

Andrea S. Jerabek
Research Associate, The Water Institute of the Gulf

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Education

M.S. in Marine Biology, December 2015
Northeastern University Three Seas Program, Boston, Massachusetts

B.S. in Biology, May 2014
State University of New York at Geneseo, Geneseo, New York

Research Interests:

Coastal ecology, restoration, and conservation

Professional Experience:

The Water Institute of the Gulf <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Research Associate</i>	2016-Present
Fish Ecology Lab, University of South Florida: St. Petersburg <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Research Intern</i>	2015
State University of New York at Geneseo <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Research Assistant</i>	2012-2014

Recent Projects:

The Natural Classroom Project: Wetland Restoration

Research Associate, The Water Institute of the Gulf

Engaging 100 students in the restoration and monitoring of 26 acres of wetland within Bayou Grosse Tete, Louisiana. Removing invasive species and planting native wetland trees and grasses. Facilitating the continual monitoring of bayou water quality and ecosystem health.

Nekton Habitat Use in a Changing Landscape

Research Associate, The Water Institute of the Gulf

Studied the effects of marsh fragmentation and associated changes in submerged plant distribution on blue crabs and other commonly abundant nekton species in coastal Louisiana. The study increased the understanding of the consequences of a changing landscape on nekton habitat use.

Internship, University of South Florida: St. Petersburg

Research Intern for Dr. Christopher Stallings, Fish Ecology Lab

Conducted a capstone research projects that included developing a method for extended herbivore exclusion experiments in the Gulf of Mexico and analyzing lionfish distributions in long-term study sites in Biscayne National Park. Worked as a part of the team conducting photo surveys of artificial and natural reefs, deploying experiments, conducting rover diver fish surveys, entering data, performing QA/QC and running statistical analyses.

Isolation and Characterization of Cyanobacterial Symbionts Associated with Clonal Sea Star Larvae

Research Assistant for Dr. Isidro Bosch, S.U.N.Y Geneseo, New York,

Studied the Bahamas Sea Star (*Oreaster reticulatus*) larvae and its symbiotic relationship with the cyanobacteria *Synechococcus*. Identified *Synechococcus* species through higher resolution primer (RPOC1 gene) and developed a protocol including DNA extraction, Polymerase Chain Reaction, Gel Electrophoresis, Gel Extraction, and DNA Cloning. Additional duties included laboratory maintenance, bacteria culturing, and maintaining aquaria containing various invertebrate specimens.

Awards, Honors:

1. Geneseo Undergraduate Research Grant, 2014
2. Geneseo Undergraduate Travel Grant, 2014
3. Geneseo Foundation STEM Fellowship Grant, 2013
4. Member, TriBeta Biology Honors Society, 2011
5. Member, PhiEtaSigma Honors Society, 2011
6. NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence, 2010-2014
7. President's List (1 semester), Dean's List (5 semesters)

Teaching Experience:

Mentor, Episcopal High School Coastal Ecology Research Intern
Invertebrate Biology Tutor, S.U.N.Y. Geneseo

Professional Memberships:

Member, Gulf Estuarine Research Society (GERS), 2016

Community Services:

Forum 35, Member and Service Committee Volunteer (2016)
Ocean Commotion, Louisiana Marine Education Resources, Volunteer (2016)
Louisiana STEM Expo, Volunteer (2016)
St. Petersburg Science Festival, Volunteer (2015)
Northeastern University's Marine Science Center Open House, Volunteer (2014)

Training Courses:

- AAUS Certified Scientific Diver (100ft)
- Nitrox Diver Certified
- Open Water Diver Certified
- CPR, First Aid, and Oxygen Administration Certified
- Adobe Illustrator CC Online Training Course, Lynda.com, 2016

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Jerabek, A.S., Darnell, K.M., Pellerin, C., and Carruthers, T.J.B. 2016. Habitat Use by Fish and Crustaceans in a Changing Landscape. Gulf Estuarine Research Society and Society of Wetland Scientists Conference in Pensacola, Florida. November 2016.
2. Jerabek, A.S., Piedmonte, N. Isolation and Characterization of Cyanobacterial Symbionts Associated

with Clonal Sea Star Larvae. Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology National Conference in Austin, Texas. January 2014.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. Jerabek, A.S., Wall, K.R., and Stallings, C.D. 2016. A practical application of reduced-copper antifouling paint in marine biological research. *PeerJ* 4:e2213<https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.2213>