

# Danny Jackson

Evolutionary Biology Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Arizona | [jacksondanny.com](http://jacksondanny.com)  
[dannyjackson1428@gmail.com](mailto:dannyjackson1428@gmail.com) | 303 579 2102 | <https://github.com/dannyjackson/>

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## Education

### Evolutionary Biology Ph.D.

Arizona State University

Evolutionary Biology

September 2023

GPA 3.78

### Master of Science

Arizona State University

Evolutionary Biology

May 2022

GPA 3.78

### Bachelor of Arts

University of Colorado Boulder

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

English — Creative Writing

Certificate of LGBTQ Studies

May 7, 2016

GPA 3.722/4.000

GPA 3.525/4.000

GPA 3.824/4.0, *summa cum laude*

**Relevant Skills:** Whole genome analysis, spatial ecology, Python, Bash, R, Github, QGIS, ARCGIS, Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, Animate, InDesign, Premiere, After Effects), MailChimp

## Grants, Awards, Positions, and Professional Societies

### Arizona State University

- ASU Committee for Campus Inclusion Catalyst Award winner SP 2023 ([link](#))
- ASU GPSA GRSP Research Grant FA 2022
- Research Assistantship SU 2022 Avian Ecology Surveys for Rewilding Studies
- ASU GPSA Travel Grant SU 2022
- ASU Graduate Completion Fellowship FA 2022- SP 2023
- ASU Graduate College Fellowship FA 2022-SP 2023
- American Ornithological Society Bleitz Research Award 2022
- ASU Chapter Sigma Xi Grant 2022
- Inclusive Teaching Fellowship from the School of Life Science's Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Initiative SU 2021
- JumpStart GPSA grant, *Urban Evolution in Arizona Cardinals* SP 2021
- NSF GRFP 2019 Honorable Mention
- ASU Graduate College Fellowship FA 2020-SP 2021

### University of Colorado Boulder

- NSF REU funded researcher in 2014
- BURST funded undergraduate researcher in 2013-14
- Dean's List 3 semesters
- Dean's Scholar Academic Scholarship
- 2016 Winner Evan Wolfson Prize in LGBTQ Studies

### Professional Societies

- Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society
- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- American Ornithological Society
- Animal Behavior Society

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## Talks and Posters

- December 2, 2023. Sigma Xi Science Cafe. *Urban Evolution in Arizonan Cardinals*.
- July 19, 2022. Annual Meeting of the Animal Behavior Society. *Queering Animal Behavior Curricula*.
- June 17, 2022. Denver Art Museum *Untitled Series*. *Gay Bears But Actually Zine*.
- March 25, 2022. ASU School of Life Sciences Graduate Honors Symposium. *Urban Adaptation in Arizona's Cardinals*.
- March 22, 2022. Tucson Audubon Society Continuing Education Series. *Urban Adaptation in Birds*.
- December 6, 2021. ASU School of Life Sciences Visiting Education Scholars Meeting. Justice Equity and Inclusion Fellowship Presentation on Animal Behavior Course Revisions.
- November 12, 2021. ASU School of Life Sciences Faculty Meeting. Justice Equity and Inclusion Fellowship Presentation.
- September 10, 2021. ASU School of Life Sciences Graduate Student Meeting. Justice Equity and Inclusion Fellowship Presentation.
- August 21, 2020. ASU Evolutionary Biology Symposium. Lightning talk. Seabird Speciation.
- August 13, 2020. North American Ornithological Conference & American Ornithological Society Conference. Poster. *Pantropical gene flow in three booby species / Pantropical flujo de genes en tres especies de piqueros*.
- November 6, 2019. Annual Meeting of the Waterbirds Society. Talk. *Sulid Species Boundaries*.
- November 1, 2019. BioSci Southwest Symposium. Poster. *Evidence for introgression in a genus of seabirds*.
- February 28, 2019. Front Range Student Ecology Symposium. Poster.

## Publications

### Published

- Feldmann, K., Funk, E., Grabenstein, K., Jackson, D., Theodosopolous, A., Wagner, D. N., & Taylor, S. A. (2019). Recent Literature The Ascent of Birds: How Modern Science is Revealing their Stories John Reilly, 2018. Pelagic Publishing, Exeter, UK. 340 pages. ISBN 9781784271695. \$33.00 (Hardcover).

### In Prep

*Drafts readily available upon request! I plan to submit all "in prep" papers by August 2023.*

- Jackson, D., Funk, E., Anderson, D., Birt, Friesen, V., Morris-Pocock, J., Steeves, T., Zavalaga, C., Taylor, S. A. (*Resubmitted to Molecular Ecology following one round of revisions*, <https://www.authorea.com/doi/full/10.22541/au.165354126.61061627>). Interspecific introgression and widespread intraspecific gene flow in a clade of tropical and subtropical seabirds
- Jackson and McGraw (*in prep.*). Urbanization differentially affects the spatial distributions of two sympatric congeners with similar ecological niches.
- Jackson and McGraw (*in prep.*) Urbanization acts similarly but on different traits in two desert cardinal species.
- Jackson, D., Yule, K., Biera, A., Hawley, C., Lacson, J., Ott, L., Webb, E., McGraw, K., Cooper, K. (*in prep.*). "Broadening Perspectives" Course Revisions Improve both LGBTQ Student Experiences and non-LGBTQ Students' Content Comprehension

### Press

- VandeWater, P. (2022, January 30). *Tucson Cardinal Study Update!* Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists. Retrieved January 31, 2022, from <https://sabinonaturalists.org/tucson-cardinal-study-update/>
- VandeWater, P. (2021, March 22). *Cardinal Research Study Seeking Help & BIRDS*. Sabino Canyon Volunteer

