



DIRECTED RESEARCH PROJECTS

THE SCHOOL
FOR FIELD STUDIES

SPRING 2025



AUSTRALIA

A Comparative Study of Biodiversity at a Monoculture Farm, Regenerative Agricultural Farm, and Reference Forest in Queensland, Australia

Faculty advisors: Dr. Deborah Apgaua and Dr. David Tng

Student authors: Elizabeth Carlson¹, Gray Dallaire¹, James Leone², Caroline White³, Dominika Zdzeibko⁴, Camryn Zoeller⁵

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An Exploration of the Bryofauna in Upland Rainforests in the Australian Wet Tropics

Faculty advisors: Dr. David Tng and Dr. Deborah Apgaua

Student authors: Stella Lindbergh¹, Benjamin Gravel²

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Variation in Vascular and Non-Vascular Plant Communities of Two Distinct Remnant Mabi Rainforest Patches on the Atherton Tablelands, Queensland, Australia

Faculty advisors: Dr. Deborah Apgaua and Dr. David Tng

Student authors: Ellery Stanzel¹, Caelon Shugrue², Sophie Colbert ², Jalynette Sanchez ³

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Documenting diversity as a first step to relearning Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Faculty advisor: Dr. Mia Derhe

Student authors: Isaac Laumer¹, Annie Thompson², Ellory Dickerson³, Kate Bethel⁴

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Preserving Mbabaram Knowledge: The Documentation of Significant Species and Their Traditional Uses in Mbabaram Culture

Faculty advisor: Dr. Mia Derhe

Student authors: Aida Yoder¹, Brevin Master², Charlotte Peterson³

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Exploring Platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*) Habitat Traits in Far North Queensland, Australia

Faculty advisor: Dr. Sigrid Heise-Pavlov

Student authors: Lauren Edwards¹, Olivia Levy², Grace Robes-Kenworthy³, Zoe Van der Walt⁴

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BHUTAN

Harvesting Heritage: Evaluating Agritourism Potential in Bhutan as a Path to Sustainable Development and Cultural Preservation

Faculty advisor: Dr. Kuenga Wangmo

Student authors: Hannah Gilmer¹, Isabel Duane², Jess Li³, Colleen Maloney⁴

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Harvesting Heritage: The Social and Economic Viability of Agritourism in the Haa Valley

Faculty advisor: Dr. Kuenga Wangmo

Student authors: Maya Basnyat¹, Mia DiLorenzo², Callie Goodman³, Emma Fellows⁴

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Seasonal Habitat Use of Sambar Deer in the Taktsang-Bumdra Region

Faculty advisor: Dr. Tshering Tempa

Student authors: Annika Burman¹, Madeline George², Avi Kahn³, Avery Leigh⁴, Theo Ollier⁵

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Predator-Prey Relations Between *Martes flavigula* and Pheasants in the Taktsang-Bumdra Region of Bhutan

Faculty advisor: Dr. Tshering Tempa

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Species Distribution and Niche Partitioning of Meso-Predators in Paro Valley, Bhutan

Faculty advisor: Dr. Tshering Tempa

Student authors: Grace Lerner¹, Julia Ng-Heth², Barton Ritchay², Maya Whitcomb³

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Hybrid Water Systems for Bhutan Urban Resilience: The Role of Groundwater in Paro and Phuentsholing Thromdes

Faculty advisor: Dr. Norbu Wangdi

Student authors: Scott Carter¹, Eliana Cohen², Bryce Maloney¹, Izzy Simon³, Siena Yannotti⁴

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CAMBODIA

Snake It 'Til You Make It: Behavioral Strategies of Tonle Sap Watersnakes (*E. longicauda*) in Changing Environments

Faculty advisor: Dr. Megan English

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Romp or Restless: A Behavioral Comparison between Otter Pairs and Families in Captivity

Faculty advisor: Dr. Megan English

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A Comparison of Community Forest Effectiveness in Siem Reap, Cambodia

Faculty advisor: Dr. Jean-Christophe Diepart

Student authors: Lilah Parker¹

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Forests Without Funders: Donor Withdrawal, Environmentality, and Agrarian Change in Cambodia's Community Forests

Faculty advisor: Dr. Tim Frewer

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Filming the Lives of Survivalist Farmers in Siem Reap

Faculty advisor: Dr. Tim Frewer

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CHILE

Preliminary Analytical Methods for Assessing Environmental Impact Near Salmon Aquaculture Sites in the Channels and Fjords of Southern Chile

