

CV Highlights

Education

- PhD in Molecular and Cellular Biology — focus on genetics, genomics, and computational biology.
- Continued education in bioinformatics, statistics, and advanced molecular methods.

Distinctions & Memberships

- Research funding contributions > **€36 M** (PI/Co-I/Researcher).
- Collaborations with EMBRAPA (Brazil), Cardiff University (UK), and University of Coimbra (PT).

Career (Professional Experience)

Category	Position / Title	Institution / Location	Period
Career Profes- sion	Associate Researcher	University of Coimbra, Portugal	2019 – to- day
Career Profes- sion	Lecturer in Ecology	University of South Wales, UK	2018 –
Career Profes- sion	Marie Curie Fellow	Cardiff University, UK & EMBRAPA-Florestas, Brazil	2015 – 2018
Career Profes- sion	Research Associate, School of Biosciences	Cardiff University, UK	2012 –
Career Profes- sion	Teaching Assistant (Animal Anatomy and Histology; Histological Techniques; Ecotoxicology)	Universidade dos Açores, Portugal	2015 2008 –
Career Profes- sion	Intern – Section of Zoological Anatomy & Taxonomy (SATZ), Histology & Histochemistry, Ecotoxicology of volcanic emissions	Universidade dos Açores, Portugal	2012 2007 –
Career Profes- sion	Intern – XIII Scientific Expedition to Flores & Corvo Islands (Marine & Terrestrial Invertebrate Ecology, Scuba Sampling)	Azores, Portugal	2008 2007

Category	Position / Title	Institution / Location	Period
Career Profession	Intern – Shellfish Husbandry, Ecology & Larval Physiology (Ornamental Shrimps)	Universidad Autónoma de México (UNAM), Sisal, Mexico	2005

Education

Degree	Year	Institution	Advisor	Thesis Title	Author	Year	Link	Type	Pages	Honours	Comments
Postgraduate Certificate in Education (Fellow of the Higher Education Academy)	2018	Higher Education Academy, United Kingdom	NA	NA	Cunha	2019	Postgraduate Certificate	Postgraduate Certificate	NA	NA	Alignment with the UK Professional Standards Framework (UKPSF)
Ph.D. in Cellular & Molecular Biology	2008-2012	Universidade dos Açores (Ponta Delgada, Portugal)	Prof. Armando Rodrigues	The effects of extreme environments of volcanic origin using earthworms as models	Cunha	2012	http://hdl.handle.net/10400.3/3968	Ph.D. Thesis	255	With hon-ourable mention	NA
M.Sc. Shellfish Biology, Fisheries and Culture	2005-2006	School of Ocean Sciences, University of Wales (Bangor, UK)	Prof. Iwan Le Vay	Reproduction and Nutrition of the soft coral Sinularia s.p.	Cunha	2006	NA	MSc Thesis	65	NA	NA

Degree	Year	Institution	Advisor	Thesis Title	Author	Year	Link	Type	Page	Honours	Comments
B.Sc. in Biology (First Class Honours)	2001-2005	Universidade dos Açores (Ponta Delgada, Portugal)	Dr. António Costa	Physiology and Nutrition in Larvae of the Cleaner Shrimp <i>Lysmata amboinensis</i> in the First Days of Life	Cunha, L.	2005	http://hdl.handle.net/1003/3967	De- gree The- sis	70	First Class Honours	
Naval Instruction (1st year)	2000-2001	Escola Naval (Portuguese Army Navy University)	NA	NA	Cunha, L.	2001	NA	Coursework / Instruction	NA	NA	Instruction in Navigation, Mathematics, Sailing and Leadership

Additional Education & Courses

Category	Course/Workshop	Hours	Location / Organizer	Year
Course	Workshop: “Developing a Serious Game” (2nd AGM BENCHMARKS)	1	University of Nancy, Coimbra, Portugal	2024
Course	Workshop: “Establishing Cognitive Models for Soil Functions” (1st AGM BENCHMARKS)	4	Instituto Pedro Nunes, Coimbra, Portugal	2024
Course	Workshop: “Sample Identification and Sorting in BENCHMARKS” (1st AGM BENCHMARKS)	2	Instituto Pedro Nunes, Coimbra, Portugal	2024
Course	Workshop: “OpenADOM System for Data Collection and Archiving”	2	Online (Cristine Le-Bas, INRA)	2024
Course	Workshop: “Building the Cognitive Models for Soil Functions”	2	Wageningen University & Research, Netherlands	2023
Course	Workshop: “Selection of Biological Methods for the Assessment of Soil Functions”	2	Wageningen University & Research, Netherlands	2021

