

Alex Michael Garcia

alexgarcia@ufl.edu | [LinkedIn](#) | [Website](#) | ORCID: 0000-0002-8111-9884

Education

University of Florida

Master's of Science in Astronomy

Aug 2021 – May 2023

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Bachelor's of Science in Engineering Physics - *Honors*

Bachelor's of Science in Astronomy - *Distinction*

Aug 2017 – May 2021

Research Experience

Graduate Researcher

University of Florida - Advisor: Paul Torrey

May 2021 – Present

Gainesville, FL

Areas of interest – Galaxy Formation and Evolution & Cosmological Simulations of the Universe

Undergraduate Research Assistant

University of Illinois - Advisor: Yue Shen

Feb 2021 – May 2021

Urbana, IL

Undergraduate Research Assistant

University of Illinois - Advisor: Bryan Dunne

Aug 2020 – May 2021

Urbana, IL

Publications

First Author Publications:

1. *Gas-phase Metallicity break radii of TNG50 Galaxies*, **Garcia, A.** et. al. MNRAS – in progress, expected 2022

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant/Course Assistant

University of Florida

University of Illinois

Aug 2020 – Present

Gainesville, FL

Urbana, IL

	Course	Semester	Professor(s)
University of Florida	AST 1022L - <i>Astronomy Laboratory</i>	Spring 2022	Paul Sell
	AST 1002 - <i>Discovering the Universe</i>	Fall 2021	Paul Sell, Naibi Mariñas, & Elizabeth Lada
University of Illinois	ASTR 330 - <i>Extraterrestrial Life</i>	Spring 2021	Xin Liu
	ASTR 330 - <i>Extraterrestrial Life</i>	Winter 2021	Leslie Looney
	ASTR 100 - <i>Introduction to Astronomy</i>	Fall 2020	Amanda Winans
	ASTR 150 - <i>Killer Skies: Astro-Disasters</i>	Fall 2020	Bryan Dunne

- Host a virtual weekly office hour for students to come and ask questions pertaining to the course material.
- Host observatory sessions at the campus observatory for students in the course to attend. Includes setting up an array of telescopes and fielding student questions on their assignments.

Part-Time Specialist

Santa Fe College – Kika Silva Pla Planetarium

Oct 2021 – Present

Gainesville, FL

- Design, develop, and present planetarium shows for K-12 classes, collegiate-level curriculum, as well as the general public.
- Host several shows, including *Florida Skies*: an hour long tour of the Gainesville night sky.

Tutor

Center for Academic Resources in Engineering (CARE) – UIUC

Aug 2018 – May 2021

Urbana, IL

- Guided undergraduate students towards success in various homework assignments in a number of different disciplines.
- Planned and led small group exam review sessions, including the creation of worksheets, for specific courses and presented to students in order to help them review for exams.
- Analyzed the data on traffic of incoming students and created monthly reports of attendance, tracking several different variables.

Visual Instructor

Lincoln-Way Marching Band

Aug 2018 – Aug 2021

New Lenox, IL

- Assisted on the field teaching students how to perfect and perform an eight-minute field show. Included teaching management of simultaneous demand and awareness.
- Worked within a group of staff members on lesson plans and communicated on how to most effectively budget and allocate time to improving the overall product.

Committees

Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

University of Florida Department of Astronomy

Fall 2021

Gainesville, FL

Technical Skills

Fluent: Python, L^AT_EX (Tikz), Microsoft Office, Google Workspace

Literate: Bash, SLURM, HTML, CSS, R, Origin Pro, Java/JavaScript

Honors and Awards

University of Illinois Tutor of the Year Honorable Mention

Spring 2021

University of Illinois Tutor of the Year Finalist

Spring 2021

Dean's List, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences – UIUC

Fall 2020

Dean's List, Grainger College of Engineering – UIUC

Spring 2018, 2019

Access and Achievement Scholar – UIUC

Fall 2017 – Spring 2021

Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America

April 2015

Activities

Bluecoats Drum and Bugle Corps

Summer 2019, 2020, 2021

Madison Scouts Drum and Bugle Corps

Summer 2017, 2018