Faculty advisor: Dr. Florencia Sanchez

Student authors: Natalie Dziuban¹, Ry Emmert², Olivia Germain³, Liz Joncas³

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Water Quality Testing in Southern Patagonian Fjords: Informing Policy to Remediate Dead Zones in Chile's Salmon Farming Industry

Faculty advisor: Dr. Florencia Sanchez

Student authors: Rebecca Rolling¹

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Spatial Distribution and Composition of Marine Municipal Solid Waste along the Recreational Coastline of Puerto Natales, Chile: A Study of Anthropogenic and Environmental Influences on Coastal Pollution

Faculty advisor: Dr. Florencia Sanchez

Student authors: Harper Title¹

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Geoconservación con Paneles Interpretativos en la Patagonia Austral

Faculty advisor: Dr. Florencia Sanchez

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Impact of Tourism in the Biosphere Reserve Torres del Paine; Answers for Conservation

Faculty advisor: Dr. Florencia Sanchez

Student authors: Victoria Lieberman¹

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Comparing Ecological Indicators Between Early and Late Succession *Nothofagus pumilio* Forests at Torres del Paine Biosphere Reserve

Faculty advisor: Dr. Glenda D. Hevia

Student authors: Maria Cecconello Lucas¹, Audrey Langhenry²

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Characterization of Fauna Diversity within Reserva Explora, a Conservation Reserve in Torres del Paine

Faculty advisor: Dr. Glenda D. Hevia

Student authors: Roganna Crown¹, Kaylee Hedrick², Madeleine Campbell³

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A Pilot Study Implementing Artificial Perches on Degraded *Nothofagus antarctica* Forests in a Private Conservation Reserve (Torres del Paine), Patagonia, Chile

Faculty advisor: Dr. Glenda D. Hevia

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Estimating Black Carbon Deposition on Glaciers from the 2011–2012 Forest Fire in Parque Nacional Torres del Paine and Modeling Atmospheric Transport of Particulates via the Hybrid Single-Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory (HYSPLIT) Model

Faculty advisor: Dr. Francisco Aguirre

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Southern Patagonian Drought Conditions and the Correlation to Wildfires in Torres del Paine

Faculty advisor: Dr. Francisco Aguirre

Student authors: Benjamin Wedepohl¹, Anthony Ciallella², Julia Head³

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Geomorphological Analysis of Glaciar Tranquiñokull and Surge-Type Cirque Glacier Implications, Cerro Ferrier, Torres del Paine National Park, Provincia de Última Esperanza, Región de Magallanes y la Antártica Chilena, Chile

Faculty advisor: Dr. Francisco Aguirre

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Classifying the Río Rubens Peatland

Faculty advisor: Dr. Francisco Aguirre

Student authors: Josie Hansen¹, Ian Hauver-Radloff², Betty Nelson², Kate Swann³

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COSTA RICA

Cultivating Agroecological Resilience: Assessing Food System Transformation at the Local Level

Faculty advisor: Dr. Mary Little

Student authors: Alli Scheid¹, Samar Haddad², Rin Hendricks³, Megan Scalera⁴, Diego Avalos⁵, Sophia Dziekan¹, Janet Spingarn⁶

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More Than Water: Diversity of Medium and Large-Sized Mammals in Water Source Protected Areas Managed by Communal Aqueducts in a Fragmented Landscape (Atenas, Alajuela, Costa Rica)

Faculty advisor: Dr. Milena Cambroneró

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Singing in the Face of Danger: Sex-Specific Vocal Behavior of *Thryophilus rufalbus* Under Predation Risk

Faculty advisor: Dr. Natalie Sánchez

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Environmental Factors Influence Trait Variation More Than Plant Size in the Tropical Dry Forest Shrub *Bonellia nervosa*

Faculty advisor: Dr. Gerardo Avalos

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CROATIA

Common Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) Abundance within the Cres-Lošinj Archipelago

Faculty advisor: Dr. Grgur Pleslić

Student authors: Hope Angotti¹, Katy Serth², Darin Stockhammer³

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Exploring the Effects of Trawling Boats and Seasonality on the Social Dynamics of Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) in the Northeast Adriatic Sea

Faculty advisor: Dr. Grgur Pleslić

Student authors: Zoe Ash¹, Aimi Davila², Rowan Howe³

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Common Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) Habitat Use: Spatiotemporal Differences in Age Class and Behavior within the Cres-Lošinj Archipelago

Faculty advisor: Dr. Grgur Pleslić

Student authors: Virginia Brown¹, Toni Coria², Zea Ishimoto³, Angela McMahon⁴

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Will the Small Survive? What Reproductive Success Metrics Reveal About the Cres-Lošinj Common Bottlenose Dolphin Population Trends & Its Conservation Needs

