

JESSICA M. COULTER

Curriculum Vitae - August 25, 2016

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EDUCATION

B.S. Ecology and Evolution, *Summa Cum Laude* (2016)

B.A. Economics, *Summa Cum Laude* (2016)

University of Pittsburgh School of Arts and Sciences, and University Honors College
3.97 Cumulative GPA

Organization for Tropical Studies (2014)

Duke University

Savanna Ecology and Conservation Semester in South Africa

Awards

Outstanding Senior in Economics Award; 2015-2016

University of Pittsburgh Department of Economics

Dean's List, University of Pittsburgh: Spring 2016, Fall 2015, Spring 2015, Spring 2014,
Fall 2013, Spring 2013, Fall 2012

University Scholar, University of Pittsburgh: 2014, 2015

Relevant Coursework

- South African Ecosystems and Diversity
- Methods and Techniques of Field Research in Savanna Ecology
- Conservation, Biodiversity Management, and Protected Area Design in South Africa
- Foundations of Biology 1
- Foundations of Biology 2
- Vertebrate Morphology
- Vertebrate Morphology Lab
- Population Biology
- Genetics
- Ecology
- Behavioral Ecology
- Ecology Lab
- Evolution
- Biochemistry
- Ecology and Evolution Seminar
- Animal Communication
- Environmental Geology
- Atmosphere, Oceans and Climate

EXPERIENCE

Seasonal Biological Technician

May - Nov 2016

Sea Turtle Conservation and Research Program, Mote Marine Laboratory (Sarasota, FL)

- Direct staff of nine interns and community volunteers to observe, record and protect sea turtle nesting activities along the Gulf Coast of Sarasota, FL.
- Liaison with police officials for public beach use restrictions during nesting season
- Document, maintain, and communicate data, including disorientation reports and current nesting numbers, to necessary agents
- Conduct morning beach surveys to document sea turtle activities, including nests, false crawls, hatches, depredations and excavations
- Office duties including data entry, communicating with state and federal agencies, and contacting volunteers for problem resolution and feedback
- 8-14 hours per day, 5 days per week

Sea Turtle Morning Patrol Intern**May – Aug 2015***Sea Turtle Conservation and Research Program, Mote Marine Laboratory (Sarasota, FL)*

- Conducted morning beach surveys to document sea turtle activities, including nests, false crawls, hatches, depredations and excavations
- Office duties including data entry, communicating with state and federal agencies, and contacting volunteers for problem resolution and feedback

Student**Aug – Nov 2014***Organization for Tropical Studies (South Africa)*

- Actively contributed to long-term research and biodiversity surveys through field observation, study, and measurement of various marine and terrestrial flora and fauna in the Kruger National Park
- Designed and performed an individual research study pertaining to the effect of human presence on impala behavior

Undergraduate Research Assistant**Jan – Apr 2014,***University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh, PA)***Jan – Apr 2015,****Sep 2015 – Apr 2016**

- 2014: Contributed to field work for a research study that examined the effect of salvage logging on native salamander populations at the Powdermill Nature Reserve and wrote a review paper on the subject
- 2015: Conducted literature searches and compiled information for a literature review pertaining to non-trophic animal disturbances in forest, grassland and savanna ecosystems
- 2015-2016: Contributed to data analysis and data entry using Excel for research pertaining to the role of emotions in science education. Conducted literature searches, edited research articles, and utilized video software to transcribe and analyze interviews

Animal Husbandry Intern**May – Aug 2014***Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium (Pittsburgh, PA)*

- Animal husbandry for sea turtles in rehabilitation, as well as penguins and other marine species on exhibit and in quarantine
- Maintain exhibits, water quality, and work space

Animal Husbandry Intern**May – Aug 2014***Carnegie Science Center (Pittsburgh, PA)*

- Animal husbandry for a 2,000 gallon coral reef exhibit
- Aided in preparations for new reptile and amphibian exhibits, including caring for animals going through quarantine
- Trained new employees and volunteers

Ecology Club Vice President/Business Manager**Aug 2013 – Apr 2016***University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh, PA)*

- Bi-weekly ecology-related activities, including lectures and fundraisers
- Experience in ecological field techniques through field trips and other activities

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**Teaching Assistant - Intermediate Macroeconomics****Fall 2015***University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh, PA)*

- Held office hours and review sessions to assist student in their coursework

Emerging Leaders**Spring 2013***University of Pittsburgh* (Pittsburgh, PA)

- Worked with Family House, a non-profit organization, to fundraise for the organization, including planning an anniversary party
- Learned and experienced how to face adversity, lead a group effort, and communicate effectively

Leadership in Action,*University of Pittsburgh* (Pittsburgh, PA)**Fall 2012**

- Organized and participated in community service
- Participated in weekly leadership classes and seminars

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**Pitt Global Brigades** (Pittsburgh, PA)**Aug 2013 – Apr 2015**

- Attended 2014 Global Water Brigade (April 2014) to aid in constructing water filtration systems in rural Honduras
- Investigation of issues regarding developing countries and sustainable development

Animal Rescue League Shelter (Pittsburgh, PA)**Nov 2013 – Apr 2014**

- Cared for and socialized rabbits
- Interacted with and educated potential adoptive families

Animal Rescue League Wildlife Center (Verona, PA)**Nov 2012 – Aug 2013**

- Cared for animals being rehabilitated, including feeding and cage cleaning
- Maintained a clean, healthy environment