

Nicole Katherine Johnston
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Education

School of Biology, Georgia Institute of Technology Since 2014
Doctoral Candidate in Biology (GPA: 4.0)
Research Advisor: Dr. Mark Hay

School of Biology, Georgia Institute of Technology 2014
BS Biology with Highest Honors (GPA: 3.57)
Environmental Science Certificate
Business Option

Research Experience

School of Biology, Georgia Institute of Technology Since 2015
Graduate Research Assistant
Advisor: Dr. Mark Hay

- Investigating the impact of ocean acidification and warming on key coral-algal consumer interactions in coral reef ecosystems and potential cascading effects on ecosystems

School of Biology, Georgia Institute of Technology 2014-2015
Graduate Research Assistant
Advisor: Dr. Danielle Dixson

- Explored the role of sensory perception in conspecific recognition among clownfish species with an emphasis on how these perceptions change under anthropogenic stress

School of Biology, Georgia Institute of Technology January 2012-May2014
Undergraduate Research Assistant
Advisor: Dr. Lin Jiang

- Studied the impact biotic and abiotic factors have on community diversity, focusing on the role of predator prey interactions and species traits in shaping community composition

Wrigley Institute, University of Southern California June 2013-August 2013
Undergraduate Research Assistant
Advisor: Dr. David Caron

- Investigated the effect of light and prey availability on the growth of the toxic mixotrophic alga, *Prymnesium parvum*, as part of a larger project investigating the role of mixotrophy in triggering harmful algal blooms

Awards, Fellowships, & Honors

Link Foundation/Smithsonian Institution Graduate Research Fellowship	2016
CETL/BP Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Finalist	2016
Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) Fellowship	2015, 2016, 2017
Graduate Leadership Fellowship <i>Fellowship to support mentoring undergraduate students</i>	2015
National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates Fellowship in Coastal Ocean Systems and Sustainability <i>Location: Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Southern California</i>	2013
National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates Fellowship <i>Location: School of Biology, Georgia Institute of Technology</i>	2012
Faculty Honors <i>Requirement: 4.0 semester GPA</i>	Fall 2009, May 2014
Dean's List <i>Requirement: >3.5 semester GPA</i>	Spring 2009-Fall 2013
Zell Miller Academic Scholarship <i>Full tuition academic scholarship for maintaining GPA</i>	Fall 2009-Spring 2014

Publications

Johnston NK & DL Dixson. (2017) Anemonefish rely on visual and chemical cues to correctly identify conspecifics. *Coral Reefs*. (doi:10.1007/s00338-017-1582-9)

Ashur, M, **Johnston, NK**, & DL Dixson. (2017) Impacts of ocean acidification on sensory function in marine organisms. *Integrative & Comparative Biology*. (doi: <https://doi.org/10.1093/icb/ix010>).

Johnston NK, Pu Z., Jiang L. (2016) Predator identity influences metacommunity assembly. *Journal of Animal Ecology*. 85(5):1161-1170. (doi:10.1111/1365-2656.12551)

Professional Presentations

Johnston NK, Campbell JE, Paul VJ, Hay ME. (2017, April). “Proximity matters: the effects of ocean acidification and warming on coral-algal interactions.” Benthic Ecology Meeting. Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Tan J, **Johnston NK**, Jiang L. (2014, August). “Species niche and fitness differences influence community assembly and ecosystem functioning. Ecological Society of America Annual Conference.

Johnston NK, Tan, J., Jiang, L. (2014, May) “Niche and fitness differences influence community assembly.” Georgia Institute of Technology Senior Poster Presentation. Atlanta, GA.

Jiang, L. **Johnston, NK.**, Pu, Z. (2013, August). “Predator diet breadth influences prey metacommunity assembly.” Ecological Society of America Annual Conference. Minneapolis, MN.

Johnston, NK, Caron, DA, Hu, S. (2013, June). “The effect of light and prey availability on the growth of mixotroph *Prymnesium parvum*.” USC Wrigley Institute NSF Proposal Presentation. Los Angeles, CA.

Training & Certifications

AAUS Scientific Diver Certification

Current Georgia Tech Diving Safety Officer

PADI Open Water, Advanced Open Water, Enriched Air & Rescue Diver Certification

PADI O2 Administration certification

PADI CPR, First Aid, & AED certification

Affiliations

International Society of Chemical Ecology

Ecological Society of America

International Society for Reef Studies

Professional Service

Reviewer for: Conservation Physiology, PLOS ONE

Professional Service

Elementary Classroom Presentations (Day in the Life of a Marine Biologist)

Lilburn Elementary School - Lilburn, GA (May 2017)

Mason Elementary School – Suwanee, GA (May 2017)

Reviewer for Georgia Tech “President’s Undergraduate Research Awards” Proposal – May 2017

Undergraduate Research Symposium Judge – April 2017

Georgia Tech K.I.D.S Club Volunteer – Georgia Institute of Technology (November 2015)

Heroes@Tech Math & Science Day – Georgia Institute of Technology (October 2014)

- Engaged children affected by AIDS in science activities including a lab tour

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant – General Ecology Lab, Fall 2015

- Responsibilities include running weekly ecological laboratories, leading students in the development of effective experiments, and instructing students on relevant concepts
- As Head TA also responsible for ensuring labs are prepped and prepared prior to lab each week

Teaching Assistant – Curriculum Development – Ecology Lab, Summer 2015

- Responsibilities included critically evaluating current curriculum and revising and/or replacing current experiments to better present desired ecological concepts

Teaching Assistant – Introduction to Ecology, Spring 2015

- Responsibilities included attending lectures in order to design effective review sessions as well as holding office hours to assist students having difficulty and working with the professor to grade assignments, exams, and papers

Teaching Assistant – General Ecology Lab, Georgia Institute of Technology, Fall 2014

- Responsibilities include running weekly ecological laboratories, leading students in the development of effective experiments, and instructing students on relevant concepts