

SAMANTHA R CSIK

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OVERVIEW -----

As Data Training Coordinator at the National Center for Ecological Analysis & Synthesis, located at UC Santa Barbara, I work to develop and teach data science workshops and lectures for students and researchers of all experience levels. I have six years of teaching experience, and I am always looking for new ways to create a more exciting, inclusive and supportive learning environment -- whether that be in the classroom, or as acting co-organizer of R-Ladies Santa Barbara. I am a passionate supporter of open data science learning opportunities. I do so by publishing all of my educational materials on GitHub and by sharing them with data science communities beyond UCSB, through invited talks and on social media platforms.

EDUCATION -----

2020 **M.S. in Ecology, Evolution & Marine Biology (EEMB)**

University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)

2016 **B.S. in Marine Biology, *magna cum laude***

Northeastern University (NEU) & [Three Seas Program](#) (2013-2014)

PROFESSIONAL DATA SCIENCE EXPERIENCE -----

Aug 2021 - present **Data Training Coordinator**

National Center for Ecological Analysis & Synthesis (NCEAS)

> Developing & teaching data science and professional development workshops for the [Master of Environmental Data Science \(MEDS\) program](#) and data science initiatives across NCEAS and UCSB.

> Support curriculum cohesion across MEDS courses by observing and contributing to course materials, as well as acting as a liaison between students and instructors

> Coordinating with MEDS program staff to support recruitment, career development, and student needs

- Jan - Aug 2021 **Data Science Fellow (extension of previous role)**
National Center for Ecological Analysis & Synthesis (NCEAS)
- > Engineered a knowledge model of salmon-related ideas & concepts to improve salmon data discoverability within the [KNB data repository](#)
- Aug 2020
 - Jan 2021 **Data Science Fellow**
National Center for Ecological Analysis & Synthesis (NCEAS)
- > Improved the number and quality of semantically-described datasets within the [Arctic Data Center \(ADC\) data repository](#) by (a) expanding and developing ontologies to accurately describe ADC data and (b) semantically annotating 1100+ datasets
 - > Wrote scripts & developed pipelines in R to facilitate batch updates of ADC metadata records with semantic annotations

TALKS, WORKSHOPS & DATA SCIENCE EDUCATION CONTRIBUTIONS -----

All workshops & talks were developed and led by Samantha Csik, unless otherwise noted

- October 2022 **Data Analysis & Visualization in R (for Ecologists)** ([materials](#)) [helper]
 DREAM Lab/Carpentries
- A two-day live-coding workshop on data analysis & visualization for new R users*
- October 2022 **Adding a blog to your existing Quarto website** ([blog post](#))
 Master of Environmental Data Science program
- A discussion on the values of data science blogging and technical instruction on how to create one*
- October 2022 **Customizing Quarto Websites** ([slides](#))
 Master of Environmental Data Science program
- An intro to Sass & CSS for customizing Quarto websites.*
- September 2022 **Scalable and Computational Reproducible Approaches to Arctic**

- Research ([book](#))** [co-developed & co-taught]
NSF Arctic Data Center
A 5-day workshop providing researchers with an intro to advanced topics in computationally reproducible research in python, including software techniques for working with very large datasets.
- August 2022 **Creating your personal website using Quarto ([materials](#))**
Master of Environmental Data Science program
Step-by-step instructions for building, deploying, and customizing a Quarto website
- June 2022 **Hello Quarto! ([recording](#) & [blog post](#))** [moderator]
R-Ladies Santa Barbara & Openscapes
A discussion with NASA Openscapes and Posit (formally known as RStudio) developers about using Quarto to enable collaborative, data-intensive, open science in the cloud
- June 2022 **Filling a training gap in environmental workplaces - The emergence of environmental science degree programs & lessons learned from running one ([slides](#))** [co-presented with Dr. Allison Horst]
The Statistical Society of Canada
An invited talk for the “Environmental Data Science Growth & Opportunities” session
- May 2022 **Demystifying the Technical Interview ([slides](#))**
Master of Environmental Data Science program
A discussion about the different types of technical interviews environmental data scientists may encounter, followed by some fun practice with peers
- April 2022 **An Intro to Cloud Computing ([slides](#))**
Master of Environmental Data Science program
An interactive workshop on how to launch an Amazon EC2 instance
- Feb 2022 **An Intro to Shiny ([slides](#))**
Master of Environmental Data Science program

