






# Grace E Coppinger


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 Mobile, Alabama

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## EDUCATION

**B.S. Biology** Aug 2020- Present

University of South Alabama

Minor: Chemistry, Marine

Mobile, Alabama

GPA: 3.89

Expected graduation: May 2024

Honors Thesis: Venom Transcriptomics of the rear-fanged snake *Thamnophis sirtalis*

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## RESEARCH POSITIONS

2023 Research Experience for Undergraduates, funded by the National Science Foundation at Boyce Thompson Institute, hosted by Cornell University

- Whole genome alignment
- Structural variant identification
- RNA-seq analysis
- Gene Ontology analysis
- Bioinformatic and computational science development

2022-2023 Research Assistant, department of Biology, in collaboration with the College of Medicine, paid position, University of South Alabama

- Bioinformatic and computational science development
- RNA-seq analysis
- Gland transcriptomics

2022-2023 Snake Spider Scorpion Transcriptomics INformatics and Genomics (SSSTING) Lab member, department of Biology, University of South Alabama

- Field work, trapping, biodiversity survey
- Rear fanged snake milking
- Dissection and venom gland extraction
- RNA extractions
- cDNA extraction
- Venom gland transcriptomics
- RNA-seq analysis
- Bioinformatic and computational science development

2020-2022 Lab assistant, department of Civil, Coastal and Environmental Engineering, paid position, University of South Alabama

- Performed Nitrogen, Carbon, Phosphorus box test on sight samples.
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## PUBLICATIONS

In Press Canterbury, D.N., **G.E. Coppinger**, S. Morris, and J.L. Strickland. *Hyla gratiosa* (Barking Treefrog) Axanthism. Herpetological Review.

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## PRESENTATIONS

- 2023      **Coppinger, G.E.**, H. Sun, and Z. Fei. Identification of structural variants between wild and cultivated watermelons through whole genome comparison. BTI REU George and Helen Kohut Symposium, Ithaca, NY
- 2023      A.J. Stewart., **Coppinger, G.E.**, and J.L. Strickland. Diet diversity drives phenotypic variability in the venom of rear-fanged snakes. 70th annual meeting of the Southwestern Association for Naturalists, Junction, Texas.
- 2022      **Coppinger, G.E.**, A.J. Stewart, and J.L. Strickland. Understanding Venom Transcriptomics of the Rear-fanged Snake *Thamnophis sirtalis*. Undergraduate Research Symposium at The University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama.
- 2021      **Coppinger, G.E.**, J.L. Strickland, and J.A. Borden. Reptile and Amphibian Diversity on the University of South Alabama's Campus. Meeting of the Alabama Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (ALPARC), Andalusia, Alabama.
- 2021      **Coppinger, G.E.**, J.L. Strickland, and J.A. Borden. Reptile and Amphibian Diversity on the University of South Alabama's Campus. Meeting of the Southeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (SEPARC), Hosted Virtually.
- 2021      **Coppinger, G.E.**, J.L. Strickland, and J.A. Borden. Reptile and Amphibian Diversity on the University of South Alabama's Campus. Undergraduate Research Symposium at The University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama.
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## FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

- 2020-2022    University of South Alabama AL, United States: Spent 850 logged hours checking drift fence arrays, making funnel traps, building arrays, hand collection, and identification of specimen for the Biology Department at the University of South Alabama.
- 2022      Texas, United States: Spent three weeks searching for ribbon snakes, tarantulas, and scorpions collection for the Biology Department at the University of South Alabama.
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## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE, MEMBERSHIPS, AND HONOR SOCIETIES

- 2022-Present    **Honors College Representative**
- Showcase the opportunities available through the University of South Alabama's Honors College
- 2021-Present    **SSSTING Lab Member**
- Perform research, outreach to local communities, and manage social media accounts
- 2021-Present    **Biology Student Association Member**
- Attend meetings and outreach opportunities
- 2021-2023      **Marine Science Student Association Member**
- Attend meetings and outreach opportunities
- 2020-2021      **First Year Council Member, campus safety/improvement, member of the year**
- Improve freshman campus experiences, work with local safety committees and police departments, create "Awareness Wednesday" informational social media outreach
- 2020-Present    **Honors College Member**
- Create and Honors Thesis, complete honors specific coursework, maintain 3.5 GPA, participate in local community outreach

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## SCHOLARSHIPS

Academic Year 2023-2024 ongoing \$4,250

Whiddon Honors Scholarship

Academic Year 2022-2023 \$14,632

USA Honors College Exploration and Experiential Learning Scholarship

USA Honors College Ambassadors' Spirit of Service Scholarship

Academic Year 2022-2023 continued

Ron Kiene Research Scholarship

Angelia and Steven Stokes Undergraduate Scholarship in Marine Sciences

Whiddon Honors Scholarship

Mike deGruy Memorial Scholarship

Brian Axsmith Memorial Scholarship

Neely Memorial Scholarship

Academic Year 2021-2022 \$13240

HEERF Round 3.5 - Tier 6 SAB

Fresh Admission Sch AB Tier 4

Angelia and Steven Stokes Undergraduate Scholarship in Marine Sciences

Whiddon Honors Scholarship

Mike deGruy Memorial Schol

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

Academic Year 2020-2021 \$6000

Fresh Admission Sch AB Tier 4

Honors Summer Scholar Fellowship

CRRSAA HEERF II

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## ATTENDED CONFERENCES

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| 2022 | Meeting of the Alabama Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, Andalusia, Alabama. |
| 2021 | Meeting of the Southeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, Virtual           |
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## WORK EXPERIENCE

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|-----------------------|---|
| May 2022 - Present    | <u>Ace Hardware, Mobile AL</u> Cashier                        |
| May 2021 - Aug 2021   | <u>Splash and Swimplex, Union MO</u> Lifeguard                |
| Jan 2021 - April 2021 | <u>Heros Sports Bar, Mobile AL</u> Waitress                   |
| Dec 2018 - Aug 2020   | <u>Scenic Regional Library, Union MO</u> Shelver, book upkeep |

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## REFERENCES

Jason Strickland, Ph.D

Assistant Professor

Department of Biology

University of South Alabama

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