

Damla Cinoglu

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Education

Ph.D Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, University of Texas at Austin (expected) 2024
Currently in post-candidacy. 8th semester and 4th year.
Proposed dissertation title: Structural and functional coexistence along tropical forest succession
Graduate Applied Statistics Portfolio, University of Texas at Austin (expected) 2024

B.S. Environmental Sciences and Economics, University of Virginia 2019
Honors thesis title: Post-fire Interactions between *Ceanothus* spp. and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) in the Klamath Mountains

Pedagogical Training

Inclusive Classrooms Leadership Certificate, Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, UT Austin 2023
With discussions about strategies for developing and sustaining an inclusive classroom climate, and opportunities to explore elements of course design and processes that can broaden intellectual scope and reflect the core values in the classroom.

Advanced Teaching Preparation Certificate, Faculty innovation Center, UT Austin 2022
Completed a series of seven sessions on developing teaching skills, including pedagogical theory, cognitive learning theories, inclusive teaching practices, working with students with disabilities, structuring lesson plans, fostering student participation, and assessment.

Concentration in Teaching and Mentoring, TIDES, UT Austin 2022
Including courses such as “Evidence-based Teaching”, “Inclusive teaching”, “Lesson Plan Development”, “Instructional Practice”, “Mentoring Undergraduate Research”, and “Online Teaching”.

Biology Instructional Office Teaching Assistant Workshop 2019

Academic Appointments

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Present

Graduate Research Assistant, University of Texas at Austin Spring 2020, Spring 2021-Fall 2022

Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant, University of Texas at Austin Spring 2020, Spring 2021-Fall 2022
Department of Integrative Biology — Advisor: Dr. Caroline Farrior

Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Virginia 2017-2019
Department of Environmental Sciences — Advisor: Dr. Howard Epstein

Undergraduate Field and Lab Assistant, University of Virginia Summer 2018
Department of Environmental Sciences — Advisor: Dr. David Carr, Dr. T'ai Roulston

Funding

The University of Texas Graduate Continuing Fellowship - \$55,000	2023-2024
Enhanced UT Austin Graduate Fellowship - Third-year salary and \$2500 annually	2019-2024
The Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute Short Term Fellowship - \$6000	2023
Ari Yehiel Blattstein Endowed Presidential Scholarship - \$2500	2023
Billie L. Turner Plant Resources Center Department of Integrative Biology, The Linda Escobar Award - \$2000	2022
Texas Career Engagement Office, Professional Development Award - \$3700 <i>An Introduction to Building your Professional Website: Basic Programming and Nuanced Website Content Skills</i>	2021, 2022
Office of the Provost, University of Texas, ACT (Actions of Community Transformation) Seed Grant - \$10,000 <i>Empowering women in STEM to become community leaders through mentorship</i>	2021, 2022
Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Professional Development Award - \$250	2021
Department of Integrative Biology, Research Grant - \$5900	2021
Native Plant Society of Texas, Graduate Student Fellowship - \$2500 <i>Predicting the biodiversity-ecosystem functioning relationship in a central native Texan grassland: a controlled, field experiment</i>	2021
ESA Physiological Ecology Section Travel Award - \$500	2019

Teaching Experience

Lab Instructor, Texas Career Engagement Office, University of Texas at Austin <i>Introductory Lab Experiments in Biology</i>	Spring 2023
Taught a 4-hour weekly lab course, held weekly office hours, and conducted lab exam reviews. Graded performance and lab reports and lab exams. I was the main point of contact and instructor for the lab experiments for two sections of undergraduate students.	
Contributor, University of Texas at Austin <i>Graduate Student Mentoring</i>	Spring 2023
Contributed content for a section of the course designed by a campus-wide effort to develop resources for faculty members, graduate students, and graduate programs by the Graduate Student Mentoring Committee. The topic of the section is on “communicating with one’s mentor early on in an academic mentorship interaction.	
Course Instructor, Texas Career Engagement Office, University of Texas at Austin	Summer 2022
<i>An Introduction to Building your own Professional Website</i> Designed and taught a course to graduate students, and postdocs in the College of Liberal Arts (COLA) seeking to create and maintain a Github.io website for the purposes of professional development. Finished products from the course can be found in these students’ websites: https://yulminpark.github.io , https://theodorecharm.github.io .	

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin

Fall 2019, Fall 2020

Ecology, Introductory Biology II

Department of Integrative Biology

Led weekly discussion sessions, held weekly office hours, conducted reviews prior to exams. Graded quizzes, homework assignments, and exams. I had full independence in covering weekly coursework for both courses, including reviews of the weekly lecture material, in-class activities, and question-answer sessions.