A hands-on coding workshop on how to build and customize an R shiny application

- Feb 2022 **Relational Databases & SQL** ([materials](#)) [assistant instructor]
Master of Environmental Data Science program, led by the Carpentries
An introduction to the basics of SQL for data management and accessing databases from R
- Jan 2022 **Programming with Python & an Intro to Web Scraping** ([materials](#))
[assistant instructor]
Master of Environmental Data Science program, led by the Carpentries
An introduction to programming with Python that covers data wrangling with Pandas, writing loops and functions, data visualization with plotnine, and web scraping with Pandas
- Dec 2021 **Data Science with R & Python** ([materials](#)) [co-developed & co-led]
R-Ladies Santa Barbara x Central Coast Python
An R to Python (and vice versa) translation workshop in collaboration with Central Coast Python
- Dec 2021 **Data Science Learning Communities - R-Ladies Santa Barbara**
([recording](#))
UC Santa Barbara Data Science Summit
The [Data Science Summit at UCSB](#) was the first gathering of data scientist practitioners, researchers, and educators from all departments across campus, with an overarching goal of creating a more cohesive, collaborative, and inclusive data science community. Here, I presented an invited flash talk to introduce the Santa Barbara chapter of R-Ladies to this broader UCSB data science community.
- Nov 2021 **Reproducible Research Techniques for Synthesis** ([materials](#)) [assistant instructor]
Learning Hub @ the National Center for Ecological Analysis & Synthesis
A 5-day long workshop on fundamental data science skills to improve

reproducible research techniques, particularly for the purposes of synthesis science. This course is taught primarily in R and is open to researchers across career stages and sectors.

- 2021, 2022 **RStudio Tips & Tricks** ([slides](#))
Master of Environmental Data Science program
A talk on the RStudio IDE tips & tricks and other keyboard shortcuts
- 2021, 2022 **Teach Me How to Google** ([slides](#))
Master of Environmental Data Science program*
A talk on how to troubleshoot code and Google for helpful answers
*Invited talks given to the following groups (tailored slides [here](#)):
> Environmental Studies Program, UCSB | Nov 2022
> StatLab @ the Brown School, Washington University in St Louis |
 Mar 2022 ([recording](#))
> R-Ladies, Saint Louis | Feb 2022
> Master of Technology Management, UCSB | Jan 2022
- Oct 2021 **Using Semantic Tools to Improve Data Discoverability** ([slides](#))
Master of Environmental Data Science program
Guest lecture for the Metadata Standards, Data Modeling & Data Semantics course (EDS 213) on applied examples of using semantic tools, like ontologies, to improve data discoverability and reusability
- Sept 2021 **Writing Data Science-related Blog Posts** ([slides](#) & [blog post](#))
Master of Environmental Data Science program
A workshop on the value of blogging and how to create & customize posts using the `{distill}` package in R
- Aug 2021 **Customizing Your Personal Website with CSS** ([slides](#))
Master of Environmental Data Science program
A brief intro to using CSS to customize `{distill}` websites
- Mar 2021 **Data Viz with `{ggplot2}`** ([materials](#)) [co-developed & co-taught]
R-Ladies Santa Barbara

A live-coding workshop on making data visualizations with the {ggplot2} package in R

Mar 2021

It's just ALL about semantics ([slides](#))

Santa Barbara Women in STEM

A lightning talk on how semantic tools can make finding data easier and impactful synthesis science faster

May 2019

An Intro to the {tidyverse} ([materials](#)) [co-developed & co-taught]

R-Ladies Santa Barbara

A code-along workshop to learn data wrangling & visualization techniques using {tidyverse} functions in R

ADDITIONAL TEACHING & MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE -----

Mentorship

Summer 2022

Halina Do-Linh, R Shiny Developer Fellow ([Bren Student Data Explorer](#))

The Bren School, UC Santa Barbara

Summer 2019

Kylie Van De Wyngaerd, Santa Barbara Coastal LTER REU Fellow

Department of Ecology, Evolution & Marine Biology, UC Santa Barbara

Summer 2019

Maggie Slein, Ocean Global Change Biology REU Fellow

Department of Ecology, Evolution & Marine Biology, UC Santa Barbara

Winter 2019

Vincent Han Lee, Undergraduate Volunteer

Department of Ecology, Evolution & Marine Biology, UC Santa Barbara

Summer 2018

Gabbie Baillargeon, Ocean Global Change Biology REU Fellow

Department of Ecology, Evolution & Marine Biology, UC Santa Barbara

2017 - 2018

Anna Zhou, Undergraduate Mentee

Women in Science & Engineering (WiSE), UC Santa Barbara

Teaching

- 2017 - 2020 **Teaching Assistant**
 UC Santa Barbara
Developed curricula and taught lab sections for the following undergraduate courses:
 > *Biology of Fishes*
 > *Conservation, Management, & Food Production in Aquatic Systems*
 > *Behavioral Ecology*
 > *Intro to Ecology*
 > *Intro to Biology*
- Spring 2016 **Teaching Assistant**
 Northeastern University
Taught lab sections for the General Biology undergraduate course
- Spring 2015 **Lab & Diving Operations Organizer**
 Northeastern University's Three Seas Program
Facilitated diving and lab activities for Three Seas courses based in Bocas del Toro, Panama and Friday Harbor, Washington for 25 undergraduate and master's students

SERVICE & COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS -----

Communities

- Feb 2022 **The Carpentries**
 - present Certified Instructor
The Carpentries teaches foundational coding and data science skills to researchers worldwide.
- Oct 2021 **NCEAS Diversity Team**
 - present Member
I sit on a subcommittee that is working specifically to find ways that we can provide training opportunities to individuals from under-represented groups in ecology and data science.

