

# KRISTEN FLORES

*Lab Manager/Junior Specialist*  
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## SUMMARY

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I am a highly motivated researcher with a passion for sustainable agriculture and entomology. I have a strong research background in integrated pest management throughout California, and have experience in field work, wet lab, and insect identification and care. I find agriculture to be an excellent mode to understanding the relationship between people and the environment, and I am especially excited about applying my knowledge to agroecological projects that directly benefit local communities.

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## EDUCATION

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**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY • GPA 3.86 • MAY 2018**

**Bachelor of Science - Conservation and Resource Studies** *High Distinction*

Area of interest in Agro-Entomology

Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management

**Bachelor of Arts - Chicano/Latino Studies** *High Distinction in General Scholarship*

Department of Ethnic Studies

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## COURSEWORK

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### Entomology

Insect Ecology • Insect Behavior • Entomology • Field Entomology • Spider Biology

### Conservation and Ecology

Conservation Biology • Agroecology • Integrative Biology • Tropical Community Ecology • Tropical Diversity • Wildlife Ecology • Global Change Biology

### Social Sciences

International Rural Development • Sustainable Rural Development in Latin America • Social Science Methods • Humanities Methods

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## SKILLS

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Molecular analysis - DNA extractions and PCR • Geographic Information Systems - ArcGIS  
• Species identification • Field surveys and monitoring • Insect colony care - rearing, breeding, maintaining populations • Greenhouse maintenance • Transcriptions • Spanish language

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## RESEARCH

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**DAANE LAB • UC Berkeley**

May 2019-Present; April - Aug 2017

**Lab Manager/ Junior Specialist**

- Examined the spread of red blotch virus (GRBaV) by monitoring vineyards in Napa and Sonoma counties to discover potential insect vectors of the disease based on red blotch spread, species abundance, and species potential to contract the disease. Diverse sampling methods include sticky cards, sweep netting, beat sheet, feeding damage, and Dvac
- Excelled in identifying local insect and plant species for regional monitoring
- Executed field and greenhouse trials to determine the ability and effectiveness of *Scaphytopias spp.* and *Spissistulus festinus* in spreading red blotch disease through vineyards
- Produced results to establish the presence of red blotch in plants and insects using PCR
- Investigated the potential of the East Asian parasitoid *Ganaspis brasiliensis* to serve as a biological control for the invasive spotted wing drosophila (*Drosophila suzukii*)
- Reared spotted wing drosophila and three strains of *Ganaspis brasiliensis* in a USDA-certified quarantine facility
- Monitored the occurrence of brown marmorated stink bug (*Halyomorpha halys*) in San Jose and Napa, California to determine its potential threat to agriculture as an invasive species
- Maintained all areas of the Virginia Leafhopper (*Erythroneura ziczac*) Areawide Project by rearing colonies of the native parasitoid *Anagrus daanei* for biological control of *E. ziczac*, identifying parasitized eggs from plant materials, and conducting field surveys of pest species
- Planted and maintained vine cuttings and plant habitat in the greenhouse
- Collaborated with growers and partners in the USDA through regular check ins
- As lab manager, hired, mentored, and trained five undergraduate students; managed the lab's daily tasks and weekly schedules; purchased materials for the lab
- Official staff mentor to a Conservation and Resource Studies student; help her choose classes and explain different areas of focus

**ETHNIC STUDIES DEPARTMENT • UC Berkeley**

May 2016-Present

**Teaching Assistant to Dr. Pablo Gonzalez, Continuing Lecturer**

- Served as a teaching assistant for the course Chicanos and the Environment. Developed this course with Dr. Gonzalez to discuss race in the context of environmental issues. Assigned readings, updated student projects, and graded papers
- Gathered and organized research in Endnote in preparation for Dr. Gonzalez's manuscript; topics include environmental justice, the Zapatistas, the housing crisis, and autonomy
- Transcribed several hours of video footage in the Spanish language

**INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF MUJERES • Chiapas, Mexico**

March 2018

- Organized a group of 10 women to travel Zapatista territory and participate in the encuentro
- Awarded multiple travel grants for UC Berkeley students to fund our trip
- Co-presented about our experiences at the Center for Latinx Policy Research

**TROPICAL BIOLOGY & CONSERVATION PROGRAM • Monteverde, Costa Rica** Fall 2016

**UC Education Abroad Program Student**

- Designed an independent research project to measure spider diversity in sub-habitats of a coffee farm to examine the effects of land use on spiders
- Presented my research at the Monteverde Institute public symposium to educate growers on the importance of spiders in the agro-ecosystem
- Excelled in field work, independent and team research projects, and species identification

**FRANKIE URBAN BEE LAB and KREMEN LAB • UC Berkeley** Jan 2016 - May 2017

**Undergraduate Researcher**

- Curated and databased collections of native bees sampled in orchards and hedgerows
- Created maps of field sites, crop types, and pollinator populations using ArcGIS
- Represented the lab at the Wildflower Festival in Sunol to educate the public about native bees

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**LEADERSHIP**

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**LATINXS AND THE ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVE • UC Berkeley** Sept 2017 -Sept 2018

**Fellow**

- Organized the first-ever Latinxs and the Environment state-wide summit; fostered relationships with community organizations, large non-profits, policymakers, and academics to participate and provide funding; created panels and the two-day agenda
- Awarded \$2,000 grant to lead a seminar engaging Latinx students in environmental issues; resulted in high turnout and increased interested in our initiative
- Created social media accounts which allowed communication and collaboration with other groups

**FINCA FINA PERMACULTURAL FARM • Malacatos, Ecuador** Dec 2018 - Jan 2019

**Volunteer**

- Gained hands-on experience attending to many aspects of a permacultural farming system, including animal husbandry, design, reforestation, composting, gardening, and dry toilets
- Participated in a communal system where domestic and farm work was split among 10 people

**BERKELEY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS • Berkeley, CA** Jan– May 2017; Aug – Dec 2015

**Mentor and Tutor**

- Mentor in first grade Spanish-immersion classroom, second grade math, and garden program
- Received high praise from teachers for improving academic and social success of students of various needs

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## PRESENTATIONS

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**MUJERES ACTIVAS EN LETRAS Y CAMBIO SOCIAL • El Paso, TX** Aug 2018  
**Panelist,** *Latinas and the Environment: Working to Secure our Future*

**LATINXS AND THE ENVIRONMENT SUMMIT • Berkeley, CA** April 2018  
**Moderator,** *Local Governance, Latinxs, and the Environment*

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## AWARDS AND HONORS

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**Dean's Honors** - Spring 2015; Fall 2015; Spring 2016; Spring 2017; Fall 2017

**Chicanx/Latinx Student Development Honoree** - Mujeres in STEAM, March 2018

**UCEAP** - Promise Award, Fall 2016