

Marco A. Ponce

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Education

Sep 2015–Jun 2019

B.A. in Biology
Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI

Sep 2011–Jun 2015

H.S. Diploma
Southwest High school, San Diego, CA

Work Experience

Feb 2019–Apr 2019

Teaching Assistant, Michigan Colleges Alliance Third 90 Network

- Presented an overview and led 3 sections of 25 high school students for an environmental science project focused in nutrient cycling in the Kalamazoo watershed with hands-on experiments and explored career options with youth, including college.
- Helped the students interpret their data, develop a written summary, and present their work to peers.

Sep 2018–Nov 2018

Teaching Assistant, for the Biology Course: Form and Function, Biology Department, Kalamazoo College

- Helped teach and coordinate lab sections for the Biology course, “Form and Function”. Gave occasional mini-lectures to 15-20 college students and graded assignments.

Jun 2018–Present

Biological Sciences Aide, USDA Center for Grain and Animal Health Research

- Performed an independent research project on the response of red flour beetle and lesser grain borer to density-mediated cues in flour and whole wheat.
- Learned a variety of techniques, including the maintenance of insect colonies, performing wind tunnel assays, collection of headspace volatiles, designing and implementing release-recapture experiments, and the use and analysis of gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC-MS). Wrote up work

as a 50-page senior thesis, and presented work at scientific conferences.

Sep 2017–Present

Animal and Plant Care Technician, Kalamazoo College

- Carried out daily feeding and cleaning chores for the biology department's live organisms.

Sep 2017–Nov 2017

Teaching Assistant, Michigan Colleges Alliance Third 90 Network

- Helped lead high school students in an environmental science project and college exploration experience.

Mar 2017–Apr 2017

Teaching Assistant, Michigan Colleges Alliance Third 90 Network

- Presented an overview and led 3 sections of 25 high school students for an environmental science project focused in nutrient cycling in the Kalamazoo watershed with hands-on experiments and explored career options with youth, including college.
- Helped the students interpret their data, develop a written summary, and present their work to peers.

Mar 2017–Present

Research Assistant, Kalamazoo College

- Analyzing resistance practices of West Michigan migrant justice organization and major accomplishments included obtaining approval for the Kalamazoo county-level ID.
- Involved in transcribing several interviews from Spanish to English and also translated from English to Spanish to reach stakeholders.
- Learned a variety of techniques, including professional video recording and editing to performed interviews and designed a documentary of such interviews.

Sep 2016–May 2018

Research Assistant, *Kalamazoo College*

- Conducted research on butterfly olfaction and behavior, including the use of electroantennography machine (EAG).
- Maintained colonies of butterflies for laboratory research.
- Characterized development of Painted Lady caterpillars as well praying manties nymphs and presented work. .
- Gave small talks related with butterflies to pre-school students.

Jul 2016–Aug 2017 **Intern**, Sanatorio Sagrado Corazón, Buenos Aires, Argentina

- Shadowed a functional neurosurgeon and a cardiologist
- Diagnosed and performed minor medical procedures during Parkinson surgery

Presentations

May 2019 **Ponce, M.A.** and W.R. Morrison III. Density-mediated effects of crowding on the behavioral response of *Tribolium castaneum* and *Rhyzopertha dominica* to common food attractants. 45th Annual Diebold Symposium, Biology Department, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI.

Apr 2019 **Ponce, M.A.** and W.R. Morrison III. Increasing density cues affect the foraging behavior of *Tribolium castaneum*, but not *Rhyzopertha dominica*. 2nd Annual Virtual Symposium of the International Branch of the Entomological Society of America.

Nov 2018 **Ponce, M.A.** and W.R. Morrison III. Density-mediated effects of crowding on the behavioral response of *Tribolium castaneum* and *Rhyzopertha dominica* to common food attractants. 66th Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America, Entomological Society of Canada, and Entomological Society of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

Nov 2017 **Ponce, M.A.** *Why should I attend to a private college? Is it possible? Yes, it is!* Southwest High school, San Diego, CA.

May 2017 **Ponce, M.A.** *The development of painted lady caterpillars.* Seminar, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI.

Nov 2016 **Ponce, M.A.** *Why should I attend to a private college? Is it possible? Yes, it is!* Southwest High school, San Diego, CA.

