

# Damla Cinoglu

2415 Speedway  
Stop C0930  
Austin Texas 78712

damlacinoglu.github.io  
+1 434 466 7660  
dcinoglu@utexas.edu

## Education

**Ph.D Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, University of Texas at Austin** (expected) 2024  
*Currently in post-candidacy. 8th semester and 4th year.*  
Proposed dissertation title: Structural and functional coexistence along tropical forest succession  
**Graduate Applied Statistics Portfolio, University of Texas at Austin** (expected) 2024

**B.S. Environmental Sciences and Economics, University of Virginia** 2019  
Honors thesis title: Post-fire Interactions between *Ceanothus* spp. and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) in the Klamath Mountains

## Pedagogical Training

**Advanced Teaching Preparation Certificate, Faculty innovation Center, UT Austin** 2022  
Completed a series of seven sessions on developing teaching skills, including pedagogical theory, cognitive learning theories, inclusive teaching practices, working with students with disabilities, structuring lesson plans, fostering student participation, and assessment.

**Concentration in Teaching and Mentoring, TIDES, UT Austin** 2022  
Including courses such as “Evidence-based Teaching”, “Inclusive teaching”, “Lesson Plan Development”, “Instructional Practice”, “Mentoring Undergraduate Research”, and “Online Teaching”.

**Biology Instructional Office Teaching Assistant Workshop** 2019

## Academic Appointments

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin** Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Present

**Graduate Research Assistant, University of Texas at Austin** Spring 2020, Spring 2021-Fall 2022

## Research Experience

**Graduate Research Assistant, University of Texas at Austin** Spring 2020, Spring 2021-Fall 2022  
Department of Integrative Biology — Advisor: Dr. Caroline Farrior

**Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Virginia** 2017-2019  
Department of Environmental Sciences — Advisor: Dr. Howard Epstein

**Undergraduate Field and Lab Assistant, University of Virginia** Summer 2018  
Department of Environmental Sciences — Advisor: Dr. David Carr, Dr. T'ai Roulston

## Funding

**The University of Texas Graduate Continuing Fellowship - \$55,000** 2023-2024

**Enhanced UT Austin Graduate Fellowship - Third-year salary and \$2500 annually** 2019-2024

**Ari Yehiel Blattstein Endowed Presidential Scholarship - \$2500** 2022

**Billie L. Turner Plant Resources Center Department of Integrative Biology, The Linda Escobar Award - \$2000** 2022

**Texas Career Engagement Office, Professional Development Award - \$3700** 2021, 2022  
*An Introduction to Building your Professional Website: Basic Programming and Nuanced Website Content Skills*

**Office of the Provost, University of Texas, ACT (Actions of Community Transformation) Seed Grant - \$10,000** 2021, 2022  
*Empowering women in STEM to become community leaders through mentorship*

**Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Professional Development Award - \$250** 2021

**Department of Integrative Biology, Research Grant - \$3900** 2021

**Native Plant Society of Texas, Graduate Student Fellowship - \$2500** 2021  
*Predicting the biodiversity-ecosystem functioning relationship in a central native Texan grassland: a controlled, field experiment*

**ESA Physiological Ecology Section Travel Award - \$500** 2019

## Teaching Experience

**Lab Instructor, Texas Career Engagement Office, University of Texas at Austin** Spring 2023  
*Introductory Lab Experiments in Biology*  
 Taught a 4-hour weekly lab course, held weekly office hours, and conducted lab exam reviews. Graded performance and lab reports and lab exams. I was the main point of contact and instructor for the lab experiments for two sections of undergraduate students.

**Contributor, University of Texas at Austin** Spring 2023  
*Graduate Student Mentoring*  
 Contributed content for a section of the course designed by a campus-wide effort to develop resources for faculty members, graduate students, and graduate programs by the Graduate Student Mentoring Committee. The topic of the section is on “communicating with one’s mentor early on in an academic mentorship interaction.

**Course Instructor, Texas Career Engagement Office, University of Texas at Austin** Summer 2022  
*An Introduction to Building your own Professional Website*  
 Designed and taught a course to graduate students, and postdocs in the College of Liberal Arts (COLA) seeking to create and maintain a Github.io website for the purposes of professional development. Finished products from the course can be found in these students’ websites: <https://yulminpark.github.io>, <https://theodorecharm.github.io>.

**Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin** Fall 2019, Fall 2020  
*Ecology, Introductory Biology II*  
 Department of Integrative Biology  
 Led weekly discussion sessions, held weekly office hours, conducted reviews prior to exams. Graded quizzes, homework assignments, and exams. I had full independence in covering weekly coursework for both courses, including reviews of the weekly lecture material, in-class activities, and question-answer sessions.

## Mentoring Experience

### Undergraduate Assistants

Rosalva B. Bravo Ozuna, Sophia De Mendoza, Jacs N. Purcell, Sivani Balaji, Hee Won Lim	2022-Present
Brian Matibag, Serah M. Osborn, Carole-Lynna E. Benhamou, Michael D. Hanson, Elena Adams, Diana Espinoza	2021-2022
Sora Sunby	2020-2021
David Weier, Sarah Bybee	2019-2020

### Undergraduates mentored in capstone/thesis projects

Mandy Tran (Environmental Science)	2022-Present
Stephanie Nuñez (Biochemistry)	2022-Present
Matthew Bradley (Computational Biology)	2021-2022

## Publications

1. Robinson, M., K. Abbott, L. Abdala- Roberts, W. Allen, J. Andrade, D. Angulo, D. Anjos, D. Anstett, R. Bagchi, S. Bagchi, M. Barbosa, S. Barrett, C. Baskett, E. Ben-Sichmon, K. Bloodworth, J. Bronstein, E. Bruna, Y. Buckley, K. Burghardt, C. Bustos-Segura, N. I. Cacho, E. S. Calixto, R. Carvalho, B. Castagneyrol, M. Chiuffo, **D. Cinoğlu** et al. (190 authors) (2023). Plant size, latitude, and phylogeny explain variability in global herbivory. Submitted to Nature, manuscript available.
2. McGuire, R., K. Hayashi, X. Yan, M. Carita Vaz, **D. Cinoğlu**, M. Cowen, L. Sullivan, A. Martínez-Blancas, S. Vazquez-Morales, and G.S. Kandlikar (2022). EcoEvoApps: interactive applications for teaching quantitative models in ecology and evolution. *Ecology and Evolution* 12(12). Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.9556>
3. **Cinoğlu, D.**, H.E. Epstein, A.J. Tepley, K.J. Anderson-Teixeira, J.R. Thompson, and S.S. Perakis (2021). Climatic Aridity Shapes Post-Fire Interactions between *Ceanothus* spp. and Douglas-Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) across the Klamath Mountains. *Forests*(12), 1567. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.3390/f12111567>

## Presentations

### Oral Presentations

1. **Cinoğlu, D.**, Ortiz, S.K., Farrior, C., Wolf, A.A. The effects of abiotic and biotic stress on carbon allocation in Native Texas plants. Native Plant Society of Texas, Annual Meeting. September 24, 2022.
2. Farrior, C.E., Decker, R., Bradley, M., **Cinoğlu, D.**, and Yan, X. Can we predict the evolution of differences among species that allow for their coexistence? Ecological Society of America, Annual Meeting. August 16, 2022.
3. **Cinoğlu, D.** TxGCP Summit 2021. Empowering Women in STEM to Become Community Leaders through Mentorship: The SAGES Mentorship Program at UT Austin. December 10th, 2021.
4. **Cinoğlu, D.**, Rüger, N., Decker, R., Farrior, C. Gap dynamics help to maintain functional tradeoffs in Neotropical forest succession. Ecological Society of America, Annual Meeting. August 3, 2021.
5. **Cinoğlu, D.**, Rüger, N., Decker, R., Farrior, C. Gap dynamics help to maintain functional tradeoffs in Neotropical forest succession. Association for Tropical Biology and Conversation. July 22, 2021.
6. Farrior, C., **Cinoğlu, D.**, Decker, R. Forming experimental hypotheses to test for ecological successional strategies. High School Research Initiative, University of Texas at Austin. Summer, 2021.
7. **Cinoğlu, D.** Gap dynamics help to maintain functional tradeoffs in Neotropical forest succession. Ecology Seminar, University of Texas at Austin. October 15, 2020.
8. Farrior, C., **Cinoğlu, D.**, Decker, R. High School Research Initiative, University of Texas at Austin. Summer, 2020.

### Poster Presentations

9. Nuñez, S, **Cinoğlu, D.** Understanding the biodiversity and ecosystem functioning relationship: Insect herbivory across a plant diversity gradient. 2022 UCLA McNair Research Conference. July 25, 2022. July

28, 2022.

