Deidric B. Davis

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Education

Doctorate of Philosophy, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA
in progress-

Doerr School of Sustainability, Oceans (Ph.D)

Bachelor of Science Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL
5/20/2024

Marine Science (B.S)

Bachelor of Arts, Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL
5/20/2024

Animal Studies (B.A)

Fellowships, Scholarships & Honoraria

Scholarships ($234,200 in total)

Stanford University Dean's Graduate Scholarship Award ($73,000)
2026

OceanX Young Explorers Program ($5,000)
2024

Coastal Heartland Marine Biology Exchange REU ($7,000)
2024

The Diversity Project REU ($6,200)
2023

Duke University Marine Lab Marine Science and Conservation Scholarship ($53,000)
2022

Duke University Marine Lab REU ($6,000)
2022

Eckerd College Founders Scholarship ($84,000)
2020

Fellowships ($15,000 in total)

Stanford University Thrive Fellowship ($3,000)
2026

Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography Emerging Fellowship ($8,000)
2025

Black In Marine Science Tidal Wave Fellowship ($4,000)
2024

Honoraria ($750 in total)

Virginia Institute of Marine Science Dive-In Honorarium ($500)
2026

Sea Youth Rise Up ($150)
2026

Publications

- **Davis, D.B. and Smith, N., 2025. Diet and prey selectivity in co-occurring eelpout fish and bythograeid crabs in a deep-sea hydrothermal vent community. *PeerJ*, *13*, p.e19476.**

- **Dykman, L.N., Davis, D.B. and Blend, C.K., 2025. Neolebouria mullineauxae n. sp.(Trematoda: Digenea) and Another Opecoelid from Deep-Sea Hydrothermal Vent Fields Off Central America and Papua New Guinea, with Species Keys and a Comparison to Mesobathylebouria. *The Journal of Parasitology*, *111*(4), pp.451-478.**

- **Moravec, F., Dykman, L.N. and Davis, D.B., 2024. Three new species of Ascarophis van Beneden, 1871 (Nematoda: Cystidicolidae) from deep-sea hydrothermal vent fishes of the Pacific Ocean. *Systematic Parasitology*, *101*(1), p.2.**

Manuscripts (In-Progress)

- The effects of habitat complexity on antipredator responses in *Chromis viridis*

Work Experience (Jobs/Internships):

Research Assistant
Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA
Sept 2026-

- Field work in Monterey bay

Marine Science Instructor
Education Unlimited Summer Camp , Berkeley, CA
July 2026 (Seasonal)

- Develop marine science curriculum for middle school age children
- Manage classroom expectations and students
- Participate in recreation/organizational activities
- Lead dissections, experiments, lectures and all other academic task

Content Partner
FutureSwell, Remote
July 2026-

- Develop short form content for a climate advocacy consultancy
- Participate in content development seminars/workshops
- Networking events throughout the USA
- Lobbying for governmental change on capitol hill

Environmental Specialist
Florida Department of Health, Tavares, Fl

September 2025- April 2026

- Conduct facility inspections and compliance evaluations for food hygiene, group care, swimming pools, mobile home parks, biomedical waste, tattooing, tanning, body piercing, and migrant labor camps in accordance with Florida Statutes (Chapter 381), EH Manual 150-4, and Chapter 64E, Florida Administrative Code.
- Perform scheduled re-inspections to verify corrective actions, document violations, and ensure return to compliance.
- Maintain accurate and up-to-date records in the Environmental Health Database (EHD), ensuring facility licenses, inspection entries, and quota reports remain current throughout the permit year.
- Monitor inspection progress and coordinate scheduling to meet required frequencies and regulatory standards.
- Support agency operations by assisting with additional Environmental Health duties, administrative tracking, and regulatory documentation.

Environmental Scientist I
Tetra Tech, Pasadena/Altadena, CA
Feb 2025-Sep 2025

- Conducted Hazard Site Assessments (HSAs) in wildfire-impacted areas during Phase One of the Altadena Fire response.
- Identified and documented hazardous materials in residential, public, and natural zones to guide safe debris removal.
- Supported the Planning Department with daily reporting, administrative coordination, and regulatory documentation.
- Collaborated with field crews, environmental toxicologists, and government agencies to ensure compliance with public health and environmental safety standards.
- Gained experience in emergency environmental response, permitting processes, and multi-agency coordination during disaster recovery operations.