Mentoring Experience

Undergraduate Assistants

Rosalva B. Bravo Ozuna, Sophia De Mendoza, Jacs N. Purcell, Sivani Balaji, Hee Won Lim	2022-Present
Brian Matibag, Serah M. Osborn, Carole-Lynna E. Benhamou, Michael D. Hanson, Elena Adams, Diana Espinoza	2021-2022
Sora Sunby	2020-2021
David Weier, Sarah Bybee	2019-2020

Undergraduates mentored in capstone/thesis projects

Mandy Tran (Environmental Science)	2022-Present
Stephanie Nuñez (Biochemistry)	2021-2023
Matthew Bradley (Computational Biology)	2021-2022

Publications

1. Robinson, M., K. Abbott, L. Abdala- Roberts, W. Allen, J. Andrade, D. Angulo, D. Anjos, D. Anstett, R. Bagchi, S. Bagchi, M. Barbosa, S. Barrett, C. Baskett, E. Ben-Sichmon, K. Bloodworth, J. Bronstein, E. Bruna, Y. Buckley, K. Burghardt, C. Bustos-Segura, N. I. Cacho, E. S. Calixto, R. Carvalho, B. Castagneryrol, M. Chiuffo, **D. Cinoğlu** et al. (190 authors) (2023). Plant size, latitude, and phylogeny explain variability in global herbivory. Submitted to Nature, manuscript available.
2. McGuire, R., K. Hayashi, X. Yan, M. Carita Vaz, **D. Cinoğlu**, M. Cowen, L. Sullivan, A. Martínez-Blancas, S. Vazquez-Morales, and G.S. Kandlikar (2022). EcoEvoApps: interactive applications for teaching quantitative models in ecology and evolution. Ecology and Evolution 12(12). Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.9556>
3. **Cinoğlu, D.**, H.E. Epstein, A.J. Tepley, K.J. Anderson-Teixeira, J.R. Thompson, and S.S. Perakis (2021). Climatic Aridity Shapes Post-Fire Interactions between Ceanothus spp. and Douglas-Fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii) across the Klamath Mountains. Forests(12), 1567. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.3390/f12111567>

Presentations

Oral Presentations

1. **Cinoğlu, D.** Mysteries from the Neotropics: Trees, lianas and others. Science Under the Stars, Brackenridge Field Labs, Austin, Texas. May 11, 2023.
2. **Cinoğlu, D.** Aboveground traits, secondary metabolites and herbivory: a biodiversity - ecosystem functioning story. Ecology Seminar, University of Texas at Austin. March 21, 2023.
3. Tran, M., Farrior, C.E., and **Cinoğlu, D.** Biodiversity Insect Herbivory: The Growth-Defense Trade-Off. Texas Student Research Showdown (received 1st place). March 8, 2023.
4. Farrior, C.E., Decker, R., Bradley, M., **Cinoğlu, D.**, and Yan, X. Can we predict the evolution of differences among species that allow for their coexistence? Ecological Society of America, Annual Meeting. August 16, 2022.
5. **Cinoğlu, D.** TxGCP Summit 2021. Empowering Women in STEM to Become Community Leaders through Mentorship: The SAGES Mentorship Program at UT Austin. December 10th, 2021.
6. **Cinoğlu, D.**, Rüger, N., Decker, R., Farrior, C.E. Gap dynamics help to maintain functional tradeoffs in Neotropical forest succession. Ecological Society of America, Annual Meeting. August 3, 2021.

7. **Cinoğlu, D.**, Rüger, N., Decker, R., Farrior, C.E. Gap dynamics help to maintain functional tradeoffs in Neotropical forest succession. Association for Tropical Biology and Conversation. July 22, 2021.
8. Farrior, C.E., **Cinoğlu, D.**, Decker, R. Forming experimental hypotheses to test for ecological successional strategies. High School Research Initiative, University of Texas at Austin. Summer, 2021.
9. **Cinoğlu, D.** Gap dynamics help to maintain functional tradeoffs in Neotropical forest succession. Ecology Seminar, University of Texas at Austin. October 15, 2020.
10. Farrior, C.E., **Cinoğlu, D.**, Decker, R. High School Research Initiative, University of Texas at Austin. Summer, 2020.

