

# Fernanda Breckenfeld Ferrarini

Curriculum vitae, Feb. 2025

ferbreck@umd.edu | +1 (301) 357-4969 | ORCID: 0009-0004-4289-656X

College Park, MD, USA

## EDUCATION

---

- Doctor of Philosophy** in Anthropology 2024 - present  
University of Maryland | College Park, USA  
Advisor: Dr. Miguel Vilar
- Graduate Certificate** in Sustainable Management and Environment 2022  
Pontifical Catholic University of Parana | Curitiba, Brazil
- Bachelor of Science** in Biotechnology 2016-2021  
Pontifical Catholic University of Parana | Curitiba, Brazil

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

Molecular anthropology, human evolution, population genetics, infectious disease, co-evolution

## TEACHING & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

### Teaching Assistant

Department of Anthropology | University of Maryland | College Park, USA

- ANTH 222: Introduction to Ecological and Evolutionary Anthropology (Instructor: Dr. Miguel Vilar) Spring 2025

### Laboratory Technician

Molecular Biology Institute of Parana (IBMP) | Curitiba, Brazil

07/2020 - 03/2022

- duties included reception, screening, pre-analysis and quality control of biological samples; manipulation of Brazil's national health data system and preparation of biological samples for molecular diagnosis of COVID-19, by qPCR

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

---

### Research Collaborator

Laboratory of Studies in Biological Anthropology, Bioarchaeology and Human Evolution

Federal University of Rio Grande | Rio Grande, Brazil

PI: Dr. Danilo Vicensotto

03/2023 - Present

- meta-analysis of hominins' metric patterns; scientific outreach

### Research Intern

Laboratory of Archaeology and Environmental & Evolutionary Anthropology

University of Sao Paulo | Sao Paulo, Brazil

Supervisor: Dr. Andre Strauss

09/2023

- curation and maintenance of archaeological collections

### Research Assistant

Department of Archaeology

Paranaense Museum (MUPA) | Curitiba, Brazil

Supervisor: Dr. Claudia Parellada

03/2023 - 03/2024

- curation and maintenance of archaeological collections; production of archaeological exhibitions

### Undergraduate Student Researcher

Pontifical Catholic University of Parana | Curitiba, Brazil

- "Association of variants of the SLITRK3 and MME genes and Alzheimer's Disease" 08/2019 - 07/2020  
Main Advisor: Dr. Andre Lorusso, Co-Advisor: Dr. Daiane Simao-Silva
  - case-control study of the association between BCHE, SLITRK3, APOE and MME genes' polymorphisms and the occurrence of Alzheimer's Disease
  - DNA extraction, purification and genotyping; standard population genetics statistical analysis
- "Analysis of the Dynamics of a Mixed Ombrophilous Forest located at Academic Experimental Farm "Gralha Azul" (FEGA)/PUCPR in the period from 2013 to 2018" 08/2018 - 07/2019  
Advisor: Dr. Marcio Coraiola
  - analysis of ingress, mortality and diametric growth of the forest and species
  - field work in forest plots; marking and measurement of arboreal individuals; database manipulation; identification of botanical species; standard statistical analysis

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

---

American Association of Biological Anthropologists (AABA) | Student Member

American Association of Anthropological Genetics (AAAG) | Student Member

# Fernanda Breckenfeld Ferrarini

Curriculum vitae, Feb. 2025

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

---

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>Institutional Scholarship Program for Undergraduate Research</b><br>Pontifical Catholic University of Parana   Curitiba, Brazil       | 2019-2020 |
| <b>Dean's Graduate Fellowship</b><br>University of Maryland   College Park, USA  | 2024-2025 |
| <b>Student Volunteer Program Grant</b><br>94th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists   Baltimore, USA | 2025      |

## SKILLS

---

- **Laboratory**  
DNA extraction, Real Time PCR, genotyping analysis, primer drawing  
ELISA, Western Blot, Mammalian Cell culture  
Biosafety Levels 2/3 (BSL)  
5S, Kanban, Yellow Belt (Lean Six Sigma)
- **Programming**  
R  
Python  
Standard SQL  
Happloview 4.2 (Software)
- **Languages**  
Brazilian Portuguese (Native Speaker)

## PRESENTATIONS

---

|   |      |
|---|------|
| <b>XXVII Undergraduate Research Seminar (SEMIC-PUCPR)</b><br>Pontifical Catholic University of Parana   Curitiba, Brazil<br>"Analysis of the Dynamics of a Mixed Ombrophilous Forest located at Academic Experimental Farm "Gralha Azul" (FEGA)/PUCPR in the period from 2013 to 2018". (Oral presentation) | 2019 |
|---|------|

## COMMUNITY & ACADEMIC INVOLVEMENT

---

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| <b>Workshop Instructor</b><br>"Creating organisms: genomics, transformation and transgenics"<br>(High School and Undergraduate Levels)<br>Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná   Curitiba, Brazil | 08/2019           |
| <b>Genetic Engineering Academic Association, Founder-Member</b><br>Coordinator: Dr. Andre B. Lorusso<br>Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná   Curitiba, Brazil                                   | 04/2019 - 03/2020 |

## SHORT COURSES & WORKSHOPS

---

- Data Analytics** (186 hours)  
Google Career Certificates (virtual). USA, 2023.
- Introduction to Forensic Science** (18 hours)  
Nanyang Technological University (virtual). Singapore, 2023.
- Paleontology: Unraveling the Formation of Fossils** (20 hours)  
Campinas State University (virtual). SP, Brazil, 2023.
- Immunology & Stem Cell Therapy** (10 hours)  
Dr. Paul Travers (Edinburgh University)  
Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná. Curitiba, Brazil, 2018.
- Fundamentals, Tools & Techniques of Molecular Biology** (32 hours)  
Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná. Curitiba, Brazil, 2018.
- Python Programming Applied to Biotechnology** (14 hours)  
Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná. Curitiba, Brazil, 2018.