

David Weisenbeck
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EDUCATION

University of Kentucky , Lexington, KY	August 2022–present
PhD in Biology	
James Madison University , Harrisonburg, VA	August 2017–May 2021
Biology Bachelor of Science, Ecology and Environmental Biology concentration	
Minors: Honors Interdisciplinary Studies, Geology, & Geographical Science	
Honors: <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> ; Distinction in Biology; Honors Scholar	

GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND CONTRACTS

• Society of Systematic Biologists Graduate Student Research Award	\$3,000	2024
• University of Kentucky Ribble Pilot Grant (awarded twice)	\$2,000	2023,2024
• University of Kentucky Kuehne Fund	\$1,000	2023
• American Museum of Natural History Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Grant	\$1,000	2023
• The Conservation Fund contract for species survey in Sussex, VA	\$15,000	2021
• Barry Goldwater Scholarship	\$15,000	2019
• Virginia Herpetological Society Grant in Herpetology	\$500	2019
• Jerry and Nancy Bolton and Family Scholarship Endowment for Biology (awarded twice)	\$3,000	2018,2019
• Back Bay Restoration Foundation Bob Aaron Memorial Scholarship	\$1,000	2017
• Virginia Dare Soil and Water Conservation District Cynthia Pridmore Scholarship	\$1,000	2017
• Hampton Roads Community Foundation Roland W. Proescher Scholarship	\$12,000	2017
• Hampton Roads Community Foundation Adrian Ryan Kirk Memorial Scholarship	\$890	2017

PUBLICATIONS

- Weisenbeck, D.R.**, Martin, M.D., Hall, B.J., Jackson, C.C., & B.L. Stuart. 2025. Molecular and Acoustical Verification of Hybrids of Cope's Gray Treefrogs (*Dryophytes chrysoscelis*) and Pine Woods Treefrogs (*Dryophytes femoralis*) in Virginia and North Carolina. *Southeastern Naturalist* 24(1): 83–96.
<https://doi.org/10.1656/058.024.0107>
- Donohue, M.E., Absangba, A.E., Noromalala, E., Randrianasolo, Randrianirina, L.G.R., Rakotovao, R., **Weisenbeck, D.R.**, Stumpf, R.M., Wright, P.C., & A. Lamb. 2015. Why didn't the sifaka cross the road? Divergence of *Propithecus edwardsi* gut microbiomes across geographic barriers in Ranomafana National Park, Madagascar. *American Journal of Primatology* 87(2): e23732.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/ajp.23732>
- Weisenbeck, D.R.** (2023). *Lithobates palustris* (Pickerel Frog): Interspecific necrophilic amplexus. *Herpetological Review* 54(2): 271.
- Batist, C.H., Bliss, M., **Weisenbeck, D.R.**, Rafamantanantsoa, R., Razafindrakoto, G., Ranaivosolo, J.W., Jean Baptiste, V., Wright, P.C., & M.E. Donohue. 2023. Updated lemur species ranges in Madagascar's Corridor Forestier d'Ambositra Vondrozo (COFAV). *Folia Primatologica* 94(4–6): 207–223.
<https://doi.org/10.1163/14219980-bja10012>
- Weisenbeck, D.R.**, Nelson, E.M., & D.S. McLeod. (2022). Herpetological Inventory at Sweet's Farm in Highland County, Virginia. *Banisteria* 56: 118–136.
- Graziano, M., **D.R. Weisenbeck**, & D.S. McLeod. (2019). A herpetological survey of the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum at James Madison University (Harrisonburg, Virginia). *Catesbeiana* 39(2): 97–102.
- Weisenbeck, D.R.**, Graziano, M.J., & A.M. Pahides. (2019). County Record Confirmation: *Lithobates palustris* (Pickerel Frog) Virginia: Greene Co. *Catesbeiana* 39(1): 28.

Weisenbeck, D.R. & M.J. Graziano. (2019). Geographic Distribution: *Terrapene carolina carolina* (Eastern Box Turtle) USA: Virginia: Greene Co. *Herpetological Review* 50(2): 327.

Weisenbeck, D.R. & M.J. Graziano. (2019). Geographic Distribution: *Hyla versicolor* (Gray Treefrog) USA: Virginia: Madison Co. *Herpetological Review* 50(2): 522.

