District.

University of California, Berkeley

- 1996-98 Presenter: reptile and amphibian education activities. Cal Day (visiting families).

Work Experience

Biology Discovery Lab and TEAMS, Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley

- 1997-2001 Program Representative II: Managed, supervised, and coordinated all aspects of Discovery Lab and Animal Care programs. Managed, supervised, and coordinated all aspects of the TEAMS youth intern program (1997-1998).
- 1996-97 Teacher by Agreement: Taught variety of classes, festivals, and camps to students 2-18 years of age; cooperatively created curriculum for TEAMS, revised curriculum for biology class on reptiles.
- 1992-96 Laboratory Helper: Cared for animal colony, assisted museum visitors in open discovery lab, trained new lab helpers, taught Biology classes, mentor and supervise TEAMS interns.

Undergraduate Mentoring Experience

Mountain Lake Biological Station, University of Virginia

2010 Jessie Sakiewicz
2009 Anne Terry*
2008-09 Stephen Howard

Dept. of Biology, University of Virginia

2010 Shannon Sullivan*
2009-10 Ryan Wiggins

*NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates

Professional Activities

2010 Surveyor, Byrom Park BioBlitz with Albemarle Co. Parks & Recreation and the Albemarle
County Natural Heritage Committee
2009-10 Activities Coordinator, Mountain Lake Biological Station, University of Virginia
2006 Graduate Recruitment Weekend (GRW) Hosting Committee Chair, Indiana University
2005 GRW Hosting Committee, Indiana University
2004 GRW Food Committee, Indiana University

Reviewer For

Journal of Animal Ecology, Journal Evolutionary Biology, Journal of Herpetology, Herpetological
Conservation & Biology.

Professional Affiliations

American Society for Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Animal Behavior Society, Hepetologists' League,
Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, Society for the Study of Evolution