Nov 2015 **Ponce, M.A.** *Why should I attend to a private college? Is it possible? Yes, it is!* Southwest High school, San Diego, CA.

Publications

In Prep Ponce, M.A., and William R. Morrison III. Density-mediated effects of crowding on the foraging response of *Tribolium castaneum* and *Rhyzopertha dominica*. Targeted: *Environmental Entomology*

May 2019 **Ponce, M.A.** Density-mediated effects of crowding on the behavioral response of *Tribolium castaneum* and *Rhyzopertha dominica* to common food attractants.

Bachelor of Arts, senior capstone thesis, Biology Department, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI.

Oct 2017 **Ponce, M.A.** Citizen science template about Chinese mantis, *Tenodera sinensis*. Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI.

Awards and Scholarships

Mar 2019 Honors in senior capstone thesis, Bachelor of Arts, Biology Department, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI.

- Awarded to students who have 1) attained a at least a 3.67 GPA in Biology, 2) demonstrated excellence in the written comprehensive examination, the SIP thesis, and the Diebold symposium, 3) exhibited strong moral character and ethical conduct within and outside the classroom, and 4) have the support of a majority of the Biology faculty. Only awarded to 5% of Biology majors in a year.

Feb 2019 2019 Senior Leadership Recognition Award, Office of Student Development Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI

- Acknowledges “seniors who exemplify ‘enlightened leadership’ and have consistently set positive examples for others to follow.” From the description about those who receive the award: “They exhibit a positive attitude, serve as role models to other students, and show dedication even in times of adversity.”

Sep 2015–Jun 2019 Lux Esto Merit Scholarship (**\$104,000** total)

- Given to students who demonstrate strong academic achievement

Sep 2015–Jun 2019 Kalamazoo Scholars, Natural Science and Mathematics Division, Kalamazoo College (**\$33,660** total)

- Given to a population of academically talented, financially needy students who are often first generation and largely underrepresented in these fields.

Sep 2015–Jun 2019 Federal PELL Grant (**\$146,280**)

- Given to financially needy students

Sep 2015–Jun 2019 Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity (**\$7,980**)

- Given to financially needy students.

Sep 2015–Jun 2019 J T Williamson Award (**\$20,000**)

- Awarded to black and Hispanic students for their outstanding academic achievements.

Sep 2015–Jun 2019 Towsley Scholarship (**\$27,412**)

- Awarded to students with financial need and outstanding academic achievement.

- Sep 2015–Jun 2019 Anne W. Suck Science Scholarship (**\$12,648**)
- Awarded to students with financial need and outstanding academic achievement.
- Sep 2011–Jun 2015 Rising star for 4 years, Southwest High School, San Diego, CA
- Award given to students who obtained 3.5 gpa or higher at the end of the school year.

Extracurricular Activities

- Sep 2018–Present Student Representative of Dow Council, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI
- The Dow Council, which includes both students and professors, was created to foster a more inclusive climate in Dow (Biology and Chemistry Departments) among students, faculty, and staff.
 - The goal is to increase mindfulness and understanding among the Dow community member through conversations and forums.
- Sep 2018–Present Founder and President, Entomological Society of Kalamazoo College.
- Entomology Society of Kalamazoo College was created to educate the student body on all aspects of insects/entomology and their integral role in all of our lives, in order to create more intentional and sustainable living practices in students as participants in global and local communities during and following their time at Kalamazoo College.
 - Designed, organized, and implemented educational outreach programs for children inside and outside the classroom at El Sol Elementary School.
- Jun 2018–Present Member, of the Entomological Society of America (ESA)
- May 2017–Present Member of the National Association for Chicano and Chicana studies (NAACS)
- Feb 2015–Present Member, Sukuma OU. Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI.
- Organization supports marginalized students within STEM fields.
 - Served as President from Sep 2018–Jun 2019.
- Sep 2015–Present Member of the Latino Student Organization (LSO). Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI.
- Sep 2015–Present Member of Young Man of Color (YMC). Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI.
- Aug 2013–Present Hogar de los` Niños (Orphanage) Tijuana, BC. Mexico.
- Event is to put on a celebration for Christmas for orphaned children. Helped to provide gifts, food, and fun several activities for the children.

Languages

Fluent in Spanish (written and spoken)