

# AMELIA L. RITGER

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<https://ameliaritger.netlify.com/>

## EDUCATION

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- 2018 – present **University of California, Santa Barbara**  
Ph.D., Ecology Evolution and Marine Biology  
Advisor: Gretchen Hofmann
- 2011 – 2015 **Dartmouth College**  
B.A., Biology; Anthropology modified with Environmental Studies  
GPA: 3.66/4.0, *cum laude*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### *Research*

- 2016 – 2018 **Research Assistant**  
Dr. Daniel Kronauer – Rockefeller University (New York, NY)
- 2015 – 2016 **James B. Reynolds Scholar**  
Caribbean Marine Biological Institute (Curacao, Dutch Antilles)
- 2014 **Junior Research Scholar**  
Mentor: Jessica V. Trout-Haney  
Dr. Kathryn L. Cottingham – Dartmouth College (Hanover, NH)
- 2014 **CCMI Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Intern**  
Dr. Thomas K. Frazer – Central Caribbean Marine Institute (Little Cayman, British West Indies)
- 2014 **Dartmouth Biology Foreign Study Program (FSP) student**  
Dr. Ryan Calsbeek, Dr. Matthew Ayres, and Dr. Celia Chen (Costa Rica and Little Cayman, BWI)
- 2013 **Lab and Field Assistant**  
Dr. Seth D. Dobson – Caribbean Primate Research Center (Cayo Santiago, Puerto Rico)
- 2012 – 2013 **Sophomore Science Scholar**  
Mentor: Samuel B. Fey  
Dr. Kathryn L. Cottingham – Dartmouth College (Hanover, NH)

### *Mentorship*

- 2020 **Carlyn Hamel** (Pacific Ridge High School): *The Effects of Corynactis californica on the Foraging Behavior of Purple Urchins at Various Starvation States*  
Research Mentorship Program, UCSB (Santa Barbara, CA)
- 2020 **Ellyse Anderson** (UC Santa Barbara): *Will you be my neighbor? Ecological interactions between a corallimorph and kelp forest critters on the benthos*  
Faculty Research Assistance Program, UCSB (Santa Barbara, CA)
- 2019 **Xavius Boone** (UC Davis): *Urchin Starvation State May Amplify the Positive Interaction Between Corynactis californica and Macroalgae*

Ocean Global Change Biology REU, UCSB (Santa Barbara, CA).  
*Current status:* Ph.D. graduate student (San Diego State University)

### ***Teaching***

2014            **Undergraduate teaching assistant**  
 BIOL 27: Animal Behavior (Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH)

### **FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS**

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2018            National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program  
 2015            James B. Reynolds Scholarship for Foreign Study  
 2014            Central Caribbean Marine Institute Research Experience for Undergraduates  
 2014            Dartmouth Undergraduate Research Grant  
 2012            Dartmouth Sophomore Science Scholarship

### **RESEARCH GRANTS**

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2019            UCSB Graduate Students Association Travel Grant (\$200)  
 2015            James B. Reynolds Scholarship for Foreign Study (\$20,000)

### **PUBLICATIONS**

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#### ***Published***

Trout-Haney, J.V., **Ritger, A.L.**, Cottingham, K.L. 2020. Benthic cyanobacteria of the genus *Nostoc* are a source of microcystins in Greenlandic lakes and ponds. *Freshwater Biology* 00: 1-12.

**Ritger, A.L.**, Fountain, T.C., and Pierotti, M.E.R. 2020. Evidence for selectivity in the invasive lionfish (*Pterois volitans/miles*). *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology* (524): 151311.

Chandra, V., Fetter-Pruneda, I., Oxley, P.R., **Ritger, A.L.**, McKenzie, S.K., Libbrecht, R., Kronauer, D.J.C. 2018. Social regulation of insulin signaling and the evolution of eusociality in ants. *Science* 361(6400): 398-402.

**Ritger, A.L.**, Curtis, A., and Chen, C.Y. 2018. Bioaccumulation of mercury and other metal contaminants in invasive lionfish (*Pterois volitans/miles*) from Curaçao. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 131: 38-44.

### **PRODUCTS**

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Marine Biodiversity Observation Network - Shiny app (<https://ameliaritger.shinyapps.io/mbon-shiny-app/>)

### **MEETING PRESENTATIONS**

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2019            *Intraspecific variation in a clonal corallimorph alters purple urchin foraging behavior.*  
 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists (Ensenada, Mexico). Poster.

2017            *Patterns of Mercury bioaccumulation in invasive lionfish (Pterois volitans/miles) from Curacao.*  
 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant (Providence, RI). Talk.

2015            *Friend or foe? Prey fish perception of predatory lionfish.*

Karen E. Wetterhahn Science Symposium (Hanover, NH). Poster.

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

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- 2020 Interview a Scientist, Sci-Section Radio Show (radio/streaming/online)
- 2020 Science communicator, Transitional Kindergarten class. Hollister Elementary School (Goleta, CA)
- 2019 Science communicator, World Oceans Day Festival. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Sea Center (Santa Barbara, CA)
- 2019 Judge, Santa Barbara County Science and Engineering Fair. UCSB (Santa Barbara, CA)
- 2016 Oral presenter – *To Eat or Not to Eat? The diet of the Curacao lionfish and the woes of field research*. Caribbean Marine Biological Institute (Curacao, Dutch Antilles)
- 2014 Oral presenter – *Friend or foe? Prey fish perception of predatory lionfish*. Central Caribbean Marine Institute (Little Cayman Island, BWI)

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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### ***University and Departmental service***

- 2020 UCSB American Association of University Women (AAUW) Mentorship Program
- 2019 – 2020 UCSB EEMB Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Wellness Committee
- 2019 – 2020 UCSB EEMB Graduate Student Symposium Committee
- 2020 UCSB Associated Students Bike Shop Building Committee

### ***Reviewer for scientific publications***

*Ecology, Ethology*

### ***Reviewer for grant proposals***

NOAA/MARFIN