

Ruth Demree

EDUCATION

University of California, Davis Doctor of Philosophy in Animal Behavior	2024 – present
Linköping University, Sweden Master of Science in Applied Ethology and Animal Biology	2021 – 2023
Vassar College, Poughkeepsie Bachelor of Arts in Biology, with departmental honors	2016 – 2020

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, UC Davis Department of Animal Science
ANS 170: Ethics of Animal Use

Associate Instructor, UC Davis Department of Animal Science
ANS 137: Avian Growth Laboratory

Teaching Assistant, UC Davis Department of Animal Science
ANS 104: Domestic Animal Behavior

Teaching Assistant, UC Davis Department of Biology
BIS 2B: Introduction to Biology: Principles of Ecology & Evolution

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student, UC Davis, Davis Department of Animal Science Advisor: Maja Makagon	2024 – present
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- Design research projects describing nighttime behavior in aviary-housed laying hen flocks and investigating social affiliations within flocks.
- Developed an undergraduate intern team to assist with live data collection.

Graduate Student, Linköping University, Sweden Department of Biology Advisor: Per Jensen	2022 – 2023
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- Designed a behavioral study investigating breed-level differences in the human-chicken relationship, collected and analyzed observational data, and wrote a manuscript on my findings.

Research Group Member, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie Department of Biology Advisor: Glenn Proudfoot	2019 – 2020
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- Captured and banded Northern saw-whet owls, and analyzed blood slides for blood parasites.
- Introduced the method of analyzing total protein in blood serum with a refractometer to the lab.

PRESENTATIONS

Demree, R., Blatchford, R., Zhou, H., & Makagon, M. "Does one size fit all? Effects of strain and aviary design on roosting behavior of laying hens." *Poster presentation, 2026 World's Poultry Congress, Toronto, Ontario, July 2026.*

Demree, R., Blatchford, R., Zhou, H., & Makagon, M. "Does one size fit all? Effects of strain and aviary design on roosting behavior of laying hens." *Poster presentation, Center for Animal Welfare 2026 Symposium, UC Davis, April 2026.*

PUBLICATIONS

Demree, R., & Jensen, P. (2025). Domesticated chickens interact more with humans and are more explorative than Red Junglefowl. *Frontiers in veterinary science*, 11, 1523047.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fvets.2024.1523047>

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Video Producer, Palmer Public Library

Remote position

- Wrote and produced episodes of *Nature Walks with Ruth*, a children's YouTube program.

Producer, Big Biology Podcast

Remote position

- Communicated about scientific theory and research in an educational and accessible format.
- Managed a production team of established biologists and undergraduate interns.

Communications and Outreach Assistant, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay

Remote Position

- Created daily social content in the form of visual graphics, text posts, and videos, and participated in weekly team meetings to discuss the progress of the fundraising event. Drafted press releases, advertisements, and newsletters to be sent to the community.

Rehabilitation Intern, Progressive Animal Welfare Society Wildlife Center

Lynnwood, WA

- Worked full time, ten-hour shifts. Practiced daily handling, gavage feeding, force feeding, assist feeding, and administering oral and subcutaneous treatments to a large number of wild mammal and avian species native to the area.

Intern, Clover Brooke Farm

Hyde Park, NY

- Assisted with the daily husbandry of a small-scale fiber farm. Spoke about animal husbandry and behavior at educational events both on the farm and off-site.