

Emerson Whittaker

(828) 406-0689 | emerson.whittaker@g.ucla.edu | www.emerson-whittaker.com

Education

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) PhD: Planetary Science	Expected Jun. 2026
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) MS: Planetary Science	Jun. 2023
University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) BS: Physics, Astronomy	May 2021

Experience

Graduate Student Researcher Jean-Luc Margot; UCLA	Sep. 2021–present
Research Assistant Eliza Kempton, Matej Malik; UMD	Aug. 2020–May 2021
Summer Intern George Helou, Frank Masci; Caltech GROWTH SURF	June–Aug. 2020
Research Assistant Drake Deming; UMD	Aug. 2019–May 2020
Summer Intern Patrick Taylor, Ed Rivera-Valentín; Lunar and Planetary Institute	June–Aug. 2019
Research Assistant Suvi Gezari; UMD	Jul.–Aug. 2018

Awards and Honors

Constantine and Perina Panunzio Citizenship Award Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences, UCLA	Sep. 2024
John N. Truex Research Award Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences, UCLA	Sep. 2023
Cota-Robles Fellowship UCLA	2021–2022, 2024–2025
High Honors in Astronomy UMD	May 2021
Honors College Citation: Design Cultures and Creativity	May 2019

Select Works

Whittaker, E. A., Margot, and J. L., Myhrvold N. (2024). Discovering Asteroids with WISE Data. DPS Abstract (Talk), 54 (10), 212.05.

Ih, J., Kempton, E. M. R., **Whittaker, E. A.**, and Lessard, M. (2023). Constraining the Thickness of TRAPPIST-1 b's Atmosphere from Its JWST Secondary Eclipse Observation at 15 μm . ApJL, 952 (1), L4.

Whittaker, E. A., Margot, J. L., Lam, A. L. H., and Myhrvold, N. (2023). Thermal Models of Asteroids with Two-band Combinations of Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer Cryogenic Data. PSJ, 4 (4), 64.

Lam, A. L. H., Margot, J. L., **Whittaker, E. A.**, and Myhrvold, N. (2023). Determination of 1929 Asteroid Rotation Periods from WISE Data. PSJ, 4 (4) 61.

Whittaker, E. A., Margot, J. L., Lam, A. L. H., and Myhrvold, N. (2022). Analysis of Two-Band WISE Observations of Asteroids. DPS Abstract (Talk), 54 (8), 504.06.

Whittaker, E. A., Malik, M., Ih, J., Kempton, E. M. R., Mansfield, M., Bean, J. L., Kite, E. S., Koll, D. D. B., Cronin, T. W., and Hu, R (2022). The Detectability of Rocky Planet Surface and Atmosphere Composition with JWST: The Case of LHS 3844b. AJ, 164 (6), 258.

Kriedberg, L., Hu, H., Kite, E. S., Koll, D., Malik, M., Morley, C., Schaefer, L., and **Whittaker, E** (2021). A Search for Signatures of Volcanism and Geodynamics on the Hot Rocky Exoplanet LHS 3844b. JWST Accepted Proposal, Cycle 1, 1846.

Whittaker, E., Taylor, P. A., and Rivera-Valentín, E. G (2020). Uncertainty Assessment of Near-Earth Asteroid Size Measurements from Radar Images. LPSC Abstract (Talk scheduled), 51, 1446.

Teaching and Outreach

Interview, Nature	Feb. 2024
Teaching Assistant, Astrobiology (EPS SCI 3), UCLA	Sep.–Dec. 2022, 2023
Exploring Your Universe Volunteer, UCLA	Nov. 2022, 2023, 2024
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