

Rebecca L. Atkins

Curriculum Vitae

Odum School of Ecology
University of Georgia

Atkinsr@uga.edu
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Education

PhD Doctorate of Philosophy, *University of Georgia, Athens, GA*
Ecology
Expected graduation date: 2021

B.S. Bachelor of Science, *University of Florida, Gainesville, FL*
Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Minor: Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
2014, *Summa cum laude*

Research Interests

- Marine and coastal community ecology
- Population and community structure as a function of energetic demand
- Intraspecific variation underlying context-dependence in consumer-resource interactions
- Spatial and temporal patterns in resource use and ecosystem functioning driven by species interactions

Research Experience

2014-Current **Lab Technician**

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

Advisor: Craig Osenberg

- Data entry and database management

2014 **Intern**

Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Portland, Maine

Advisors: Graham Sherwood and Kathy Mills

- Casco Bay Aquatic Systems Survey (CBASS): long term monitoring of water quality, fish movement, fish energetics, and species abundance

2013 **Independent Research Project**

Swansea University, Wales, UK

Advisor: John Griffin

- Evaluating the physical drivers of macroalgal diversity within and among rock pools along a rocky shore

- 2012-2013 **Lab Assistant**
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Advisor: Shirley Baker
- Studying the effects of temperature and salinity on clam survival
- 2012 **NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Student**
University of Florida, Sapelo Island, GA
Advisor: Brian Silliman
- Elucidating the effects of size, density, and metabolic demand on consumer-plant (*Littoraria-Spartina*) interaction strength within southeastern salt marshes

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Atkins, R., Griffin, J. N., Angelini, C., O'Connor, M. I. and Silliman, B. R. 2015. Consumer-plant interaction strength: importance of body size, density and metabolic biomass. *Oikos*. doi: 10.1111/oik.01966

Davidson, A., Griffin, J. N, Angelini, C., Coleman, F., Atkins, R., Silliman, B. R. 2015. Non-consumptive predator effects intensify grazer-plant interactions by driving vertical habitat shifts. *Marine Ecological Progress Series*. 537: 49-58.

Science Communication

Atkins, R. 2017. Science and art: A mutualism. *Fisheries*. 42(3): 137-139. DOI: 10.1080/03632415.2017.1284499

Sopinka, N. 2016. In Flux: An interview with Rebecca Atkins. *Fisheries*. 41(12): 799-800.

Published Science Illustration

Haram, L. E., K. A. Kinney, Sotka, E. and Byers, J. E. 2018. Introduced ecosystem engineer differentially influences the foraging behavior and habitat selection of top predators. *Ecology*. 0(0): 1-12.

Osenberg, C. W. O. No clean coal for stream animals. *Nature Sustainability*. 1:160-161.

Presentations

2018 Atkins, R., Osenberg, C. W. O. Consumer effects within and across southeastern US salt marshes. LTER All Scientists' Meeting, Monterey, CA. **Poster.**

2018 Atkins, R., Clancy, K., Osenberg, C. W. O. Quantifying variation in thermal performance curves within a species of salt marsh snail as a function of body size

and latitude. Gordon Research Conference: Unifying Ecology Across Scales, Biddeford, ME. **Poster.**

- 2018 Atkins, R., Osenberg, C. W. O. *Incorporating intraspecific variation and metabolic theory into our understanding of consumer-plant interactions*. Benthic Ecology Conference, Corpus Christi, TX. **Oral presentation.**
- 2018 Clancy, K., Atkins, R., Osenberg, C. W. O. Physiological responses of the marsh periwinkle (*Littoraria irrorata*) to thermal stress. Benthic Ecology Conference, Corpus Christi, TX. **Poster.**
- 2018 Clancy, K., Atkins, R., Osenberg, C. W. O. Physiological responses of the marsh periwinkle (*Littoraria irrorata*) to thermal stress. Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA. **Poster.**
- 2018 Rasheed, H. K., Atkins, R., Osenberg, C. W. O. Incorporating individual consumer physiology into our current understanding of *Littoraria-Spartina* interactions within southeastern US salt marshes. Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA. **Poster.**
- 2017 Atkins, R., Hamman, E. *Spatial variability in a salt marsh consumer*. Benthic Ecology Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC. **Oral presentation.**
- 2017 Atkins, R., Hamman, E. *Spatial variability in a salt marsh consumer*. Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA. **Oral presentation.**
- 2016 Atkins, R., Osenberg, C. W. O. *Causes and consequences of intraspecific variation within consumer snail populations in Southeastern US salt marshes*. Gordon Research Conference: Unifying Across Scales in Ecology, Biddeford, ME. **Poster.**
- 2016 Atkins, R., Osenberg, C. W. O. *Causes and consequences of intraspecific variation within salt marsh snail populations across space and time*. Benthic Ecology Conference, Portland, ME. **Oral presentation.**
- 2016 Atkins, R., Osenberg, C. W. O. *Causes and consequences of intraspecific variation within salt marsh snail populations across space and time*. Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA. **Oral presentation.**
- 2015 Atkins, R., Griffin, J. N., Angelini, C., Silliman, B. R. *Incorporating intraspecific variation and metabolic theory into our understanding of consumer-plant interactions*. Aquatic Biodiversity and Ecosystems Conference, Liverpool, UK. **Oral presentation.**
- 2015 Atkins, R., Griffin, J. N., Angelini, C., Silliman, B. R. *Incorporating intraspecific variation and metabolic theory into our understanding of consumer-plant*

