

Emily Whittaker

Phone: (828) 406-0689 | Email: emilywhittaker@g.ucla.edu

Education

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Expected Jun. 2026
PhD: Planetary Science

University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) May 2021
BS: Physics, Astronomy

Experience

Graduate Student Researcher Sep. 2021–present
Jean-Luc Margot; UCLA

Research Assistant Aug. 2020–May 2021
Eliza Kempton, Matej Malik; UMD

Summer Intern June–Aug. 2020
George Helou, Frank Masci; Caltech GROWTH SURF

Research Assistant Aug. 2019–May 2020
Drake Deming; UMD

Summer Intern June–Aug. 2019
Patrick Taylor, Ed Rivera-Valentín; Lunar and Planetary Institute

Research Assistant Jul.–Aug. 2018
Suvi Gezari; UMD

Awards and Honors

Cota-Robles Fellowship 2021–2022, 2024–2025
UCLA

Departmental Scholarship 2021–2022
Earth, Planetary and Space Sciences, UCLA

High Honors in Astronomy May 2021
UMD

Honors College Citation: Design Cultures and Creativity May 2019

UMD

Select Works

“Constraining the Thickness of the Atmosphere of TRAPPIST-1 b from its JWST Secondary Eclipse Observation” Astrophysical Journal Letters, Third Author	In Preparation
“Analysis of Two-Band WISE Observations of Asteroids” Planetary Science Journal, First Author	Apr. 2023
“Determination of 1929 Asteroid Rotation Periods from WISE Data” Planetary Science Journal, Third Author	Apr. 2023
“Analysis of Two-Band WISE Observations of Asteroids” Division of Planetary Science Meeting Abstract, First Author, Talk	Dec. 2022
“The Detectability of Rocky Planet Surface and Atmosphere Composition with JWST: The Case of LHS 3844b” Planetary Science Journal, First Author	Nov. 2022
“A Search for Signatures of Volcanism and Geodynamics on the Hot Rocky Exoplanet LHS 3844b” James Webb Space Telescope Accepted Observing Proposal, Investigator	Mar. 2021
“Uncertainty Assessment of Near-Earth Asteroid Size Measurements from Radar Images” Lunar and Planetary Science Conference Abstract, First Author, Talk (Conference Cancelled)	Jan. 2020

Teaching and Outreach

Teaching Assistant, Astrobiology (EPS SCI 3), UCLA	Sep.–Dec. 2022
Exploring Your Universe Volunteer, UCLA	Nov. 2022
Interview, New Scientist	Jul. 2022
Summer Literacy Program Science Volunteer, Boone United Methodist Church	Jul. 2021
WMUC Radio Show Co-host: <i>Radio Astronomy</i> , UMD	2018–2021