

Dusty Prater

(He/Him/His)

PhD Student

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EDUCATION

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

- **Ph.D. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology: 2023-Present**
 - **Key Courses:** Core: Ecology, Biometry, Core: Evolution, Plant Ecology, Seed Free Plants Reading Group, Population Genomics, Adv Topics Teaching & Learning, Visualizing Data Using R
- **B.S. Biological Sciences- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Summa Cum Laude, 2021-2023**
 - **Key Courses:** Evolution, Ecology, Astrobiology, Biostatistics, Invasion Biology, Global Change Ecology, Immunology, Macroevolution, Writing about Science and Medicine, Biochemistry I, Computational Biology and Bioinformatics, Evolution, Disease, and Medicine, and General Microbiology

Roane State Community College

- **A.S. Biology, Summa Cum Laude, 2019- 2021**
 - **Key Courses:** General Biology, General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, and Calculus

FUNDING

Torrey Botanical Society

- **2024: Greller Graduate Student Research Award for the Conservation of Local Flora and Ecosystems (\$1,000)**

University of Tennessee Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Collections

- **2024:**
 - **Dennis Breedlove Award for Student Botanical Field Experiences (\$1,500)**
 - **L.R. Helser Award (\$2,000)**
 - **Linda Holton Plant Research Graduate Award (\$1,500)**
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AWARDS

National Science Foundation

- 2024: GRFP Honorable Mention

Roane State Community College

- 2021:
 - President's Award Finalist
 - Outstanding Learning Center Tutor: Oak Ridge Award
 - Freshman Calculus Award
 - 2020:
 - General Biology Award
 - General Chemistry Award
 - Outstanding Freshman Award
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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

- Fall 2024
 - Head Teaching Assistant (additional curriculum and grading responsibilities)
 - BIOL 101 - Introduction to Biology: Cells, Genetics, and Physiology
- Spring 2024
 - Teaching Assistant
 - BIOL 102- Introduction to Biology: Biodiversity and Ecology
- Fall 2023
 - Teaching Assistant
 - BIOL 150 - Organismal and Ecological Biology

Roane State Community College

- Spring 2020- Present
 - Tutor IV
 - Provide online assistance to students in areas of General Biology, General and Organic Chemistry, Chemical Engineering Technology, Mathematics up to Calculus II, Statistics, Study Skills, and Writing.
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BROADER IMPACTS, MENTORING, AND OUTREACH

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

- Mentor: Anna Caten (Undergraduate Research Assistant): 2024
- GREBE Co-Outreach Coordinator: 2024-2025

Roane State Community College

- STEM CAMP: June 2023, June 2024
- Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society: January 2020- Present

SKILLS

- Proficient in Microsoft Office and Google Drive
- Proficient in R Studio, R Shiny, Biological Data Analysis, and Data Visualization
- Proficient in various Bioinformatic Tools including, but not limited to:
 - Protein structure tools, NCBI BLAST programs, and gene enrichment tools
- Trained in microscopy and various laboratory and field techniques
- Trained in First Aid and CPR
- Strong oral and written communication skills for a wide range of audiences