

## Abbey R. Yatsko

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607.229.6035

### EDUCATION

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- 2021 – pres.      Ph.D. in Biology with focus in tropical savanna biogeochemical cycling  
University of Miami, Miami, FL  
Advisor: Dr. Amy Zanne
- 2020 – 2021      Ph.D. in Biology with focus in biogeochemical cycling and decomposition  
George Washington University, Washington, DC  
Advisor: Dr. Amy Zanne
- 2016 – 2020      B.S. in Environmental and Sustainability Science, minor in Climate Change Science  
Magna Cum Laude with Distinction in Research  
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
Concentration in water, land, and air resources

### PUBLICATIONS

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- 2021      Clement, R. A., Flores-Moreno, H., Cernusak, L. A., Cheesman, A. W., **Yatsko, A. R.**, Allison, S. D., Eggleton, P., Zanne, A. E. (2021). Assessing the Australian Termite Diversity Anomaly: How Habitat and Rainfall Affect Termite Assemblages. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* 9, 273.

### AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

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- 2021      UM Biology Department travel fund (\$289)
- 2021      Max and Peggy Kriloff travel fund (\$289)
- 2021      Washington Biologists Field Club Research Award (\$4,997)
- 2021      Cosmos Club Foundation – Cosmos Scholarship (\$4,500)
- 2020      NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (\$138,000)
- 2020      GWU CCAS Columbian Distinguished Fellowship (\$40,590)
- 2020      Student Section Real/Brown Travel Grant Recipient – ESA
- 2019      NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates Fellow (\$5,000)
- 2018      Cornell University Global Grand Challenge award winner (\$200)
- 2018      Cornell CALS Global Fellow (\$5,000)
- 2018      Pack Natural Resources Management Essay Contest winner

### PRESENTATIONS

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- 2023      **Yatsko, A.R.**, Cheesman, A., Wijas, B., Jones, C., Cook, K., Calvert, J., Russell-Smith, P., Gambold, I., Zanne, A.E.. Cutting down trees to understand the forest: TLS biomass validation and internal stem damage quantification in the Iron Range. University of Miami Biology Graduate Student Symposium 2023. Oral presentation.
- 2022      **Yatsko, A.R.**, Flores-Moreno, H., Zanne, A.E.. Internal Tree Stem Damage in Queensland, Australia. Climate Resilience Academy Symposium 2022. Poster presentation.
- 2022      **Yatsko, A.R.**, Flores-Moreno, H., Zanne, A.E.. Termites, forest carbon, and hollowed out trees.

- University of Miami Biology Graduate Student Symposium 2022. Online. Oral presentation.
- 2021 **Yatsko, A.R.**, Flores-Moreno, H., Cheesman, A., Allison, S.D., Cernusak, L., Cheney, R., Clement, R., Zanne, A.E.. Higher internal stem damage in trees in dry compared to wet tropics has implications for forest biomass estimates. American Geophysical Union. Online. Poster presentation.
- 2021 **Yatsko, A.R.**, Flores-Moreno, H., Cheesman, A., Allison, S.D., Cernusak, L., Cheney, R., Clement, R., Zanne, A.E.. Internal tree stem damage. Entomology 2021. Infographic presentation.
- 2020 **Yatsko, A.R.**, Goebel, M. The impact of variable versus constant winter snow cover on maple leaf litter decomposition. Graduate Climate Conference. Online. Poster presentation.
- 2020 **Yatsko, A.R.**, Goebel, M. The impact of variable versus constant winter snow cover on maple leaf litter decomposition. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting. Online. Poster presentation.
- 2020 **Yatsko, A.R.**, Goebel, M. The impact of variable versus constant winter snow cover on maple leaf litter decomposition. Cornell CALS Undergraduate Honors Thesis Seminar. Online. Poster presentation.
- 2018 **Yatsko, A.R.** International Environmental Activism. Cornell CALS Global Fellows Program Seminar. Ithaca, NY. Poster presentation.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- Summer 2020 **Research Intern**, Cayuga Lake Watershed Network, Ithaca, NY
- Created an information booklet for lakeside homeowners on sustainable property and home management practices based on research of the climate impact of renewable energy, wastewater treatment, fertilizer use, and local food systems
- 2019 – 2020 **Honors Thesis Student**, Goebel Lab, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- Investigated the impact of variable versus constant winter snow cover on maple leaf litter decomposition to determine how wintertime decomposition dynamics interact with temperate forest nutrient cycling
- Summer 2019 **NSF-REU Intern**, George Washington and James Cook Universities, Queensland AUS
- Investigated tropical forest C cycling in Queensland, Australia, focusing on the relative roles of termites and fungi in decomposition along a precipitation gradient spanning from tropical savanna to the Daintree Rainforest
- Advisor: Dr. Amy Zanne
- 2018 – 2020 **Research Assistant**, Cornell Department of Natural Resources, Ithaca, NY
- Utilized ArcGIS technology skills to map and take inventory of all tree species within a university forest research plot to quantify the carbon sequestration of McGowan Woods
  - Analyzed weather station data for two forest plots to calculate annual summaries for parameters such as relative humidity, temperature, wind speed, total precipitation, and total solar radiation
- Summer 2017 **Research Assistant**, Cornell Cooperative Extension Energy Corps, Ithaca, NY
- Researched the environmental, financial, and social impacts of large-scale and community solar farms in the US to conduct large scale solar technology research and produce data sheets that laid out the political and structural processes leading up to project installation
- 2015 – 2016 **Research Intern**, Cornell Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Ithaca, NY

- Designed a research project to investigate properties of bacterial and viral influenza co-infections through GFP gene cloning and protein purification

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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2022	BIL575: Graduate Seminar: Analyses in R, University of Miami Graduate Teaching Assistant, 1 semester
2021	BISC 2453: Animal Behavior Lab, George Washington University Graduate Teaching Assistant, 1 semester
2020	BISC 2456: General Ecology Lab, George Washington University Graduate Teaching Assistant, 1 semester
2020	NTRES 3100: Applied Population Ecology, Cornell University Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, 1 semester
2020	NTRES 2100: Introductory Field Biology, Cornell University Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, 1 semester

## SERVICE AND OUTREACH

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2023	Fairchild Challenge Poster Panel volunteer, Coral Gables, FL
2022	BioReach guest presenter: Let's Rot! Termites and wood decay, Coral Gables, FL
2022	Fairchild Challenge Environmental Careers Day volunteer, Coral Gables, FL
2021 – pres.	Green Grad Group member, Coral Gables, FL
2021 – 2023	Biology Graduate Student Organization symposium organizer, Coral Gables, FL
2020	Yellowstone National Park Hydrology team volunteer, Gardiner, MT
2020 – 2021	Friendship Donation Network food recovery volunteer, Ithaca, NY
2018 – 2019	Epsilon Eta Sustainability Fraternity community coordinator, Ithaca, NY
2019	Ithaca ReUse Center materials donation volunteer, Ithaca, NY
2018	Cornell Botanic Garden Volunteer, Ithaca, NY
2017 – 2020	Cornell Varsity Track and Field Spiked Shoe Society vice president
2017 – 2019	Ithaca Children's Garden Volunteer, Ithaca, NY
2017 – 2019	Holidays Adopt-A-Family gift coordinator, Ithaca, NY

## PEER REVIEWS

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Ecology (1)

Last Updated: 01.19.23