

CHRISTOPHER J. MARKS

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EDUCATION

Northeastern University, Boston, MA Expected Completion Date: Fall 2010
Three Seas Program, **Professional Masters of Science** in Marine Biology
GPA: 3.9 / 4.0

- Rigorous, wide-ranging marine biological studies in three diverse locations:
 - NEU Marine Science Center, Nahant, MA
 - Gump Marine Station, Moorea, French Polynesia
 - Friday Harbor Laboratories, San Juan Island, WA

Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL May 2008
Bachelor of Arts in Biology. Minor in Psychology
GPA: 3.1 / 4.0, Dean's List

RELATED EDUCATION

Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences (BIOS), Bermuda June 2007
Microbial Oceanography Coursework

- Investigated the genomics, biogeochemistry, and ecology of oceanic microbial ecosystems.
- Presented research results to senior research scientists and advisors.

Área de Conservación Guanacaste, Costa Rica May 2007
Tropical Ecology Coursework

- Surveyed ecological characteristics of three distinct tropical ecosystems with respect to floral/faunal diversity, climate, and anthropogenic influence.
- Gathered, analyzed and presented findings to research supervisors in collaboration with co-researchers.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Northeastern University, Boston, MA June 2010-Present
Masters Thesis, Advisor: Dr. Steven Vollmer

- Assessing spatial genetic structure, relatedness, and gene flow of the scleractinian coral, *Pocillopora damicornis* on tropical reefs in Moorea, French Polynesia.

New England Aquarium, Boston, MA July 2010-Present
Research Intern, Advisor: Dr. Randi Rotjan

- Exploring environmental factors that may control facultative symbioses in the temperate coral *Astrangia poculata*
- Aiding field research efforts and specimen collection via SCUBA

Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL August 2007-May 2008
Senior Research / Thesis, Advisor: Dr. Elizabeth Balser

- Quantitatively measured color change between molt stages in the praying mantis, *Tenodera aridifolia sinensis*.

Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL
Directed Study, Advisor: Dr. Elizabeth Balser

January 2006-May 2006

- Explored putative environmental factors attributing to coloration in the praying mantis, *Tenodera aridifolia sinensis*.

PRESENTATIONS

Marks, C.J., L.J. Sewera, and E.J. Balser. 2008. Habitat selection and the effects of predominating light on the development of *Tenodera aridifolia sinensis*. Poster presented at John Wesley Powell Research Conference, Illinois Wesleyan University; Bloomington, IL.

- Abstract published in Conference proceedings.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Saint Louis Public Library, Saint Louis, MO
Library Technician

February 2009-August 2009

- Supervised and aided employees with their various daily tasks.
- Troubleshoot computer software and aided patrons with their various needs.

Alaskan Observers, Inc., Seattle, WA

June 2008-August 2008

National Marine Fisheries Certified Groundfish Observer

- Collected scientific data aboard commercial vessels fishing on the Bering Sea.
- Data collection included species abundance, species diversity, sex ratios, length frequencies, specimen data, and special government projects.
- Data was reviewed by the National Marine Fisheries Service and utilized to manage the Bering Sea commercial fisheries.

The Ames Library, IWU, Bloomington, IL

August 2004-May 2008

Thorpe Digital Center, Media Services Assistant

- Distributed, delivered, and troubleshoot media software and electronic equipment (computers, projectors, audio equipment) both within the library and around campus.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- American Academy of Underwater Sciences, Scientific Diver (2009-Present)
- PADI Open water, Adventure and Advanced open water diver (2009-Present)
- National Marine Fisheries Certified Groundfish Observer (2008-2009)
- United Industrial Workers, Alaska Fisheries Division (2008-2009)

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS AND LEADERSHIP

- Beta Beta Beta Honors Fraternity (2008)
- Order of Omega Honors Fraternity (2007-2008)
- Sigma Pi Fraternity International. (2004-2008)
- Interfraternity Council: Judicial Board Representative (2006)
- Illinois Wesleyan Varsity Tennis (2006-2008)

REFERENCES

Available upon request

Last updated: July 2010