

# CAITLYN C. OLIVER BROWN

## Curriculum Vitae

Department of Biology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM  
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## EDUCATION

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2024- present **PhD Biology**

Department of Biology, University of New Mexico  
Advisor: Dr. Michael Andersen

2021-2024 **MSc Biology**

Department of Biology and Wildlife, University of Alaska Fairbanks  
Thesis title: *Divergence and adaptation in Beringian birds*  
Advisor: Dr. Kevin Winker

2014-2019 **BSc Biology**, concentration in ecology and evolution, *summa cum laude*

Department of Biology, San Jose State University  
Advisor: Dr. Ben Carter

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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2021- 2024 Graduate curatorial assistantship, University of Alaska Museum

- Prepared ~300 museum bird specimens.
- Collected over 140 specimens over two field expeditions.
- Assisted with general curatorial duties in the museum.

2021 Wildlife Technician, University of Wisconsin Madison

- Deployed acoustic recording units to determine the presence of owl species.
- Independent field work in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

2020 Field Technician, USGS Western Ecological Research Center

- Group and individual work collaring and tracking Greater Sage-Grouse.
- Remote field work in Nevada and California.

2019 Summer Intern, Siskiyou Deer and Puma Project

- Assisted with capturing and processing mule deer fawns in Cascade Mountains

## PUBLICATIONS

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*In review/revision:*

1. **Oliver Brown, C.C.**, K.A. Collier, K.K. Mills, F. Spaulding, T.C. Glenn, C.L. Pruett, & K. Winker. *In revision*. Evidence of positive selection and a novel phylogeny among five subspecies of song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) in Alaska. *PeerJ*.

## PRESENTATIONS

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**Oliver Brown C.C.,** T.C. Glenn, K. Winker. *Gene flow accompanies divergence in Beringian birds*. American Ornithological Society Annual Meeting; Oct 1-6, 2024. Oral presentation.

**Oliver Brown C.C.,** K.A. Collier, K.K. Mills, F. Spaulding, T.C. Glenn, C.L. Pruett, K. Winker. *Evidence of positive selection and a novel phylogeny among five subspecies of Song Sparrow (Melospiza melodia) in Alaska*. Alaska Bird Conference; Dec 11-14, 2023. Oral presentation.

**Oliver Brown C.C.,** K.A. Collier, K.K. Mills, F. Spaulding, T.C. Glenn, C.L. Pruett, K. Winker. *Phenotypic and genomic variation in five subspecies of Song Sparrow (Melospiza melodia) in Alaska*. American Ornithological Society and the Society of Canadian Ornithologists Joint Meeting; Aug 8-12, 2023. Oral presentation.

**Oliver Brown, C.C.,** B.E. Carter. *Testing for population-level morphological variation of museum specimens of Clark's Nutcrackers (Nucifraga columbiana)*. American Ornithological Society Annual Meeting; June 24-28, 2019. Poster.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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2023 Ornithology (BIOL F426), Graduate TA, University of Alaska Fairbanks  
- Led laboratory section, designed materials, lectures, and evaluations.

## FIELD EXPERIENCE

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2023 Alaska: Aleutian Islands, collecting (10 & 14 days)  
2021 California: Sierra Nevada Mountains, wildlife technician (3 months)  
2020 California & Nevada: wildlife technician (4 months)  
2019 California: Cascade Range, wildlife intern (2 months)

## GRANTS AND FUNDING

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2023 UAF Graduate School Travel Grant (\$1500)  
2023 ASUAF Travel Grant (\$700)  
2023 Betty A. Anderson Memorial for Avian Studies (\$2500)  
2023 Jim Stelmock Memorial Scholarship (\$1000)  
2023 American Ornithological Society Travel Grant (\$900)  
2019 American Ornithological Society Travel Grant (\$400)

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- Curatorial skills: field collection (~140 specimens), museum preparation (~300 specimens)
- Bioinformatics software: GATK, Phyluce, δaδi

- Computer skills: command line, R programming, Python scripting
- DNA extraction
- Remote field work

## **SERVICE & OUTREACH**

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2022-present Letters to a Pre-Scientist pen-pal ([www.prescientist.org/](http://www.prescientist.org/))

- Wrote letters to elementary students about science and STEM career paths

### **University of Alaska Museum**

2023 Halloween at the Museum

- Educated over 400 museum visitors using museum specimens.

2023 Family Day- Feathers

- Educated over 200 museum visitors using museum specimens.

2023 Museum Open House

- Showcased specimen preparation to over 1200 museum visitors.

### **University of Alaska Fairbanks**

2022 Outreach Coordinator, Biology Graduate Student Association

- Coordinated communication among biology graduate students about events and meetings.
- Acted as liaison between graduate students and faculty on department issues.

2022-2023 Planning Committee, Midnight Sun Science Symposium

- Organized hybrid in-person and online symposium showcasing student research.
- Hired keynote speakers and advertised the event to the community.

### **San Jose State University**

2018-2019 Volunteer curatorial work, Vertebrate Collections

- Digitized a ~5000 specimen catalogue.

### **Society Memberships**

American Ornithological Society

## **ACADEMIC AWARDS**

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President's Scholar, San Jose State University (Spring 2015, Spring 2019)  
 Dean's Scholar, San Jose State University (Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016)