Young Explorer (Intern)
OceanX, Jakarta, Indonesia
July 2024

- Participated in an 8-day international voyage aboard OceanX, collaborating with scientists and media creators to develop ocean-themed storytelling projects.
- Engaged in specialized workshops on scientific communication and the scientific method, led by prominent scientists in the field of ocean conservation.
- Gained insights into the challenges of bridging the gap between scientific research and public understanding of marine conservation efforts.
- Enhanced skills in scientific communication, media development, and brand building as a scientist.

REU Intern
UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA
June 2024-Aug 2024

- Developed a research project focused on trophic ecology, analyzing stable isotope data from the Santa Barbara Coastal (SBC) Long-Term Ecological Research databases.
- Gained hands-on experience in diverse ecological environments, contributing to fieldwork and data collection.

- Employed advanced data analytics using R and Python to create visualizations and interpret complex datasets.
- Conducted scientific diving, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques, and chemical analyses to support research outcomes.
- Collaborated with multidisciplinary teams to enhance understanding of ecological interactions and trophic dynamics.

Sole Proprietor
Black Nerds Matter, Remote
March 2024-

- Science communication platform where I highlight the journey of Black and POC scientists through podcast episodes, social media campaigns and speaking events
- Devise content strategy, manage accounting, secure partnerships, schedule guests and produce content.
- Complete content agreements, speaking engagements and ad reads with for different organizations

REU Intern
UC Los Angeles, Moorea, French Polynesia
June 2023-Aug 2023

- Investigated the effects of coral size, proximity to shelter, and shoal size on predator avoidance behavior in *Chromis viridis* (blue green chromis).
- Findings revealed significant influences of coral head size and distance to nearest shelter on predator avoidance, while shoal size had no measurable effect.
- Developed skills in project design, behavioral observation techniques, and scientific scuba diving.
- Analyzed behavioral data using R for statistical analysis and visualization.
- Lived on-site at a research station, gaining experience in remote field research operations.

Scholarship Researcher
Duke University**,** Beaufort, NC
Sep 2022-Dec 2022

- Conducted an independent study contract as part of a fellowship at Duke Marine Lab, focusing on zoarcid fish and brachyuran prey selectivity in the South Sea hydrothermal vent ecosystem.
- Discovered that zoarcids are apex predators in this ecosystem, challenging previous assumptions of omnivory.
- Successfully managed the research project from inception to completion, working with metadata and expanding on prior studies.
- Developed skills in specimen dissection and gut content analysis, gaining expertise in identifying prey from various species.
- Compensated for the research work, further enhancing independent research capabilities.

REU Intern
Duke University Marine Lab, Beaufort, NC
June 2022-Aug 2022

- Studied the impact of temporal and spatial variability of seagrass ecosystems on the size and abundance of commercial fish species along the North Carolina coast.
- Results indicated that species size and abundance were closely related to seagrass bed size and location, with variations observed depending on the time of year.
- Acquired skills in field and laboratory sample processing, including identifying patterns across different research sites.

- Employed Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) and Good Documentation Practices (GDP) throughout the project.
- Gained experience operating aquatic vehicles, enhancing fieldwork efficiency and data collection capabilities.

Contracted Student Researcher
Eckerd College, St Petersburg, FL
Sep 2020-May 2024

- Contracted to assist faculty with scientific research across various laboratories, compensated financially for work conducted outside of curriculum requirements.
- Engaged in coastal habitat restoration projects, focusing on artificial reef installations to improve water quality in areas where mangroves had been removed.
- Provided environmental consulting services, including reef installations and creating detailed placement plans for buyers.
- Conducted population surveys of horseshoe crabs in St. Petersburg, Florida, testing their cognitive abilities through maze trials; results indicated that horseshoe crabs can learn and solve simple puzzles over time.
- Developed practical skills in environmental restoration, consulting, and behavioral experimentation.