interactions. Southeastern Ecology and Evolution Conference, Athens, GA. **Oral presentation.**

- 2015 Atkins, R., Griffin, J. N., Angelini, C., Silliman, B. R. *Incorporating intraspecific variation and metabolic theory into our understanding of consumer-plant interactions*. Benthic Ecology Conference, Quebec City, Canada. **Oral presentation.**
- 2014 Atkins, R. *Assessing estuarine communities in Casco Bay*. Staff meeting, Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Portland, ME. **Oral presentation.**
- 2014 Atkins, R., Diehl, T., Griffin, J. N. *Physical factors driving species richness in rock pools*. Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. **Poster.**
- 2014 Atkins, R., Griffin, J. N., Angelini, C., Silliman, B. R. *Size and density of a dominant consumer drive multiple ecosystem processes in a south-eastern salt marsh*. North Florida Marine Science Symposium, Whitney Lab, St. Augustine, FL. **Oral presentation.**
- 2014 Atkins, R., Griffin, J. N., Angelini, C., Silliman, B. R. *Size and density of a dominant consumer drive multiple ecosystem processes in a south-eastern salt marsh*. Georgia Coastal Ecosystems LTER Annual Meeting. Athens, GA, **Poster.**
- 2013 Atkins, R., Griffin, J. N., Angelini, C., Silliman, B. R. *Size and density of a dominant consumer drive multiple ecosystem processes in a south-eastern salt marsh*. Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Melbourne, FL. **Poster.**
- 2013 Atkins, R., Diehl, T., Griffin, J. N. *Physical factors driving species richness in rock pools*. Sigma Xi Student Research Conference, Research Triangle Park, Durham, NC. **Poster.**
- 2012 Atkins, R., Griffin, J.N., Angelini, C. and Silliman, B.R. *Impacts of grazer size and density on decomposition and grazing intensity*. Marine Biology Symposium, Whitney Lab, St. Augustine, FL. **Poster.**

Workshops and Conferences

- 2018 Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities (a2ru) National Conference, Athens, GA
- 2018 Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) All Scientists' Meeting, Monterey, CA
- 2018 Gordon Research Conference: Unifying Ecology Across Scales, Biddeford, ME
- 2018 Science Writers Workshop, Athens, GA
- 2018 Benthic Ecology Conference, Corpus Christi, TX
- 2018 Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA

- 2017 Benthic Ecology Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC
- 2017 Science Communication Workshop, Myrtle Beach, SC
- 2017 Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA
- 2016 Gordon Research Conference: Unifying Ecology Across Scales, Biddeford, ME
- 2016 Benthic Ecology Conference, Bowdoin College, Portland, ME
- 2016 Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA
- 2015 Aquatic Biodiversity and Ecosystems Conference, Liverpool, UK
- 2015 American Ecological Society Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD
- 2015 Southeastern Ecology and Evolution Conference, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- 2015 Benthic Ecology Conference, Université Laval, Quebec City, Canada
- 2015 Georgia Coastal Ecosystems LTER Annual Meeting, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- 2014 Data Management Plan Workshop, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- 2014 Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- 2014 North Florida Marine Science Symposium, Whitney Lab, St. Augustine, FL
- 2014 Georgia Coastal Ecosystems LTER Annual Meeting, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- 2013 Sigma Xi Student Research Conference, Research Triangle Park, Durham, NC
- 2013 Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Conference, Oklahoma City, OK
- 2013 Florida chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Conference, Melbourne, FL
- 2013 Marine Resource and Population Dynamics Workshop, National Marine Fishery Service's RTR Program, Long Key, FL
- 2012 Marine Biology Symposium. Whitney Lab, St. Augustine, FL

Teaching Experience

- 2018 Marine Ecology (ENVS 385), field trip co-instructor, Emory University
- 2018 Summer A Marine Biology (ZOO 4403C), guest lecturer, University of Florida
- 2016-2018 Maymester Field Program in Ecological Problem Solving (ECOL 3300), guest lecturer, University of Georgia
- 2014 Introduction to Fishery Science (FAS 4305 C), undergraduate lab assistant, University of Florida