Faculty advisor: Dr. Grgur Pleslić

Student authors: Erika Loo¹

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Seasonal Distribution and Industrial Fisheries Interaction Risk of Juvenile Loggerhead Sea Turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in the Adriatic Sea

Faculty advisor: Dr. Matic Jančič

Student authors: Sean Andrasick¹, Marja Barrett², Janie Finagal³, Rachel Hoffman², Samantha Schwab⁴

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Abundance and Diversity of Epibionts and Parasites on Loggerhead Sea Turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in the Adriatic Sea

Faculty advisor: Dr. Mateja Zekan Lupić

Student authors: Margaret Pecht¹, Savannah Terry², Benjamin Munoz³, Ashely Homme⁴

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ITALY

Catalysts of Change: A Preliminary Analysis of the Motivations to Pursue Organic Certification in Chianti Classico Agriculture

Faculty advisor: Dr. Riccardo Simoncini

Student authors: Reilan Garczynski¹, Natalia Jacobs², Sophie Leight², Alexis Romanowsky³

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Analysis of Management Practices in Viticulture to Understand Their Sustainability in Chianti Classico

Faculty advisor: Dr. Filippo Randellii

Student authors: Annika Harris¹, Jacob Savelle², Joshua Rooney³

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Lizard Presence as Bioindicators in Vineyards Across the Chianti Region: Assessment of the State of Biodiversity in the Agroecosystems of Chianti Classico

Faculty advisor: MsC Claudia Corti

Student authors: Clover Sinning¹, Mia Cohen², Lillie Austin³, Lucas Raffo⁴

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KENYA

Abundance, Distribution, and Habitat Preference of Grey Crowned Cranes (*Balearica regulorum gibbericeps*) in Amboseli N. Park and Its Environs

Faculty advisor: Dr. John Kiringe

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Analysis of the Mbirikani Predator Compensation Fund's Effectiveness in Fostering Coexistence Between Humans and Lions in the Former Kimana Group Ranch

Faculty advisor: Dr. King'asia Mamati

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Assessing the Socio-Economic Factors to Wildlife Resources Use and Giraffe Bushmeat Activity in the Amboseli Region

Faculty advisor: Jennifer Wanyingi

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PANAMA

Understanding the Surf Community in Bocas del Toro

Faculty advisor: Dr. Leon Mach

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Patterns & Partners: Ecological Distribution & Space-Use Habits of *Andinobates claudiae* with *Heliconia* spp. in Tropical Rainforests

Faculty advisor: Dr. Daniel Medina

Student authors: Mia Benjamin¹, Moa Lilja², Jenna Parker³, Larson Selvig²

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Patterns of *pumilio*: Spatial Distribution and Density of *Oophaga pumilio* in Disturbed Tropical Forests

Faculty advisor: Dr. Daniel Medina

Student authors: Renee Amado¹, Maya Merchant², Makai Pope³, Vivienne Scott³

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Attitudes Toward Wildlife and Connectedness to Nature in Bocas del Toro

Faculty advisor: Holly Hummel, M.A., supervised by Dr. Leon Mach

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Community Structure of Fishes Associated with *Acropora* Habitats Impacted by the 2023 Bleaching Event in Bocas del Toro, Caribbean Panama

Faculty advisor: Dr. Dagoberto E. Venera-Pontón

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Functional Group Structure of Stony Corals After Significant Loss of *Acropora cervicornis* in Almirante Bay, Bocas del Toro, Panama

Faculty advisor: Dr. Dagoberto E. Venera-Pontón

Student authors: Clara Hansen¹, McCulloch MacPherson², Renee Trombley³

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PERU

Provisioning and Management of Natural Water Sources Within the Indigenous Chirikyacu Community

Faculty advisor: Dr. Cecilia Barriga Bahamonde

Student authors: Taylor Hemenway¹

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Exploring the Value and Perceptions of Game Animals in Chirikyacu: Understanding Ecosystem Services and Drivers of Change in Indigenous Communities

Faculty advisor: Dr. Cecilia Barriga Bahamonde

Student authors: Jude Couch¹

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Wild Fruit Trees as a Valuable Ecosystem Service in the Kichwa-Lamas Community of Chirikyacu

Faculty advisor: Dr. Cecilia Barriga Bahamonde

Student authors: Jess Kowalski¹

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Effects of Indigenous *Chacra* Systems on Frugivorous Bat Diets and Seed Dispersal in the Chirikyacu Community of San Martin, Peru