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Naturalists. Retrieved January 31, 2022, from  
<https://sabinonaturalists.org/cardinal-research-study-seeking-help-birds/>

## Teaching and Research Assistantship Experience

### Arizona State University

Summer 2023 A *BIO 331* | *Animal Behavior* | TA ~75 students

Summer 2022 B *School of Life Sciences* | *Bird Survey Research* | RA, designed bird surveys and analytical framework for a study of the effects of “rewilding” a portion of campus on native bird communities

Summer 2022 A *BIO 361* | *School of Life Sciences Innovator Program* | Animal Behavior curriculum development

Spring 2022 B *BIO 361* | *Animal Physiology Laboratory* | Online TA, ~60 students

Spring 2022 A *BIO 360* | *Animal Physiology* | Online TA, ~60 students

Fall 2021 *BIO 340* | *General Genetics* | TA three recitations, ~60 students, designed 2 recitations and activities

Summer 2021 *Inclusive Teaching Fellowship from the School of Life Science's Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Initiative* | RA, lead a team of graduate students to redesign the *BIO 331 Animal Behavior* curriculum through an inclusive teaching framework

Spring 2021 *BIO 370* | *Comparative Vertebrate Zoology* | TA one lab section and lab curriculum design

Fall 2020 B *BIO 340* | *General Genetics* | TA ~60 students

Fall 2020 A *BIO 340* | *General Genetics* | TA ~50 students, designed 2 recitations and activities

Summer 2020 B *BIO 331* | *Animal Behavior* | TA ~50 students

Summer 2020 A *BIO 370* | *School of Life Sciences Innovator Program* | Reviewed inclusive teaching in STEM literature and collaboratively redesigned the curriculum for *BIO 370 Comparative Vertebrate Zoology*.

Spring 2020 *BIO 370* | *Comparative Vertebrate Zoology* | TA two lab sections

Fall 2019 | *ASU BIO 281 Conceptual Approaches to the Life Sciences* | TA two lab sections

## Graduate Student Service

- Director of Communications for the Arizona Science Policy Network SP 2021 - present
- Assembly Member Representing the College At Large to the Graduate & Professional Student Association FA 2021 - SP 2022
- Committee Member on Dean Drake's undergraduate thesis, *Plasma protein in house finches: effects of season, disease state, and urbanization*; Spring 2022.

## Work Experience

### Current work

August 2019 - present | Arizona State University. *Dr. Kevin McGraw's Avian Ecology Lab* | *Ph.D. student*. Designing and implementing investigations into the impacts of urban environments on avian physiologies, fitness, and evolution. I have designed and worked on genomic studies of avian evolution, dissections for viruses in wild ducks, spatial ecological analyses, avian behavioral experiments, avian nutritional state analyses, avian blood parasite analyses, and avian coloration analyses. Many of these analyses investigate the effects of urbanization on avian populations and evolutionary processes.

### 2020

Spring 2017 - 2020 | Michigan State University. *Dr. David Lowry's Plant Genetics Lab* | Worked to design a NSF & NIH SEPA grant funded K-12 genetics and evolution curriculum, in collaboration with The Lowry Lab and Create for STEM at MSU. I designed experiments for the curriculum, wrote workbooks to accompany the

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experiments, wrote a series of short stories to frame the experiments in narrative (in order to facilitate the students' development of their identities as scientists), storyboarded a set of comics and worked with a visual artist to bring those comics to life. Initially hired as a full time research technician (see below) but I was kept on as a creative consultant for several years.

## 2018-2019

February 2018 - August 2019 | [University of Colorado](#). *Dr. Scott Taylor's Avian Population Genetics Lab* | *Research Technician*. I co-designed a research project into the evolutionary history of the Sula genus (boobies) with the Principal Investigator of the lab, Dr. Scott Taylor. I performed relevant literature reviews, DNA extractions, genomic analyses in bash, Python, and R, and wrote grant applications for an analysis of the Sula genus. I learned and participated in extensive fieldwork capturing, banding, sampling blood from, and taking measurements from wild birds. I also designed the logo for the Boulder Chickadee Study and performed other graphic design projects for the lab publications.

March 2018 - April 2019 | [University of Colorado](#). *Counseling and Psychiatric Services* | *Administrative Assistant II*. Performed administrative tasks in confidential and crisis scenarios, including scheduling clients and facilitating hospital transport; performed data analysis; designed communication materials.

## 2017

February - September 2017 | [Michigan State University](#) | *Dr. David Lowry's Plant Genetics Lab* | *Research Technician* | Collected data for a variety of ongoing plant genetics and ecology studies, including a reciprocal transplant of *Mimulus guttatus*, a greenhouse heat tolerance study of the common bean, and a long term latitudinal study of switchgrass.

## 2016

**Undergraduate Thesis:** *English Department, Creative Writing*. "Approximately Men." I studied contemporary queer American literature, wrote the first half of a novel exploring assigned-male queer American identities, and defended the merit of the work to a panel of English professors. This work was awarded the highest level of honors, and was awarded the Evan Wolfson Prize in LGBTQ Studies for a Creative Work, a competitive annually awarded prize.

## 2014

Fall 2013 - Summer 2014 | [University of Colorado Boulder](#). *Dr. Stacey Smith's Plant Genetics Lab* | *REU Researcher*. NSF and BURST Funded research. Performed a literature review, designed experiments, and collected and analyzed genetic data that contributed to a now published study.