Category	Course/Workshop	Hours	Location / Organizer	Year
Course	Active Lens Digital Evolution – Faculty Development Workshop	40	Michigan University, USA	2020
Course	Nature Masterclass	2	School of Biological Sciences, Cardiff University, UK	2018
Course	Course on Oligochaeta Taxonomy, Biology and Ecology (intensive course)	40	Universidade Positivo, Curitiba, Brazil	2017
Course	Course on Statistical Biogeography and Niche Modelling	40	Transmitting Science, Barcelona, Spain	2016
Course	First Aid Course (initial training 2015; refresher 2022)	40	University of South Wales, UK	2015 / 2022
Course	Getting Started in Teaching	8	Cardiff University, UK	2014
Course	Introduction to Research Funding	4	Cardiff University, UK	2014
Course	Social and Professional Networking Tools for Science Communication	2	Nashville, USA (Dr Sarah Bowman)	2013
Course	Phylogenetics Workshop	4	Salt Lake City, USA (Society of Systematic Biologists)	2013
Course	Equality and Diversity for Team Leadership	4	Cardiff University, UK	2012
Course	Biopython Workshop	40	Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic (Dr Peter Cock)	2012
Course	Workshop on Evolution and Genomics	80	Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic (evomics.org)	2012
Course	Bioinformatics using Python for Biologists	40	Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência, Oeiras, Portugal	2009
Course	Volcanic Environments and Their Impact on Biological Organisms	4	Universidade dos Açores, Portugal	2008
Course	Atomic Absorption Practical Course	28	Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal	2008
Course	Natural Products, Use and Bioprospection	4	Universidade dos Açores, Portugal	2007
Course	Project Management	24	School of Ocean Sciences, Bangor University, UK	2005
Course	Communicating Confidently and Professionally	2	School of Ocean Sciences, Bangor University, UK	2005
Course	Introduction to Sampling and Estimation of Environmental Variables	8	School of Ocean Sciences, Bangor University, UK	2005
Course	Ecological Preference for Habitat of Prey: Data Analysis Approaches	8	School of Ocean Sciences, Bangor University, UK	2005

Category	Course/Workshop	Hours	Location / Organizer	Year
Course	The Business of Tendering and Contracting	7	School of Ocean Sciences, Bangor University, UK	2005
Course	Advanced Applied Statistics	90	UNAM, Sisal, Mexico	2004

Memberships

Category	Organization / Network	Role / Status	Since
Membership	Environmental Genomics Laboratory (ENGEL), University of Coimbra	Founder and Leader	2024
Membership	European Reference Genome Atlas (ERGA)	Member	2023
Membership	Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative (SOILBon)	Member	2023
Membership	International Network on Soil Biodiversity (NETSOB), contributing to GLOSOB	Member	2023
Membership	British Ecological Society	Member	2019
Membership	Marie Curie Alumni Association	Member	2018
Membership	Society for the Study of Evolution	Member	2012
Membership	Systematic Biology Society	Member	2012
Membership	International Society of Computational Biology	Member	2010
Membership	Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC)	Member	2008
Membership	Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology (IMarEST)	Member	2005
Committee Member-ship	Sociedade Portuguesa de Ecologia	Member of the Scientific Committee of the National Ecology Meeting	2021

Distinctions (Awards)

Year	Title	Institution / Awarding Body	Country
2019	Elected Best Student Partnership (Lecturing) of University of South Wales	University of South Wales	United Kingdom
2018	Short-Listed for Best Lecturer of University of South Wales	University of South Wales	United Kingdom
2015	Top 5 finalist of the Royal Geographical Society grant contest “Land Rover Bursary”	Royal Geographical Society	United Kingdom
2015	3rd Place in the PacBio SMRT grant contest	Pacific Biosciences Inc.	United States
2012	4th Place for the Best Business Idea with the project “GEOMARTEC”	Governo dos Açores	Portugal
2011	Mexican Government Scholarship for Advanced Postgraduate Studies	Mexican Government	Mexico
2008	Best Poster Award, International Congress of Metals and Genetics (ICMG 2008)	Université Paris Descartes	France
2008	PhD Scholarship	Fundo Regional para a Ciência e Tecnologia	Portugal
2005	M.Sc. Scholarship	European Social Fund	Belgium
2001	B.Sc. Scholarship	Universidade dos Açores	Portugal

Other Skills

Category	Skill / Certification	Level / Details
Other Skills	Languages – Portuguese	Native
Other Skills	Languages – English	Excellent
Other Skills	Languages – Spanish	Excellent
Other Skills	Languages – French	Average
Other Skills	Scuba Diving Certification	CMAS P1
Other Skills	Driver’s License	IMT
Other Skills	Lifeguard Certification	Instituto de Socorros a Náufragos