Graziano, M.J. & **D.R. Weisenbeck**. (2019). Geographic Distribution: *Anaxyrus americanus* (American Toad) USA: Virginia: Greene Co. *Herpetological Review* 50(2): 521.

Graziano, M.J. & **D.R. Weisenbeck**. (2019). Geographic Distribution: *Hyla versicolor* (Gray Treefrog) USA: Virginia: Greene Co. *Herpetological Review* 50(2): 522.

Weisenbeck, D.R. (2018). *Lithobates palustris*: Cloacal prolapse. *Catesbeiana* 38(1): 59.

PRESENTATIONS

Weisenbeck, D. Survey of the Amphibians and Reptiles at a TCF Property. Virginia Land Trusts and Greenways Conference. 2022 April 27–29; Richmond, VA. **Contributed poster.**

Weisenbeck, D. Reptile or Amphibian: The Convoluted History of Lepospondyl Taxonomy. James Madison University Geology Symposium. 2021 April 23; James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. **Contributed oral paper.**

Weisenbeck, D. Population study of native and invasive turtles in Harrisonburg, Virginia. James Madison University BioSymposium. 2021 April 15; James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. **Contributed oral paper.**

Weisenbeck, D. Mark-recapture of native and invasive turtles in Harrisonburg, VA. Virginia Herpetological Society Fall Meeting. 2019 October 19; Henrico, Virginia. **Contributed oral paper.**

Weisenbeck, D. The Amphibians and Reptiles of Sweet's Farm. Valley Conservation Council Annual Meeting. 2019 October 13; Verona, Virginia. **Invited speaker.**

Weisenbeck, D. Herping away from home: Studying amphibians and reptiles in Southeast Asia. Ocean Lakes High School Evening Lecture Series. 2018 December 11; Ocean Lakes High School, Virginia Beach, VA. **Invited speaker.**

Weisenbeck, D., Yaqub, D., Sprys, A., Younossi, E., Hodge, M., Wease, J., McLeod, D. Mark-recapture of turtles on James Madison University's East Campus. James Madison University BioSymposium. 2018 April 13; James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. **Contributed poster.**

Cheung, J., Esna, C., Fields, M., Gage, E., Head, A., Middleton, M., Rubin, M., **Weisenbeck, D.** On the hunt: An exploration of phages infecting *Streptomyces griseus*. Phall Phage Phaire. 2017 Nov 17; Virginia Union University, Richmond, VA. **Contributed poster.**

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Skype a Scientist	November 2024–Present
JMU Beta Beta Beta, Biology Honor Society	January 2018–May 2021
Service chair from August 2020–May 2021; organizing community service events for the organization.	
JMU Center for STEM Education and Outreach	December 2019–March 2020
Participating in education programs designed to teach elementary-aged students about biology.	
JMU Herpetological Outreach Program	December 2017–April 2019
- Participating in outreach events teaching a variety of age groups about amphibians and reptiles using live animals. - Managing care of live educational animals.	

Students Mentored

Kiara Baker	January 2025–present
Undergraduate student project exploring mitochondrial genome rearrangements in leopard frogs	

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Virginia Beach City Public Schools

November 2021–May 2022

- Substitute teaching in middle and high school classes in science, social studies, and English.

James Madison University Chemistry Department

September 2018–December 2018

- Tutoring general chemistry students.

SELECTED PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

- **First known photograph of living** beetle species *Cenchrormorphus chloropholoides*. 2025.
- **Cover photograph** for Southeastern Naturalist 24(1). 2025.
<https://www.eaglehill.us/SENAonline/TOCs/sena-v24-n1-2025.shtml>
- **Article photograph** in Neupane, N., Goswami, R., Harrison, K., Oberhauser, K., Ries, L. and C. McCormick. 2024. Artificial intelligence correctly classifies developmental stages of monarch caterpillars enabling better conservation through the use of community science photographs. Scientific Reports, 14(1): 27039. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-024-78509-w>
- **Cover photograph** for Urban Naturalist 73. 2024. <https://www.eaglehill.us/URNAonline2/access-pages/073-Turso-accesspage.shtml>
- **Article photograph** in Harvey, T. & E.H. Bender. 2021. Spiritual lessons of the wilderness. Messenger Magazine. <https://www.brethren.org/messenger/climate-change/spiritual-lessons-of-the-wilderness/>