

AUSTEN MILLER

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EDUCATION

Utah Valley University, Orem, UT

B.S. in Bioinformatics (Expected May 2026)

A.A. in Humanities & Social Studies (with Honors, December 2023)

- Dean's List Spring 2022-Fall 2023 (GPA: 3.76)
- Enrolled in UVU Honors Program
- Minor in Biology
- Experience in R (tidyverse, time-series, modeling) and Python programming languages
- Interest in fungal ecology, plant microbiomes

Saint Louis University-Madrid Campus, Madrid, Spain

General electives, History, and Spanish classes, September 2015–May 2018

SCHOLARSHIPS/FUNDING

National Science Foundation S-STEM Fellow

- Total Funding \$25,950 (\$4,315/Semester), August 2022 - Present

UVU Honors Tuition Scholarship

- Total Funding \$2,000 (\$1,000/Semester), July 2024 - Present

UVU Honors Housing Scholarship

- Total Funding \$3,900 (1 year, \$325/Month), August 2023 - July 2024

UVU College of Science SAC Faculty Mentored Research Grant

- *"The Relationship of Foliar Fungi to Plant Root Architecture Utilizing Transparent Soil"*
- Total Funding \$917, April 2023

UVU The Office of Education Abroad 2023 Study Abroad Scholarship

- Total Funding \$500, March 17, 2023

Cordell Roy Scholarship

- Total Funding \$451, May 12, 2022

PUBLICATIONS

Primary Author (in preparation), *"Spatial dynamics of foliar fungal community structure in the Pando Aspen Clone"*

Co-author, "Evaluating different methods to identify changes in the gut microbiota - lessons from alcohol-exposed *Drosophila melanogaster*" to be presented as a poster at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists (ABRCMS), November 2024, Pittsburgh, PA.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

IQBIO REU, University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras, San Juan, PR

Dra. Imilce Rodriguez-Fernandez Lab Research Intern, June 2024-August 2024

- Created diversity visualization pipeline in R Studio for *Drosophila* microbiome sequence data

Dr. Geoffrey Zahn Research Lab, Utah Valley University, Orem, UT

Member, November 2022-Present

- Involvement in undergraduate research projects (see above)
- Participated in presentations and discussions on scientific papers (see below)

Presenter, *"Spatial dynamics of foliar fungal community structure in the Pando Aspen Clone"*

- Presented as a poster at National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), April 2024, Long Beach, CA.

- Presented as a poster at Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research (UCUR), February 2024, Orem, UT.
- Designed and presented a poster research proposal at the S-STEM Research Symposium, December 2022, Utah Valley University, Orem, UT

EXPERIENCE

Utah Valley University Department of Biology, Orem, UT

Department of Biology Teaching Assistant (Biology 1010), August 2024-Present

- Assisted in a ~230 student classroom with in-class assignments, demonstrations, and activities
- Graded and provided feedback on student assignments, tests, essays, etc.
- Gave lectures on some days and ran extra credit review sessions every week

Fulton Library Roots of Knowledge, Orem, UT

Utah Valley University Roots of Knowledge Research Assistant, January 2023-June 2023

- Researched, fact-checked, and wrote historical item descriptions on RoK Virtual Tour App
- Assisted with creating thematic guides, such as “environmental” and “LGBTQ” history
- Featured in UVU Fulton Library newsletter “Team Fulton” March 2023 spotlight
- Assisted with tours and translation of material into Spanish

Capitol Reef National Park, Torrey, UT

Utah Valley University Field Station Cultural Resources Intern, May 2022-August 2022

- Assisted with archeological inventory and documentation of archeological resources
- Assisted with museum management and annual reporting activities
- Entered field inventory and monitoring data into park databases and ArcGIS

Utah State Hospital, Provo, UT

Psychiatric Technician, March 2020–December 2021

- Taught psychiatric patients daily living skills
- Observed, monitored, recorded, and reported patient behavior
- Intervened in crisis situations

Advanced Recovery Services, LLC, Murray, UT

Administrative Intern, October 2018–January 2020

- Assisted with licensing for collections and conducted administrative tasks

Revolution Snowboard Manufacturing, Orem, UT

Administrative Intern, December 2014-May 2015

- Assisted in preparing presentations for investor meetings
- Attended trade shows in Las Vegas & Puerto Vallarta

SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES

Published in Untold UVU Honors Journal

- “*The Machine State*” - Dystopian literary analysis - Expected Fall 2024
- “*Facebook Meme Page Data Analysis*” - R coding project - Fall 2023

Evolution and Bioinformatics Club, Utah Valley University, Orem, UT

Officer, January 2024 - Present

- Volunteered at Darwin Day event February 2024 with ~500 attendees and helped raise over \$600
- Assisting with club events and organization

National Science Bowl - Utah, Utah Valley University, Orem, UT

Volunteer, February 2023 Competition

- Worked as Timekeeper operating the competition clocks and timing questions

Casa de Acogida San Isidro Homeless Shelter, Madrid, Spain

Volunteer, November 2019–January 2020

- Instructed in English and social skills to help people reintegrate themselves into society

Creative Writing Contests, Saint Louis University, Madrid Campus, Madrid, Spain

- First Prize Recipient, **Ignacio de Loyola Creative Writing in Spanish** Contest 2018
- First Prize Recipient, **Georgia Johnston Award for Creating Writing in English** 2018

Campus Ambassador, Saint Louis University, Madrid Campus, Madrid, Spain

Volunteer, May 2017-May 2018

- Organized and ran university orientations, acting as new students' first contact
- Chaperoned group trips of approximately 100 students to cities around Spain
- Collaborated with university staff and represented the university to distinguished guests
- Recipient, **Service Award** – Campus Ambassador

Cinema Club Leader, Saint Louis University, Madrid Campus, Madrid, Spain

President, May 2017-May 2018

- Organized and ran events showing culturally important films and promoting club activities
- First prize recipient of **2018 Leadership & Service Award**

PERSONAL

- Dual citizen of Spain and the U.S.; fluent in English and Spanish, learning Portuguese
- Enjoy alpine skiing, hiking, desert hot springs, and board games
- Founder & Science Content Contributor, “Philosophical Gym Bro” Facebook & Instagram Blog (11,000 followers)