

Grethel “Alexandra” Juarez

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Biology and Minor in Biostatistics

May 2024

Loyola University Chicago

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Field Technician Volunteer

May 2025- Present

Investigating Avian Disease Prevalence between Farm and Control Sites

McGraw Lab, Michigan State University

- Conduct mist-net setup, bird extraction, morphological measurements, banding, disease symptoms observations, cloacal sampling, and blood sampling with ketone and glucose measurements

Research Assistant – Vocal Development

September 2024 - Present

Analyzing Socially Learned Vocalizations in Zebra Finches

The Smith-Vidaurre (BIRDS) Lab, Michigan State University

- Manage daily animal husbandry tasks for zebra finches
- Run lab work such as DNA extraction, PCR, and gel electrophoresis
- Record bird vocalizations and analyze them on Raven to identify socially learned calls
- Troubleshoot technology and develop code for issues, unit tests, and vignettes using R and GitHub
- Mentor undergraduate researchers in the lab

Research Assistant

January 2022 - May 2024

Evaluating Sexual Dimorphism in Spotted Sandpipers

Lipshutz Lab, Loyola University Chicago

- Ran lab work including DNA extraction, PCR, gel electrophoresis
- Statistically analyzed sex differences in morphology by generating figures with RStudio
- Recorded bird vocalizations with Marantz and AudioMoths, later analyzed in Raven

Field Technician

May - July 2022

Undergraduate Summer Research Program, Loyola University Chicago + UC Davis

- Conducted mist-net setup, morphological measurements, banding, blood sampling, radio telemetry, nest monitoring, and acoustic recording
 - Hiked 3-5 miles daily at ~6,400 ft elevation carrying field gear in the Mono Basin, CA
 - Optimized daily field data entry in Excel
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ACADEMIC AND FIELD SKILLS

- Software experience with Excel/Word/PowerPoint, Canva, R Studio, Raven, and GitHub
 - Mist netting, Radio Telemetry, Marantz Recording
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RELEVANT COURSEWORK

- Ecology, Evolution, Evolutionary Medicine, Infectious Diseases in Wildlife
- General Biology, Genetics, Cell Biology, Anatomy & Physiology, Introduction to Research
- Introductory Biostatistics, Advanced Biostatistics, Linear Regression (based on R)
- Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry, Physics I and II

RELEVANT EXPERIENCES

Conference Volunteer , American Ornithology Society	1 October - 5 October 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Prepared technology for moderators and speakers during oral presentation sessions	
Treasurer/Founder , Latin Music Ensemble, Loyola University Chicago	January 2023 - May 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Coached and performed Latin music to promote and celebrate diversity on campus	
Spanish Interpreter , CommunityHealth Free Clinic	April 2022 - May 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Interpreted conversations between patients and doctors	
Lead Singer/Vocal Instructor , Patches & Albo	April 2022 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Direct rehearsals and performances as the frontman, and conceptualizing setlistsGuide students (of all ages) in singing and performance techniques	
President/Founder , Care-olers	January 2022 - May 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed and performed music for the Lakefront Nursing and Rehabilitation Center	
Treasurer/Secretary , Mujeres en Medicina, Loyola University Chicago	January 2022 - May 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mentored womxn pursuing a healthcare career and provided a supportive community	
Medical Assistant , Milwaukee Avenue Doctor's Office	December 2021 - May 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Examined and recorded patient vitals before the doctor's visit	
Shadowing Student , Loyola University Medical Center	November 2020 - 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Observed the Director of the Anesthesiology Department's daily work activities	
Students Together Are Reaching Success (STARS) Mentor , Loyola University Chicago	Aug 2020 - May 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mentored incoming freshman through their transition to college	
Licensed Real Estate Broker , Bright Future Realty Inc.	July 2020 - May 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Negotiated prices of real estate property and scheduled property showings	

AWARDS AND HONORS (Total \$11,500)

- Building Community Bridges Scholarship, Loyola, 2023 (\$1000)
- The Animal Behavior Society Charles H. Turner Award, 2023
- Biology Summer Research Fellowship Program, Loyola, 2023 (\$3000)
- Mulcahy Scholarship, Loyola University Chicago, 2022 & 2023 (\$2000)
- STARS Mentor Scholarship, Loyola University Chicago, 2022 & 2023 (\$3000)
- College of Arts and Sciences Summer Research Experience, Loyola, 2022 (\$2500)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

GA Juarez, T Patton, Q Thomas, J Schaefer, SE Lipshutz. When females compete and males care: Phenotypic differences in the spotted sandpiper.

- American Ornithology Society. Estes Park, CO. October 2024.
- Animal Behavior Society. Portland, OR. July 2023.
- Loyola Undergraduate Research and Engagement Symposium. April 2023.
- Chicago Area Undergraduate Research Symposium. Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center, Chicago, IL. March 2023.

LANGUAGES

Spanish, Native Proficiency
English, Fluent