Mentoring Experience

- 2018 **Young Dawgs High School Intern:** William Ellis
- 2017 **Senior Thesis:** Kathleen Clancy (UGA)
- 2017 **Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Spring Assistantship Student:** Hend Rasheed (UGA)
- 2016 **Atlanta Girls School Intern:** Sam Shaffer (Atlanta Girls School)
- 2015-2016 **Young Dawgs High School Intern:** Rebecca Templeton

- 2015-Present **Field Assistants:** Megan Kelley (UGA), Catherine Miller (UGA), Leeann Frank (University of West Georgia), Courtney Gilbert (University of West Georgia), Neeti Pathak (Georgia Tech), Kelly Mayes (UGA)
- 2015-2017 **Lab Assistants:** Kelly Mayes (UGA)

Outreach and Service

- 2017-2018 **Outreach Volunteer**, STEMzone, Athens, GA
- 2018 **Judging Committee Member**, Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA
- 2017 **Program Committee Member**, Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA
- 2017 **Graduate Student Representative**, Odum School of Ecology 5010 Planning Committee, Athens, GA
- 2017 **Event Organizer**, Plastic: Land to Sea Connections Workshop, Athens, GA
- 2017 **Mentor**, Georgia Coastal Ecosystems LTER Schoolyard Program, Sapelo Island, GA
- 2016 **Orientation Coordinator**, Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Organization, Athens, GA
- 2016 **Department Representative**, Graduate Student Association, Athens, GA
- 2015 **Volunteer**, 21st Century Program instructor at Coile Middle School, Athens, GA
- 2015-2016 **Officer**, University of Georgia Women in Science (WiSci) organization, Athens, GA
- 2012-2014 **Intern**, Tailgator Green Team Coordinator, University of Florida Office of Sustainability, Gainesville, FL
- 2012-2013 **Officer**, University of Florida Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society (TWS), Gainesville, FL
- 2014 **Volunteer**, USDA Forestry Service Kids in the Woods Program, Westwood Middle School, Gainesville, FL
- 2014 **Volunteer**, camera monitoring, graduate student project, Seminole State Forest, Florida
- 2013 **Volunteer**, Monarch butterfly tagging project, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, St. Marks Wildlife Refuge, FL
- 2012 **Volunteer**, small mammal trapping, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Gainesville, FL
- 2012 **Volunteer**, fox squirrel trapping, graduate student project, Gainesville, FL
- 2012 **Volunteer**, glass eel monitoring program, Guana River Dam, St. Augustine, FL
- 2011 **Volunteer**, manatee capture and health assessment, United States Geological Survey, Crystal River, FL
- 2011 **Volunteer**, Lubee bat festival, Lubee Bat Conservancy, Gainesville, FL

Grants and Scholarships

- 2016, 2017 M. K. Pentecost Ecology Fund
- 2016 Odum School of Ecology Small Grant

2015	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program Award
2015	University of Georgia Presidential Graduate Fellows Program
2015	British Phycological Society Student Travel Bursary
2015	Challenger Society for Marine Science Travel Award
2013-2014	Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Teddy Roosevelt Award
2013	University of Florida Wentworth Travel Scholarship
2013	Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research
2013	University of Florida University Scholars Program
2011-2012	Department of Wildlife Ecology's Jennings Scholarship
2013	Monica C. Stokely Memorial Scholarship
2011-2013	University of Florida Doris and Earl and Vernal Lowe Scholarship
2010-2014	Bright Futures Scholarship

Honors

2017	Benthic Ecology Conference, Best Student Presentation
2016	Odum School Graduate Student Symposium, Best Student Presentation (3 rd Place)
2015	Aquatic Biodiversity and Ecosystems Conference, Best Student Presentation
2015	Aquatic Biodiversity and Ecosystems Conference, Best Student Poster (3 rd Place)
2015	Benthic Ecology Conference, Best Student Presentation
2014	North Florida Marine Science Symposium, Best Undergraduate Oral Presentation
2011-2014	University of Florida College of Agricultural and Life Science Honors Program
2012-2013	University of Florida Anderson Scholar
2010-2014	University of Florida Honors Program

Professional Memberships and Affiliations

2013-Present	Sigma Xi
2015-Present	Challenger Society for Marine Science
2015-Present	British Ecological Society
2015-2016	Ecological Society of America
2014	British Phycological Society

Skills and Specializations

- Wilderness first aid (May 2018)
- First aid (June 2014- June 2016; March 2018- March 2020)
- U.S. Coastguard fishing vessel safety (June 2014)
- Scuba: NAUI open water certified (April 2012)
- Aquatic field skills: electrofishing, gill netting, seining, water quality.
- Other field skills: small mammal trapping, plant and animal identification.
- Data analysis (univariate and multivariate)
- Software: ArcGIS, R, SAS, PC-ORD, Microsoft Office