

Kelly Clark

University Address

321 Mclver St.
312 Eberhart
Greensboro, NC 27412
Kmclark4@uncg.edu

Education

Eastern Illinois University Charleston, Illinois

M.S. Biological Sciences. Distinguished Graduate. July 2021.
Thesis: Does Genetic Relatedness Alter Plant-Soil Feedback?
Advisor: Scott J. Meiners
Cumulative GPA: 4.00

Eastern Illinois University Charleston, Illinois

B.S., Honors, Biological Sciences, 2019.
Thesis: Epidermal Structure in Leaves of Angraecoid Orchids and its Evolutionary Implications.
Advisor: Barbara S. Carlsward
Cumulative GPA: 3.5

Publications

Clark, K. M., Gallagher, M. J., Canam, T., & Meiners, S. J. (2024). Genetic relatedness can alter the strength of plant-soil feedbacks. *American Journal of Botany*, e16289

Clark, K. M., Earl, A. G., Lopez, I. M., Meiners, S. J., & Poland, J. C. (2024). Soil pooling often, but not always, alters the impacts of plant-microbe interactions on plant growth. *Plant Soil*.

Experience

Biology Instructor, Ivy Tech Community College

August 2022 – May 2024

- Taught Introductory Biology, Biology I – Cellular & Molecular Processes, Biology II – Diversity of Life, Ecology, Biology Capstone, Anatomy & Physiology I, and Anatomy & Physiology II.
- Prepared course materials such as assignment, quizzes, exams, and lab materials for 16-week and 8-week courses.

Buell-Small Successional Study, Somerset, New Jersey

July 2021 and July 2023

- Vegetation sampling of agricultural fields that were abandoned in 1958.
- Assessment of long-term data to determine various factors that affect the invasion of *Rubus phoenicolasius*.

Research Assistant IV, Archbold Biological Station

January 2022 – February 2022

- Demography on several endangered species.

- Help prepare reports for permits.
- Navigate to specific GPS points using a Garmin and Tremble.
- Made maps of plots using ArcMaps.

Adjunct Instructor, Eastern Illinois University

August 2021 – December 2021

- Taught Practical Microbiology and Biological Principles and Issues.
- Prepared lectures, labs, and exam materials.
- Assisted students in preparing for exams and during labs.

Research Assistant, Eastern Illinois University.

May 2021 – August 2021

- Monthly vegetation sampling at three restoration sites.
- Assessed plant stress via chlorophyll fluorescence.
- Harvest and processing biomass data for greenhouse experiments.
- Analyze and prepare manuscript for publication.

Graduate Research, Eastern Illinois University.

August 2020 – August 2021

- Excluded pollinators and hand pollinated *Solidago altissima*.
- Collected and processed soil microbial communities for inoculations.
- Conducted greenhouse trial to challenge seedlings with soil microbes
- Harvest and analysis of biomass data.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Eastern Illinois University.

August 2019 – May 2021

- Plant Anatomy.
 - o Set up labs each week.
 - o Assist students in identifying various plant structures.
- Anatomy and Physiology II.
 - o Set up labs each week.
 - o Help create lab practicals.
 - o Help students identify various anatomical structures.
 - o Lectured about the digestive system.

Undergraduate Research, Eastern Illinois University.

January 2017 – May 2019

- Epidermal leaf scrapings of Angraecoid Orchids.
- Staining leaf tissues.
- Images taken with an AmScope MU300 digital camera attached to a brightfield Nikon Optiphot. A character matrix was constructed based on seven anatomical features using MacClade v. 4.08 OS X.

Wastewater Microbiology, Eastern Illinois University.

August 2019- July 2020

- Sample wastewater from local wastewater treatment plants.
- Make specialized media to grow bacteria.
- DNA purification, DNA extraction, PCR, and gel electrophoresis.

Presentations

Clark, K. M., Canam, T., & Meiners, S. J. Kin Relationships Can Alter the Strength of Plant-Soil Feedbacks. 2022 Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Clark, K.M. Epidermal Anatomy of Twelve Species of *Aerangis* (Angraecinae, Orchidaceae) – 2017 Research and Creativity Conference, Eastern Illinois University. Charleston, IL.

Clark, K.M., Carlsward, B.S. Epidermal Anatomy of Angraecinae (Orchidaceae) – 2018 Illinois State Academy of Science, Decatur, IL.