

AMELIA L. RITGER

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

EDUCATION

- 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

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 – 2021 **Ellyse Anderson** (UC Santa Barbara): *Will you be my neighbor? Ecological interactions between a corallimorph and kelp forest critters on the benthos*
EEMB Senior Honors Program, UCSB (Santa Barbara, CA)
Faculty Research Assistance Program, UCSB (Santa Barbara, CA)
- 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)
- 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

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

2021 Schmidt Family Foundation Research Accelerator Award (\$8,000)
 2020 UCSB Associated Students Coastal Fund Major Grant (\$15,740)
 2019 UCSB Graduate Students Association Travel Grant (\$200)
 2015 James B. Reynolds Scholarship for Foreign Study (\$20,000)

PUBLICATIONS

Published

Trout-Haney, J.V., **Ritger, A.L.**, Cottingham, K.L. 2021. Benthic cyanobacteria of the genus *Nostoc* are a source of microcystins in Greenlandic lakes and ponds. *Freshwater Biology* 66: 266-277.

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

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

MEETING PRESENTATIONS

2019 *Intraspecific variation in a clonal corallimorph alters purple urchin foraging behavior.*
 100th Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists (Ensenada, Mexico). Poster.
 2017 *Patterns of Mercury bioaccumulation in invasive lionfish (Pterois volitans/miles) from Curacao.*
 13th 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

- 2019, 2021 Judge, Santa Barbara County Science and Engineering Fair. UCSB (Santa Barbara, CA; virtual)
- 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)
- 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

University and Departmental service

- 2019 – 2021 UCSB EEMB Graduate Student Symposium Committee
- 2019 – 2021 UCSB EEMB Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Wellness Committee
- 2020 – 2021 UCSB American Association of University Women (AAUW) Mentorship Program
- 2020 – 2021 UCSB Associated Students Bike Shop Building Committee

Reviewer for scientific publications

Ecology, Ethology

Reviewer for grant proposals

NOAA/MARFIN