Apr 2020
- present

R-Ladies Santa Barbara

Co-Organizer (member since 2018)

R-Ladies is a global organization working to promote gender diversity in the R community. As co-organizer of the Santa Barbara chapter, I facilitate meetup events by inviting speakers, moderating discussions, and developing and teaching workshops

Events

Jun 6-10 2022

Curator for [@WeAreRLadies](#) Twitter account ([see list of tweets here](#))

R-Ladies Global

Nominated by [Shannon Pileggi](#) to act as rotating curator for the official Twitter account for [R-Ladies Global](#). Tweeted original content about R packages, resources, and projects, as well as amplified the voices of those in both my immediate and broader R communities.

Apr 12 2022

STEM Career Panelist

Partners in Education

One of four panelists speaking about STEM careers to 200+ 7th-12th grade students across Santa Barbara County's public school system

Jan 25 2022,
Nov 17 2022

Hack₂O Organizer

Master of Environmental Data Science program & Environmental Studies Department, UC Santa Barbara

Co-organized a half-day collaborative hackathon, pairing Master of Environmental Data Science (MEDS) students with undergraduate Environmental Science students to wrangle and visualize FAO Aquastat and USGS Water Resource data. The event also includes a panel discussion with MEDS students, and MEDS capstone project lightning talks.

PUBLICATIONS -----

Peer Reviewed

Gaynor K, Azevedo T, Boyajian C, Brun J, Budden A, **Csik S**, Decesaro J, Do-Linh H, Dudney J,

Galaz Garcia, C, Leonard S, Lyon N, Marks A, Parish J, Vargas Poulsen C, Ranganathan J, Scarborough C, Smith J, Thomson M, Fong, CR. (2022) Ten simple rules to cultivate belonging in collaborative data science research teams. *PLOS Computational Biology*. In review. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1010567>

Ingeman KE, Zhao LZ, Wolf C, Williams DR, Ritger AL, Ripple WJ, Kopecky KL, Dillon EM, DiFiore BP, Curtis JS, **Csik SR**, Bui A, Stier AC (2022). Glimmers of hope in large carnivore recovery. *Scientific Reports*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-13671-7>

Jerde CL, Kraskura K, Eliason EJ, **Csik SR**, Stier AC, Taper ML (2019). Strong evidence for an intraspecific metabolic scaling coefficient near 0.89 in fish. *Frontiers in Physiology*. 10, <https://doi.org/10.3389/fphys.2019.011166>

Thesis

Csik SR (2020) The effects of temperature on the metabolism and foraging ecology of the California spiny lobster (*Panulirus interruptus*). M.A. Thesis. The University of California, Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara, California, U.S.A. Available at <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/3425x51f>

Ontologies

Csik SR & Schildhauer MP (2020). The Arctic Report Card Ontology (ARCRC). BioPortal. <https://bioportal.bioontology.org/ontologies/ARCRC/?p=summary>

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS -----

> [R-Ladies Global](#) - a world-wide organization whose mission is to promote gender diversity in the R community

> [Santa Barbara Women in STEM](#) - a local network of professionals with a common goal to promote and encourage women in fields related to science, technology, engineering, and math

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT -----

Nov 2019	NCEAS Data Science Chats
- present	Participant

Weekly meetings with early career data scientists at NCEAS to learn & practice new tools and workflows [[Github repo](#)]

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|----------------|---|
| Nov 2019 | SoCal All Hands useR Meeting
Participant |
| Jun - Sep 2019 | Python Software Carpentry Workshop, UC Santa Barbara
Participant |
| Jan 2019 | Git & R Software Carpentry Workshop, UC Santa Barbara
Participant |
| 2019, 2020 | Respirometry Workshop for Government Scientists, Stakeholders & Academics, UC Santa Barbara
Participant & Presenter |
| 2018-2019 | Tidy Tuesday Coding Club, UC Santa Barbara
Participant |

SKILLS & TOOLS -----

Languages & Environments: R + RStudio (proficient), Python + JupyterLab & VS Code (intermediate), bash (proficient)

Workflows & Collaboration Tools: git + GitHub, project-oriented workflows (e.g. R projects), RMarkdown, Quarto, Google Suite, Slack