Faculty advisor: Dr. Ricardo Sanchez Calderon

Student authors: Josie Kirley¹, Kieran Lamb²

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Analyzing Foliar Disease in *Piperaceae* Across a Gradient of Anthropogenic Disturbance by Subsistence Agriculture in Northern Peru

Faculty advisor: Dr. Ricardo Sanchez Calderon

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Assessing Impacts of Indigenous Agriculture on Moth Functional Traits and Diversity in Premontane Forests of San Martin, Peru

Faculty advisor: Dr. Ricardo Sanchez Calderon

Student authors: Anders Hashtings¹, Sophia Gabelger², Chase Ellis³

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Conflicting Discourses and Environmental Justice Outcomes in the Creation and Management of the ACR-CE Protected Area

Faculty advisor: Dr. Sonja Bleeker

Student authors: Eliana Hockman¹, Samantha Bretl², Angélica Fogarty³, Isabel Gonzales⁴

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TANZANIA

Exploring Tourist Satisfaction and Economic Potentials of Tourist Enterprises to Local People of Makuyuni–Mto wa Mbu–Karatu Corridor, Northern Tanzania

Faculty advisor: Mr. John Mwamhanga

Student authors: Emmanuela Aboh¹, Lila Miller², Harper Smith³

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The Assessment of Useful Plant Species by Hadzabe in the Lake Eyasi Basin, Karatu District

Faculty advisor: Mr. John Mwamhanga

Student authors: Danielle Melius¹, Layla Townsend²

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Optimal Burn Timing and Wildlife Corridor Health in Burunge Wildlife Management Area

Faculty advisor: Dr. Shem Mwasi

Student authors: Delaney O'Brien¹, Maelen Rose Movich-Fields², Anneh Britz³, Ainsley Murphy²

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Effectiveness of Burning and Manual Removal on Invasive Plant Species in Burunge Wildlife Management Area

Faculty advisor: Dr. Shem Mwasi

Student authors: Nora Correio¹, Alia Harris², Otis Wildman³

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Assessing Nocturnal Bird Richness in Karatu and Monduli Districts, Northern Tanzania: Implications for Agricultural Productivity

Faculty advisor: Dr. Egidius James Rwebuga

Student authors: Audrey Wegener¹, Sam Zwiefelhofer², Luke Young³

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Airport and Maize Field Effects on Bird and Small Mammal Diversity: Aviation Safety Implications

Faculty advisor: Dr. Egidius James Rwebuga

Student authors: Eleanore Roberts¹, Lillian Wallace², Tessa Martin³

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Mesopredator Spatial-Temporal Activity Patterns and Niche Differentiation in the Lake Eyasi Escarpment

Faculty advisor: Dr. Bernard Kissui

Student authors: Mira Allen¹, Veronica Britton², Kennedy Fast³

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TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

Coastal Ecosystem Service Assessment and Mapping in South Caicos

Faculty advisor: Dr. Yuqian Zhang

Student authors: Ana Rowley¹, Isabella Andrus²

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Coral Reef Assessment and Fish Diversity in South Caicos

Faculty advisors: Dr. Yuqian Zhang and John Debuysser

Student authors: Jaeyun An¹, Stephanie Friedman², Jayne Morley³, Islay Morrison⁴

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Coral Gardening in the Anthropocene: Developing Outplanting Methodology and Monitoring Coral Attachment, Health, and Growth in South Caicos

Faculty advisors: Dr. Heidi Hertler and John Debuysser

Student authors: Anna Amha¹, Charles Stearns², Jayson Leem³, Gwyneth Wiseman⁴

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BRUVS: Assessing Species Diversity, Richness and Relative Abundance Within the ACLSNP of Elasmobranchs (Sharks and Rays) and Predatory Reef Fish

Faculty advisor: Dr. Stephan Bruns

Student authors: Liv Auerbach¹, Erin Fraser¹, Maryann Huffman², Charlotte Wilner¹

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CASITAS: Monitoring Lobster Casitas and Their Surrounding Habitat for Ecological Impacts

Faculty advisor: Dr. Stephan Bruns

Student authors: Alex Zoner¹, Anwen Hudson², Myla Cáceres³, Rose Clarke⁴

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Bonefish Ecology: Sustainable Ecotourism and Income Opportunities

Faculty advisor: Dr. Stephan Bruns

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Grave Conch-erns

Faculty advisor: Dr. C.E. O'Brien

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OctoChow

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OctoFoe

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