

McNew Lab Prospective Student Guide

Thank you for your interest in the McNew Lab! My lab will be opening its doors at the University of Arizona in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in 2023. This document is designed to help prospective students and I figure out if we are good match for each other.



If you have not already, visit sabrnamcnew.com to learn more about current and future research. Please also check out the requirements for graduate admission here <https://eeb.arizona.edu/graduate>

Things I would love to know about you:

- Why do you want to do a PhD?
- What do you think graduate school is like? What will be easiest/hardest for you?
- What is a recent paper that you've read that was exciting to you and why?
- How would you extend or build on one of my research projects (i.e. a paper I've published or a research area described on my website)?
- What are your expectations for a mentor?
- What are some career paths that interest you after you finish your graduate degree?

My expectations for graduate students

Before graduate school:

- Bachelor's degree in biology or closely related field.
- Experience with birds, field ecology, parasites and/or working in Latin America.
- Preferred: skills working in R, good writing skills, Spanish language



During graduate school:

- Motivated to do academic research.
- Communicates what they need help with and how they are best motivated.
- Works and problem solves independently. Can bring projects to completion.
- Contributes to the community.

Upon defending:

- Will have written at least 3 research papers worthy of publication
- Will have developed soft skills (analytical, writing, teaching) for multiple career paths
- Will have completed all necessary coursework required by the EEB Department

Lab values:

- Our core values are anti-racist and anti-colonialist.
- We do not tolerate harassment, bullying, or bad behavior.
- We work to make academia more inclusive and a better training program for diverse career paths.