Poster Presentations

10. **Cinoğlu, D.**, Ortiz, S.K., Farrior, C.E., Wolf, A.A. The effects of abiotic and biotic stress on carbon allocation in Native Texas plants. Native Plant Society of Texas, Annual Meeting. September 24, 2022.
11. Nuñez, S, **Cinoğlu, D.** Understanding the biodiversity and ecosystem functioning relationship: Insect herbivory across a plant diversity gradient. 2022 UCLA McNair Research Conference. July 25, 2022. July 28, 2022.
12. **Cinoğlu, D.**, Ortiz, S.K. Linking above and below ground functional traits: A biodiversity-ecosystem functioning experiment. Brackenridge Field Labs, 55th year celebration May 14, 2022.
13. Bradley, M., Decker, R., **Cinoğlu, D.**, Farrior, C.E. Evaluating Janzen-Connell Dynamics as a Potential Driver of Evolutionarily Stable Coexistence. Ecological Society of America, Annual Meeting. August 3, 2021.
14. **Cinoğlu, D.**, Epstein, H. E., Tepley, A. J., Anderson-Teixeira, K. J., Thompson, J. R. Post-fire Interactions between *Ceanothus* spp. and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) in the Klamath Mountains. Ecological Society of America. August 4, 2019.

Invited Talks, Panels, and Lectures

15. Capital of Texas Undergraduate Research Conference, Graduate Student Judge. Spring, 2022.
16. Adaptations to Physiological and Environmental Challenges (Diverse organisms demonstrate a variety of structure function adaptations to meet physiological and environmental challenges), Lecturer invited by Dr. Monica Hall-Porter to Introductory Biology 2, Spring, 2022.
17. Texas EEB Undergraduate Student Organization, Graduate Student Panel. Spring, 2022.
18. BIO Experienced TA Panel. Fall, 2021.
19. First-year Graduate Student Panel on Broader Impacts. Fall, 2021.
20. Unpack the Hidden Curriculum of Grad School. Fall, 2021.
21. Dive Into Research panel, Texas Undergraduate Journal. Fall, 2021.

Honors and Awards

Texas 2021 Stand Up For STEM Award - Million Women Mentors Texas Chapter	2021
Awarded to recognize a demonstrated passion for a STEM and associated careers and willingness to share skills and knowledge through role modeling and mentoring others.	
BIO Outstanding TA Award Finalist, University of Texas at Austin	2021
BIO Outstanding TA Award Finalist, University of Texas at Austin	2020
NCS Student Faculty/Staff Appreciation Award, University of Texas at Austin	2020
Nominated by the students of the Introductory Biology II lecture in 2019.	

Distinguished Majors with High Honors in Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia 2019
 Applied with a thesis proposal to the Environmental Sciences department chair. Defended a 50-page undergraduate thesis to the departmental committee and passed without conditions. "High Honors" status is approved by six faculty committee members.

Dean's Honor list, University of Virginia 2017-2019
Awarded to students who maintain a GPA above 3.5 for graded credits.

Echols Scholar, University of Virginia 2015-2019
Award only received by 4 of the incoming study body. This scholarship allows for academic flexibility, priority in class scheduling and additional academic resources.

Community Service

Contributor, The Department of Integrative Biology, University of Texas at Austin 2022-Present
Represented the EEB graduate student body in groups such as the Field Safety working group (led by Dr. Tom Juenger) and the Departmental Code of Conduct writing working group (led by Dr. Caroline Farrior).

Mentor, The TexasEEB Club, University of Texas at Austin 2022-Present

EEB Graduate Student Representative, The Department of Integrative Biology, University of Texas at Austin 2022-Present

Member, Minorities in Biological Research, University of Texas at Austin 2022-Present

Organizer, International Graduate Students Committee of EEB, University of Texas at Austin 2021-Present
Founded and leading the only international student support group for the graduate program of EEB.

Organizer and Mentor, The Biodiversity Scholars Program of EEB, University of Texas at Austin 2021-Present
Funded by the Stengl-Wyer endowment, PIs: Dr. Tim Keitt, Dr. Laura Gonzalez, a program that financially supports and mentors under-represented students in taking field-based courses in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

App developer and Translator for Eco-Evo Apps, <https://ecoevoapps.gitlab.io> 2021-Present

Founder and Director, SAGES at UT Mentorship Committee and Mentorship Program, University of Texas at Austin 2019-Present
Founded an institution-wide mentorship program by pairing women undergraduate and graduate students of UT Austin to women faculty and industry officials in STEM to build a supportive network of women in STEM. Currently leading a committee of 7 people maintaining the second annual mentorship program of 2021 and building the third annual mentorship program of 2022.

Organizer, Ecology Seminar (Ecolunch), University of Texas at Austin 2020-2022