Relevant Research Experience (Volunteer/Unpaid):

Research Aide
University of North Carolina, Morehead City, NC
Jun 2022-Dec 2022

- Hooked bait for longlines, tagged, and measured various shark species, contributing to long-term population studies.
- Surveyed and categorized species captured in bait trawl samples, assisting in data collection for population assessments.
- Assessed the population stability of sharpnose sharks off the North Carolina coast, supporting conservation and management efforts.

Collection Aide
Duke University**,** Beaufort, NC
Sep 2022-Dec 2022

- Collected oysters from the Duke Aquafarm, contributing to aquaculture research and operations.
- Repaired damaged oyster cages and fixed lines, ensuring proper maintenance of farm infrastructure.
- Piloted a boat to and from the aquafarm site, gaining practical experience in marine operations.

Conferences & Presentations

Virginia Institute of Marine Science - Signature Speaker Series, Gloucester VA, April 2026

How Scientists Can Leverage Science Communcation to Help The World

Ocean Sciences Meeting, Glasgow UK, Feb 2025

Emerging Fellows Lightning Talk

Diet and prey selectivity in co-occurring eelpout fish and bythograeid crabs in a deep-sea hydrothermal vent community

Black In Marine Science Week 2025, San Diego CA, Sep 2025

"Blue Tech Matters" (oral)

Ecological Society of America (ESA), Long Beach, CA
Aug 2024

"Communicating Science: Perspectives from Editors & Communicators" (oral)

Western Society of the Naturalist (WSN 2023), Monterey Bay, CA
Nov 2023

"The effects of habitat complexity on antipredator responses in *Chromis viridis*" (poster)

UCLA Research Symposium, Los Angeles, CA
Aug 2023

"The effects of habitat complexity on antipredator responses in *Chromis viridis*"(oral)

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Day, St Petersburg, FL
Apr 2023

"How science shapes my life"(oral)

Research Independent Study Presentation, Beaufort, NC
Dec 2022

"Prey selectivity in zoarcid (eelpout) fish and brachyuran crabs that co-occur at the South Su hydrothermal vent (Manus Basin)" (oral)

Duke REU Research Presentation, *Beaufort, NC*
Aug 2022

"The relationship between habitat size and density/length of commercially important important species" (oral)

Media



Extracurriculars

Graduate Director, Dr. Walter L Smith Library , Tampa, FL
Jan 2024-May 2024

- Managed the library's Facebook and Instagram accounts to enhance community engagement and promote events.
- Attended and assisted in organizing fundraising events to support the library's operations.

- Acted as a spokesperson, representing the library in public forums and events.
- Collaborated with volunteers and students to support library programs and initiatives.
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Show host/Podcast host, WMNF 88.5 fm, Tampa, FL
Mar 2024- present

- Host of **"Black Nerds Matter"** Podcast at WMNF. Interviews Black professionals on STEM to introduce minorities to scientific fields
- Produce and edit interviews and news posts for the station, serving as an anchor and enhancing scientific communication.
- Engage with the community to promote diversity in science and amplify underrepresented voices in the field.

Pen pal, Letters to a pre-scientist, CA
Aug 2023-May 2024

- Pen pal to a student interested in science

Resident Advisor (RA), Duke University Marine Lab**,** Beaufort, NC
Sep 2022-Dec 2022

- Managed dorms at Duke's Lab. Made activities for other students and volunteered to aid them when needed**.**

Club Member, Marine Life Adventure Society Eckerd, St. Petersburg, FL
Sep 2021- May 2024

- Marine Science field trips as well as volunteer work like beach clean ups and shark tagging

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Organizations

IABO (International Association for Biological Oceanography)
Jul 2024- present

Black In Marine Science (BIMS)
Nov 2023- present

Ecological Society of America (ESA)
Jul 2024- present

ASLO

Certifications

AAUS Scientific Diver **2023**

Naui Master Scuba Diver **2024**

Hazwoper 40 Hour **2025**

Programming Experience

Proficient in R & Python