

Postdoctoral Researcher in Coastal Ecosystem Variability

The Spivak Coastal Biogeochemistry Lab seeks a Postdoctoral Researcher interested in exploring variability in tidal wetland ecosystems. Variability in abiotic drivers can be useful in predicting ecosystem trajectories while ecological variability can be a metric of behavior. The postdoc will contribute to field and lab experiments testing these ideas within the wetlands of the Georgia Coastal Ecosystems Long-Term Ecological Research (GCE-LTER) project. Experiments will build on 25+ years of data collected by GCE-LTER's multi-disciplinary team.

Responsibilities:

- Lead field and lab experiments based on abiotic gradients in GCE-LTER wetlands.
- Use multiple, complementary ecological and biogeochemical approaches.
- Lead data collection, sample analysis, and manuscript preparation and publication.
- Present results at relevant conferences and project meetings.
- Mentor junior students and lab members.

Qualifications and experience

- Ph.D. in Ecosystem Ecology, Geoscience, Marine Science, Environmental Science, or related field.
- Knowledge of ecological theory related to variability.
- Lab and field experience with biogeochemical and ecological approaches.
- Experience conducting field work in wetlands and ability to lift up to 50 lbs.
- Experience analyzing and visualizing data in R, python, and/or Matlab.
- Excellent interpersonal, teamwork, written, and verbal communication skills.
- Demonstrated record of publication in scientific journals.
- Ability to work with minimal supervision and provide supervision and mentorship to others.

This position reports to Dr. Amanda Spivak in the Marine Sciences Department on UGA's Athens campus. The appointment is for one year, with the option for renewal upon satisfactory performance. This full-time position offers salary and employee benefits in accordance with UGA policy. Applicants must submit a cover letter describing their expertise and interests, CV, one publication exemplifying their research, and contact information for three references. Letters of reference will be requested as needed. Review of applications will begin January 14, 2026 and continue until the position is filled, with the candidate starting during Spring/Summer 2026. Address inquiries and applications to Dr. Spivak at [aspivak\[at\]uga.edu](mailto:aspivak[at]uga.edu).

The Marine Sciences Department (<https://www.marsci.uga.edu/>) is within UGA's Franklin College of Arts and Sciences. UGA has unique analytical facilities, including the Center for Applied Isotope Studies (<https://cais.uga.edu/>), Georgia Genomics and Bioinformatics Core (<https://dna.uga.edu/>), and the Complex Carbohydrates Research Center (<https://www.ccrcc.uga.edu/>) which houses a state-of-the-art NMR facility. UGA provides professional development and networking opportunities through the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (<https://postdocs.uga.edu/>). The Spivak Lab is committed to supporting and sustaining a collaborative work and learning environment. All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy, disability, religion, age, or protected veteran status.

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