# Emily A. Powell, Ph.D.

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## EDUCATION

**Ph.D., Biology**, University of Miami, 2022

Dissertation: *Signal Evolution and Island Diversification in a Caribbean Dwarf Gecko*

**B.S., Biology (Ecology, Evolution and Behavior)**, University of Texas at Austin, 2014

## APPOINTMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Assistant Professor of Instruction**, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX, 2022-Present

**Teaching Assistant**, University of Miami, 2016-2022

**Lab Technician**, Brazos River Authority, Round Rock, TX, 2014–2016

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Refereed Journal Articles*

Powell, E. A., & Uy, J. A. (2023). Male color polymorphism in populations of reef geckos (*Sphaerodactylus notatus*) reduces the utility of visual signals in sex recognition. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology, 77*(1). https://doi.org/10.1007/s00265-022-03272-9

Clements, S. L., Powell, E. A., Mothes, C. C., & Searcy, C. A. (2021). Assessing the conservation risk of *Sphaerodactylus notatus*, the U.S. herpetofaunal species most vulnerable to sea level rise. *Biodiversity and Conservation, 30*(1), 107–121. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10531-020-02080-9

Tarvin, R. D., Powell, E. A., Santos, J. C., Ron, S. R., & Cannatella, D. C. (2017). The birth of aposematism: High phenotypic divergence and low genetic diversity in a young clade of poison frogs. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution, 109*, 283–295. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2016.12.035

## TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

Powell, E. A. (2021, June 21). *Divergence in dimorphic visual signals influences mate-recognition in a Caribbean gecko* [Conference presentation]. Virtual Evolution 2021.

Powell, E. A. (2020, July 28). *Divergent visual signals may result in behavioral isolation among populations of the reef gecko* [Conference presentation]. Animal Behavior Society Virtual Conference.

## GRANTS

### *External (Total: $8,300)*

**Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research**, American Philosophical Society. Principal Investigator. $4,800, 2018–2019.

**Lewontin Award**, Society for the Study of Evolution. Principal Investigator. $2,500, 2018–2019.

**Grant-In-Aid of Research**, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Principal Investigator. $1,000, 2018–2019.

### *Internal*

**William H. Evoy Graduate Research Support Fund**, University of Miami. Principal Investigator. 2017–2018.

**Kushlan Graduate Research Support Fund**, University of Miami. Principal Investigator. 2017–2018.

**Jay M. Savage Graduate Research Support Fund**, University of Miami. Principal Investigator. 2017–2018.

## FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

**Maytag Fellowship**, University of Miami, 2016–2022

## TEACHING

### *Courses Taught*

**Texas State University**

- BIO 1131: Organismal Biology Laboratory
- BIO 1331: Organismal Biology
- BIO 3301: Biology of Sex and Reproduction
- BIO 5100: Professional Development (graduate)
- BIO 7100: Professional Development (graduate)

**University of Miami**

- BIL 151: General Biology Laboratory
- BIL 161: Evolution and Biodiversity Laboratory

### *Graduate Student Committees*

All appointments are as committee member, Department of Biology, Texas State University.

Kaya Clove (M.S.). *Spatial cognition and learning in Eurycea and the role of habitat complexity on the behavior of tadpoles of Rana berlandieri*. In progress, April 2026–present.

Jessica Powell (M.S.). *Ribbiting stuff: Effects of environmental conditions on coping capacity, growth, and behavior in larval anurans*. Completed, April 2025–March 2026.

Saeid Panahi (M.S.). *Maternal stress and consequences on offspring in live bearing fish: Cognitive, behavioral, and physiological perspectives*. Completed, May–December 2023.

Skyler Shibuya (M.S.). *Impacts of anthropogenic stressors on sperm quality and mating behavior in a live-bearing fish*. Completed, May–December 2023.

### *Teaching Professional Development*

Conference attendance, *2026 Professional Development Conference*, National Association of Biology Teachers, Dallas, TX, October 29–31, 2026 (upcoming)

Seminar, *Effective Communication and Discussions in the Classroom*, Texas State University, November 21, 2025

Seminar, *Gradescope: Grading Made Easy*, Texas State University, November 20, 2025

Workshop, *Success: Strategies for Asynchronous Teaching*, Texas State University, April 29, 2025

Conference attendance, *AI in Teaching and Learning Symposium*, Texas State University, March 26–27, 2025

Faculty-led discussion, *Community of Practice*, Texas State Department of Biology, November 22, 2024

Seminar, *The AI Advantage: Engaging Students through Artificial Intelligence Tools*, Texas State Faculty Development, November 2024

Seminar series, *AI in Academia Dialogue Series*, Office of Faculty Development and Division of Information Technology, Texas State University, September–November 2024

Online course, *Teaching Online @TXState*, Texas State University, January 27, 2023

## SERVICE

***Department***

Member, Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Instruction (Introductory Biology), May–July 2025

Member, Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Wildlife Ecology, April 2023

***University***

Member, Howard D. Schulze Endowed Scholarship in Biology Committee, 2024, 2025

Member, Marty Heaney Memorial Scholarship Committee, 2024

***Professional***

**Peer review:** *Diversity and Distributions* (2025); *South American Journal of Herpetology* (2024); *Molecular Ecology* (2024); *Zootaxa* (2023)

**Memberships:** National Association of Biology Teachers (2026–present); Central Texas Herpetological Society (2024–2026)