

## Education

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**University of Florida, Gainesville, FL** **2017-present**  
**Doctor of Philosophy** – Environmental Horticulture  
Ph.D. candidate  
Dissertation Research: Coastal plant and microbial community responses to environmental stressors along the Gulf of Mexico Big Bend region of Florida

**University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL** **2010-2013**  
**Master of Science** – Biology  
Thesis Research: Response of the Epiphytic Algal Communities to Experimentally Elevated Nutrient Levels in Intertidal Salt Marsh Habitats

**University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI** **2001- 2005**  
**Bachelor of Science** – Wildlife Ecology  
**Certificate** – Environmental Studies

## Teaching Experience

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**University of Florida, Gainesville, FL** **2020**  
**Environmental Horticulture Department**  
Teaching Assistant

- Ecosystem Restoration – developed course material and engaged students to meet learning objectives

**University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL** **2010-2017**  
**Biology Department**  
Visiting Lecturer (August 2015-August 2017)  
Adjunct Instructor (August 2014-July 2015)  
Graduate Teaching Assistant (August 2010-May 2013)

**Course Development**

- General Biology II Lab Coordinator – managed over 25 lab sections with 6 lab instructors, developed new laboratory activities and topics, edited and redesigned course material to incorporate hands-on learning and critical thinking, and developed and implemented new writing and communication standards for students
- Principles of Ecology lab – instrumental in redesigning course instructional methods and testing materials
- Plant Anatomy and Physiology lab – designed lab course material and experiments

**Course Instruction**

- General Biology I, II and III, Principles of Ecology, and Plant Anatomy and Physiology

**Florida State College Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL** **2014-2017**  
Adjunct Instructor

**Course Development**

- Chemistry and Biology of Natural Waters – researched, developed, and designed course materials including lecture and field data collection activities for hands-on learning
- Career Preparation – developed and implemented coursework to aid students in the transition from academics into careers

**Course Instruction**

- Chemistry and Biology of Natural Waters, Environmental Compliance, Career Preparation, Hazardous Materials Risk Analysis

## Professional Experience

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**LPG Environmental Permitting & Services, Inc., Jacksonville, FL**

**May 2006-August 2010**

Environmental Scientist

- Collaborated with State and Federal environmental agencies to streamline client-agency relationships
- Project Manager for over 25 projects for environmental permit application and compliance
- Team lead for wetland delineations, land reclamation designs, native species planting and wetland mitigation monitoring, and endangered species permitting and relocations
- Analyzed and wrote technical environmental reports
- Developed Best Management Practices for clients in land development and mining industries
- Conducted Environmental Assessments and Threatened/Endangered species surveys per FDEP and USFW regulations

**M.H. Wolfe and Associates Environmental Consulting, Inc., Bakersfield, CA**

**August 2005-April 2006**

Field Biologist

- Led environmental training sessions for clients for endangered species avoidance measures
- Conducted biological surveys for State and Federally threatened and endangered plant and animal species
- Wrote and prepared biological assessments and reports for State and Federal wildlife and wetland permits
- Worked with southern California wind farms to assess and reduce biological impacts to flora and fauna

**University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Wildlife Ecology, Madison, WI**

**May 2005-August 2005**

Field Technician

- Conducted grassland bird surveys via spot mapping, transect mapping, and mist netting in southwestern Wisconsin for species richness, territory establishment, and habitat utilization
- Monitored marked bird nests for nest success

## Leadership and Service Positions

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Society of Wetland Scientists

- Student Delegate **September 2020-present**
- Moderator – Women in Wetlands Section Symposium **May 2016**  
Annual Meeting 2019

Registration Coordinator – Southeastern Phycological Colloquy

**May 2012**

Phycological Society of America

- Organizing Committee member – Annual Conference **June 2012**
- Housing Director – Annual Conference **June 2012**

## Scholarships and Grants

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Grinter Graduate School Fellowship **2017-present**

Society of Wetland Scientists Annual Meeting Access Grant **2020**

Bloom N' Grow Scholarship **2019**

Jasper Joiner Travel Grant **2019**

Society of Wetland Scientists Travel Grant **2019**

## Volunteer

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Research Assistant

2018

- Assisted in University of Florida doctoral research conducting health assessments and dietary studies for the critically endangered Hicatee river turtle at Belize Foundation for Research and Environmental Education (BFREE)

## Publications

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Verhulst, S. and C.R. Adams. 2020. Are coastal plants the marsh loss “canary in the coal mine”? UF/IFAS Florida LAKEWATCH, 90:9-12

## Presentations

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**S. Verhulst** and C.R. Adams. Piecing together the mud pie: Detecting relative stress in Florida’s gulf coast salt marshes. Society of Wetland Scientists Virtual Meeting. December 2020.

**S. Verhulst**, C.R. Adams, W. Pine, M. Conlin, and P.N. Adams. Salt marsh plant productivity and physiological response to abiotic conditions adjacent to tidal creeks along the Florida Gulf coast. Society of Wetland Scientists Annual Meeting. Quebec City, Quebec, Canada, June 2020. (meeting canceled)

**S. Verhulst**, C.R. Adams, and W. Pine. *Juncus roemerianus* stress response to elevated salt marsh salinity. Water Institute Symposium. Gainesville, Florida, February 2020.

**S. Verhulst** and C.R. Adams. Salinity-mediated coastal plant community change: Controlled experiments to inform thresholds. Society of Wetland Scientists Annual Meeting. Baltimore, Maryland, May 2019.

**S. Verhulst** and D. Casamatta. Epiphytic cyanobacterial diversity and succession from a salt marsh (GTMNERR, Florida) over a two-year period. Symposium of the International Association for Cyanophyte Research. Orlando, Florida, July 2013.

**S. Verhulst**. Seasonal dynamics of epiphytic algae collected from *Spartina alterniflora*. State of the Reserve. Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, February 2013.

**S. Verhulst**, E. Johnson, and D. Casamatta. Seasonal patterns of epiphytic algal biodiversity upon *Spartina alterniflora* within the GTMNERR. Southeastern Phycological Society Colloquy. Jacksonville, Florida, October 2012.

**S. Verhulst** and D. Casamatta. Epiphytic biodiversity reflecting seasonal fluctuations and nutrient manipulations from *Spartina alterniflora* within the GTMNERR. Phycological Society of America meeting. Charleston, South Carolina, June 2012.

**S. Verhulst** and D. Casamatta. Epiphytic cyanobacterial biodiversity on *Spartina alterniflora* within the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve. University of Florida Marine Biology Symposium. Marineland, Florida, January 2012.

H. Stocks, **S. Verhulst**, I.I. Brown, S. Sarkisova, and D. Casamatta. *Leptolyngbya ferruginosa* sp. nov, a novel siderophoric cyanobacterium isolated from an iron-depositing hot spring. Phycological Society of America meeting. Charleston, South Carolina, June 2012.

**S. Verhulst**, A. Omran, S. Eastman, H. Stocks and D. Casamatta. Changes in epiphytic algal biomass in response to experimentally elevated nutrient levels in the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve. Southeastern Phycological Colloquy. Miami, Florida, October, 2011.

H. Stocks, **S. Verhulst**, and D. Casamatta. Preliminary Survey of Filamentous Cyanobacteria from Suwannee River State Park. Southeastern Phycological Colloquy. Miami, Florida, October, 2011.

**S. Verhulst**, A. Omran, S. Eastman, H. Stocks and D. Casamatta. Response of the epiphytic algal community to experimentally elevated nutrient levels in the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve. Phycological Society of America meeting. Seattle, Washington, July 2011.