

Anna R. Armitage, Ph.D.

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Expertise: Dr. Anna Armitage is a broadly trained community ecologist with over 15 years of experience working in coastal wetlands. Her research utilizes multivariate, interdisciplinary field studies to study trophic interactions and anthropogenic impacts in coastal wetland habitats, including marshes, mangroves, and seagrasses. Her current research projects include studies about the effects of nutrient enrichment on ecological interactions and processes in the mangrove-marsh ecotone and other coastal wetland habitats. She has extensive experience conducting large-scale field surveys and managing and analyzing complex datasets. She has published 29 peer-reviewed papers and has supervised numerous graduate and undergraduate students and postdoctoral research scholars.

Professional Preparation

University of California Los Angeles	Biology, Marine Biology	B.S., 1995
University of California Los Angeles	Biology	Ph.D., 2003
Florida International University	Biological Sciences	Postdoc, 2003-2006

Professional appointments

2015-Present Chair, Marine Biology Interdisciplinary Program, TAMU-TAMUG-TAMUCC
2012-Present Associate Professor, Department of Marine Biology, TAMUG
2006-2012 Assistant Professor, Department of Marine Biology, TAMUG
2007-Present Adjunct Faculty, Dept. of Biol. and Biochem., University of Houston
2007-Present Graduate Faculty

- Marine Biology Interdisciplinary Program, TAMU-TAMUG-TAMUCC
- Dept. of Marine Sciences, Marine Resources Management Program, TAMUG
- Department of Ecosystem Science & Management, TAMU

Representative publications (out of 29 total)

Armitage, A.R., W.E. Highfield, S.D. Brody, P. Louchouart. 2015. The contribution of mangrove expansion to salt marsh loss on the Texas Gulf coast. *PLOS ONE* 10(5): e0125404. [doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0125404](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0125404).

Armitage, A.R., C.-K. Ho, E.N. Madrid, M.T. Bell, and A. Quigg. 2014. The influence of habitat construction technique on the ecological characteristics of a restored brackish marsh. *Ecological Engineering* 62: 33-42.

Kinney, E.L., A. Quigg, and **A.R. Armitage**. 2014. Acute effects of drought on emergent and aquatic communities in a brackish marsh. *Estuaries and Coasts* 37: 636-645.

Armitage, A.R., C.-K. Ho, and A. Quigg. 2013. The interactive effects of pulse disturbance and habitat fragmentation vary among wetland arthropod guilds. *PLoS ONE* 8(10): e76672. [doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0076672](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0076672).

Staszak, L.A. and **A.R. Armitage**. 2013. Evaluating salt marsh restoration success with an index of ecosystem integrity. *Journal of Coastal Research* 29: 410-418.

Madrid, E.N., A. Quigg, and **A.R. Armitage**. 2012. Marsh construction techniques influence carbon capture by emergent and submerged vegetation in a brackish marsh in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. *Ecological Engineering* 42: 54-63.

- Armitage, A.R.**, T.A. Frankovich, and J.W. Fourqurean. 2011. Long term effects of adding nutrients to an oligotrophic coastal environment. *Ecosystems* 14: 430-444.
- Valinoti, C.E., C.-K. Ho, and **A.R. Armitage**. 2011. Native and exotic submerged aquatic vegetation provide different nutritional and refuge values for macroinvertebrates. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology* 409: 42-47.
- Armitage, A.R.** and J.W. Fourqurean. 2009. Stable isotopes reveal complex changes in trophic relationships following nutrient addition in a coastal marine ecosystem. *Estuaries and Coasts* 32: 1152-1164.
- Armitage, A.R.**, S.M. Jensen, J.E. Yoon, and R.F. Ambrose. 2007. Wintering shorebird assemblages and behavior in restored tidal wetlands in southern California. *Restoration Ecology* 15: 139-148.
- Armitage, A.R.** and P. Fong. 2004. Upward cascading effects of nutrients: shifts in a benthic microalgal community and a negative herbivore response. *Oecologia* 139: 560-567.

Synergistic Activities

- Develop and direct salt marsh restoration activities for grade school groups and local residents on TAMUG wetland property. Active in diversity initiatives, such as the TAMUG NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates program, which sought to attract and train students from underrepresented groups in science and first-generation college students; past REU interns have performed and published field and laboratory experiments on wetland plant ecology.
- Spearhead the integration of distance technology, interactive tools, and current technology-based activities (e.g., geocaching, cloud-based collaboration) into the traditional classroom; include applied, practical field experiences in laboratory courses.
- Integrate citizen scientists into mangrove research: recruited citizen volunteers to report bird species and abundance at survey sites (<http://www.tamug.edu/armitage/CitizenScience.html>) and report observations through a dedicated, secure website (<http://f611.qr.ai>), supplemented with bird observations from the citizen science database eBird.
- Serve on the Board of Directors for local non-profit Galveston Bay Foundation and consult with local stakeholder groups (e.g., Friends of Galveston Bay State Park, Harris-Galveston Area Council, Eco-Logical Initiative) about wetland management and restoration policies.
- Research fellow active with numerous interdisciplinary institutes, including Institute for Sustainable Coastal Communities (TAMUG), Center for Texas Beaches and Shores (TAMUG), Ecology and Evolutionary Biology interdisciplinary program (TAMU); Florida Coastal Everglades LTER.