Nicholas J. Lyon

njlyon0.github.io
nicholasjlyon@gmail.com

Data Scientist & Scientific Communicator

Self-starting and enthusiastic communicator with 7+ years of experience conducting ecological research in a variety of coding languages, designing **quality assurance and control workflows**, and presenting results in a range of written and oral formats. Effective at carrying out individual work while also excelling in collaborative team settings. A bright, adaptable worker who can **successfully lead or assist** on dynamic and ongoing projects.

Skills

R · **Git** · Quarto · Microsoft Office · R Shiny · **R Package Development** · Data Visualization · Team Management · Zoom
Public Speaking · WordPress · Survey Creation · Text Mining · Spatial Data Wrangling · **Experimental Design** · Methods Development
SQL · Climate Data Management · **Scientific Writing** · Science Communication · Species Distribution Modeling · **Teaching**
Generalized Linear Mixed Effect Models · **Workshop Development** · GitHub · Project Management · R Package Creation

Professional Experience

Data Analyst | **LTER Network Office**, Santa Barbara CA | (Feb. 2022 – Present)
- Worked with 91 members of 5 LTER working groups to meet their data synthesis-related needs
- Taught workshops on the `tidyverse` R packages and reproducible coding with Git and GitHub
- Authored the R package `lterpalettefinder` and wrote a companion R Shiny app to demonstrate it
- Wrangled spatial data from a variety of sources (including lithology, land cover, etc.)

Data Scientist & Network Administrator | **Herbivory Variability Network**, Lansing MI | (Aug. 2021 – Feb. 2022)
- Coded a quality assurance pipeline in R for a database collected by 200 collaborators based in more than 30 countries
- Designed a data management plan to standardize post-collection data handling and distribution across the Network
- Revised the set of protocols used to train collaborators before and during data collection
- Created an R Shiny app for preliminary quality assurance and control followed by data submission

Biology Teaching Assistant | **University of Georgia**, Athens GA | (Aug. 2020 – May 2021)
- Facilitated students in honing their scientific observation, experimental design, and writing skills
- Designed instructional content for 25 weeks of labs that emphasized critical thinking skills across two semesters
- Provided thorough and constructive written feedback on lab reports as well as on quiz-style assignments
- Aided students in identifying their first independent research question and implementing the subsequent experiment

Grassland Restoration Ecologist | **Iowa State University**, Ames IA | (May 2016 – May 2019)
- Surveyed butterflies, wild bees, and flowering plants in remnant and restored prairie
- Performed quality assurance and control (QA/QC) on field-collected data collected by multiple observers
- Interviewed, hired, and managed teams of research technicians for multiple field seasons
- Wrote protocols for field data collection and database management

Selected Products

Lyon N (2022). lterpalettefinder: **Extract Color Palettes from Photos and Pick Official LTER Palettes**. R package version 1.1.0.

Gaynor, K. et al. **Ten Simple Rules to Cultivate Belonging in Collaborative Data Science Research Teams**. 2022. PLOS Computational Biology

Lyon, N.J., De La Rosa, G., Guerrero, F. **Sharing Science with R Shiny Apps**. 2022. LTER All Scientists' Meeting, Monterey, CA

Lyon N (2022). dndR: **Dungeons and Dragons Functions in R.** R package version 1.0.0.

Lyon, N.J., Chen, A., Brun, J. **Coding with the Tidyverse**. 2022. LTER Network Office, Santa Barbara, CA

Education

Master of Science, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology – Iowa State University, Ames IA
Bachelor of Science, Biology – University of Puget Sound, Tacoma WA