10. **Cinoğlu, D.**, Ortiz, S.K. Linking above and below ground functional traits: A biodiversity-ecosystem functioning experiment. Brackenridge Field Labs, 55th year celebration May 14, 2022.

11. Bradley, M., Decker, R., **Cinoğlu, D.**, Farrior, C. Evaluating Janzen-Connell Dynamics as a Potential Driver of Evolutionarily Stable Coexistence. Ecological Society of America, Annual Meeting. August 3, 2021.

12. **Cinoğlu, D.**, Epstein, H. E., Tepley, A. J., Anderson-Teixeira, K. J., Thompson, J. R. Post-fire Interactions between *Ceanothus* spp. and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) in the Klamath Mountains. Ecological Society of America. August 4, 2019.

### **Invited Talks, Panels, and Lectures**

13. Capital of Texas Undergraduate Research Conference, Graduate Student Judge. Spring, 2022.

14. Adaptations to Physiological and Environmental Challenges (Diverse organisms demonstrate a variety of structure function adaptations to meet physiological and environmental challenges), Lecturer invited by Dr. Monica Hall-Porter to Introductory Biology 2, Spring, 2022.

15. Texas EEB Undergraduate Student Organization, Graduate Student Panel. Spring, 2022.

15. BIO Experienced TA Panel. Fall, 2021.

16. First-year Graduate Student Panel on Broader Impacts. Fall, 2021.

17. Unpack the Hidden Curriculum of Grad School. Fall, 2021.

18. Dive Into Research panel, Texas Undergraduate Journal. Fall, 2021.

## **Honors and Awards**

**Texas 2021 Stand Up For STEM Award - Million Women Mentors Texas Chapter** 2021  
Awarded to recognize a demonstrated passion for a STEM and associated careers and willingness to share skills and knowledge through role modeling and mentoring others.

**BIO Outstanding TA Award Finalist, University of Texas at Austin** 2021

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**NCS Student Faculty/Staff Appreciation Award, University of Texas at Austin** 2020  
Nominated by the students of the Introductory Biology II lecture in 2019.

**Distinguished Majors with High Honors in Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia** 2019  
Applied with a thesis proposal to the Environmental Sciences department chair. Defended a 50-page undergraduate thesis to the departmental committee and passed without conditions. “High Honors” status is approved by six faculty committee members.

**Dean’s Honor list, University of Virginia** 2017-2019  
Awarded to students who maintain a GPA above 3.5 for graded credits.

**Echols Scholar, University of Virginia** 2015-2019  
Award only received by 4 of the incoming study body. This scholarship allows for academic flexibility, priority in class scheduling and additional academic resources.

## **Community Service**

**Contributor**, The Department of Integrative Biology, University of Texas at Austin 2022-Present  
Represented the EEB graduate student body in groups such as the Field Safety working group (led by Dr. Tom Juenger) and the Departmental Code of Conduct writing working group (led by Dr. Caroline Farrior).

**Mentor**, The TexasEEB Club, University of Texas at Austin 2022-Present

**EEB Graduate Student Representative**, The Department of Integrative Biology, University of Texas at Austin 2022-Present

**Member**, Minorities in Biological Research, University of Texas at Austin 2022-Present

**Organizer**, International Graduate Students Committee of EEB, University of Texas at Austin 2021-Present  
 Founded and leading the only international student support group for the graduate program of EEB.

**Organizer and Mentor**, The Biodiversity Scholars Program of EEB, University of Texas at Austin 2021-Present  
 Funded by the Stengl-Wyer endowment, PIs: Dr. Tim Keitt, Dr. Laura Gonzalez, a program that financially supports and mentors under-represented students in taking field-based courses in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

**App developer and Translator for Eco-Evo Apps**, <https://ecoevoapps.gitlab.io> 2021-Present

**Founder and Director**, SAGES at UT Mentorship Committee and Mentorship Program, University of Texas at Austin 2019-Present  
 Founded an institution-wide mentorship program by pairing women undergraduate and graduate students of UT Austin to women faculty and industry officials in STEM to build a supportive network of women in STEM. Currently leading a committee of 7 people maintaining the second annual mentorship program of 2021 and building the third annual mentorship program of 2022.

**Organizer**, Ecology Seminar (Ecolunch), University of Texas at Austin 2020-2022