

# Brianna N Porter

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## Education

<b>University at Buffalo SUNY</b>	2019-Current
<i>Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology</i>	
<b>College at the College of Charleston, Charleston, SC</b>	2019
<i>Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology</i>	
<i>Bachelor of Science in Anthropology</i>	
<i>Minor in the Spanish Language</i>	
<b>Chiang Mai University</b>	2019
<b>Buffalo High School, Buffalo, MN</b>	2014

## Honors

<b>FLAS (Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship)</b>	2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Awarded full tuition and a \$2500 stipend to study at the University of Wisconsin Madison over the summer of 2020</li><li>• Concluded two semesters of intermediate Thai language courses</li></ul>	
<b>Global Scholars Program</b>	2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recognition from the College of Charleston in a secondary language ability at the high intermediate level in addition to the successful completion of a semester abroad</li></ul>	

## Research Experience

<b>Thermal Heat Stress in Corals</b>	2016-2018
<i>Research Assistant to Dr. Phillip Dustan</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organized six years of temperature readings on Freddy Day reef and performed statistical analyses on the data</li><li>• Conducted comparative analysis between three data sets from Charleston, Belize, and Bali</li><li>• Identified the biological reasoning behind the bleaching years</li><li>• Collected and extracted DNA from <i>Oculina varicosa</i></li></ul>	

- College of Charleston poster conferences in the Spring of 2017 and 2018

### **Environmental Awareness in KISS Students**

2017

*Research Student to Dr. Christine Finnan*

- Conducted ethnographic research at the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences in Bhubaneswar, India
- Observed environmental awareness in the students through a mixed methodology study
- Hypothesized reasoning behind environmental struggles in the region
- Remained at KISS for two and a half weeks to conclude research

### **Sea-Phages Virus Discovery**

2016

*Molecular Biology Lab Student to Dr. Anastasia Zimmerman*

- Discovered a temperate phage of my own doing through the isolation, purification, extraction, amplification, and bioinformatics of a soil sample over a semester-long period
- Used *Gordonia terrae* 3612 as an isolation host
- Sent phage DNA to HDMI to be sequenced
- Registered phage as the ‘Armotta Phage’ on the Sea-Phages database through the Science Education Alliance-Phage Hunters Advancing Genomics and Evolutionary Science program

### **Growth and Reproduction of *Arabidopsis Thaliana***

2015

*Biology Lab Student to Dr. Erik Sotka*

- Observed growth in *A. thaliana* from the UK and Germany at different temperatures
- Analyzed the phenotypes and genotypes of the experimental plants
- Determined the most significant influencing factor during *A. thaliana* reproduction
- Wrote a scientific research paper to present findings

## **Professional Experience**

**Student Assistant in the Office of Enrollment**, University at Buffalo

2020- Current

- Provided assistance with various data mining projects in order to learn characteristics (demographics, quality) of yearly applicant pools.
- Assistance with day-to-day online Slate (graduate online application system) operations – training, application support, technical support, user support documentation
- Petitions, waivers and score management, including downloading and distribution of electronic GRE and TOEFL scores through an online system, triage and review of transcripts; providing assistance with application fee waiver/deferral processing,

- Assisting with day-to-day communication with prospective applicants placing an emphasis on enhancing communication with applicants from underrepresented backgrounds.
- Assistance with the processing of transcripts in the online Slate system, including but not limited to: reviewing submissions, verifying files, and communicating with staff
- Provide general office support – screening of incoming mail, incoming telephone calls, typing, photocopying, faxing and scanning

**Anthropology Graduate Student Association, University at Buffalo** 2019-Current

- In 2020 was nominated for AGSA President for the 2020-2021 school year
- In 2021 was nominated for AGSA Vice President for the 2021-2022 school year
- The AGSA is the representative body for anthropology graduate students at the State University of New York at Buffalo
- Organizes speakers for the department of anthropology
- Acts as an intermediary between faculty and the student body
- Organized professionalization development events for graduate students
- Planned social events such as picnics and coffee hours to develop camaraderie among colleagues

**Child Care Provider, Charleston, SC** 2018

*Nanny*

- Fed and cared for a child with DNS (Down syndrome) while parents were at work
- Assisted with activities during ABA and speech therapy sessions
- Provided medication and vitamins at proper times throughout the day

**Small Business Office Employee, Charleston, SC** 2018

*Secretary*

- Inputted and organized call logs into excel spreadsheets
- Analyzed all company data entry systems and prepared recommendations for a paperless system to improve efficiency
- Wrote and submitted small court filings
- Handled all payroll activity and organized finances
- Answered incoming calls with customers

**Lifetime Fitness Employee, Plymouth, MN** 2015

*Lifeguard and Pool Deck Attendant*

- Supervising swimmers / Controlling unruly behavior
- Spotting hazards and preventing accidents

- Water rescue and first aid including CPR
- Cleaning the aquatics area and maintaining the facility

**Belgian Gelato Employee, Charleston, SC**

2015-2016

*Gelato Scooper*

- Provides quality gelato products, beverages, and made-to-order products
- Assists with the making of the gelato
- Assists with new Scooper training
- Maintains a “customer comes first attitude” and connects with the customer

### **Community Engagement**

**Alliance For Planet Earth, Charleston, SC**

2016

*Student Volunteer*

- Cleaned up a pocket beach after Hurricane Matthew
- Brought awareness to anthropogenic wastes in the ocean

**Dash for Trash, Charleston, SC**

2014

*Student Volunteer*

- Participated in a yearly event to clean-up the Charleston area
- Collected trash and recyclables throughout the town

**Frog Scientist, Charleston, SC**

2014

*Aquarium Helper*

- Helped handle aquarium animals for the Charleston Aquarium
- Educated young students on frogs

**Amazon Community Service, Pica Flor, Peru**

2013

*Broadreach*

- Tutored children ages 6-12 in English
- Monitored students during the day
- Built shelters for fruit and vegetable gardens
- Helped researchers with collecting data on monkey populations

**National Honor Society, Buffalo, MN**

2012-2014

*Executive Council Member*

- Led a yearly blood drive for the school
- Collected trash along the road every month
- Developed projects to improve the community

## **Skills**

### **Languages**

- Spanish - intermediate-high
- Thai - intermediate

### **Scuba Certified**

- PADI open water certified in 2009
- PADI advanced certified in 2012
  - Fish identification cert.
  - Buoyancy control cert.
  - Coral reef conservation cert.