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EDUCATION

5/2006 - Present	PhD Marine Sciences (In Process) College of Marine Sciences University of South Florida Current GPA 4.0	Saint Petersburg, FL
9/2003 - 2/2006	MS Marine Biology Oceanographic Center Nova Southeastern University GPA 3.79	Dania Beach, FL
8/1998 - 5/2003	BS Coastal Marine Biology University of Puerto Rico at Humacao GPA 3.78	Humacao, PR

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

9/2007 - Present	Research Assistant College of Marine Science University of South Florida	Saint Petersburg, FL
8/2004 - 4/2006	Research Assistant National Coral Reef Institute NSU Oceanographic Center	Dania Beach, FL
9/2003-12/2005	Organic Chemistry Teacher Assistant Nova Southeastern University	Fort Lauderdale, FL
8/2002– 5/2003	Organic Chemistry Tutor University of Puerto Rico	Humacao, PR

LANGUAGES

Fluent in English and Spanish

SPECIALIZED SOFTWARE

GIS and Remote Sensing: ArcGIS, ArcView, IENVI, IDL, Leica Imaging (Erdas), Mathematica and MatLab

PUBLICATIONS

Hernández-Cruz, L. R., Purkis, S., and B. Riegl. 2006. Documenting Decadal Spatial Changes in Benthic Cover and Seagrass by Analysis of Aerial Photography in Bahía Salina del Sur, Vieques Island, Puerto Rico: 1937 – 2000. *Bulletin of Marine Sciences*, 79(2): 401–414

Hernández-Cruz, L. R., Purkis, S., and B. Riegl. *In Preparation.* Monitoring the Present Status of *Acropora palmata* in Vieques Island, Puerto Rico.

Hernández Cruz, L. R. 2003. Remote Characterization of Black Mangroves Areas in the Estuarine Bay of Bahía de Jobos, Puerto Rico. National Colloquium About Women, NSF Advance Institutional Transformation Program, April 10-12 2003, University of Puerto Rico at Humacao.

Hernández Cruz, L. R., and Rosa B. 2003. Images Classification and Vegetation Indexes Correlations in a Black Mangrove Forest. Proceeding of The National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) 2003, Salt Lake City, March 12-14.

Méndez, D. and **L. R Hernández-Cruz.** 2001. The role of the vegetation cover in the reduction of runoff in the Río Humacao Watershed in Puerto Rico. Proceeding of The National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) 2001, University of Kentucky, March 15-17, 2001, Lexington, Kentucky.

Ramírez A. and **L. R. Hernández-Cruz.** 2001. Aquatic Insect Assemblages in Shrimp-dominated Tropical Streams, Puerto Rico. *Biotropica*, 36(2): 259–266.

RESENT PRESENTATIONS

Hernández-Cruz, L. R., Pyrtle, A. and B. Dixon. 2007. Remote sensing applications for soil studies. American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, February 5 – 9, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Hernández-Cruz, L. R., Purkis, S., Riegl, B. and R. Dodge. 2005. Synergy of Multiple Sensors as an Assessment Tool for Monitoring the Status of *Acropora palmata* (Elkhorn coral) in Vieques Island, Puerto Rico. Association of Marine Laboratories of the Caribbean, June 13 – 17, Curaçao

Hernández-Cruz, L.R., Purkis, S., Riegl, B. 2005. Airborne Hyperspectral and LIDAR Synergy as Assessment Tool for Acroporid Coral Status in Vieques, Puerto Rico. American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, February 21 – 25, Salt Lake City, Utah

Hernández Cruz, L.R. 2003. *Remote Characterization of Black Mangroves Areas in the Estuarine Bay of Bahía de Jobos, Puerto Rico.* “Coloquio Nacional Sobre las Mujeres”, NSF Advance Institutional Transformation Program, April 10-12 2003, University of Puerto Rico at Humacao

INTERNSHIPS

Summer 2001	University of Puerto Rico Research Experience for Undergraduates	Río Piedras, PR
Summer 2003	Hampton University Multicultural students At Sea Together (MAST)	Chesapeake Bay

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2006 – Present	NSF: Bridge to the Doctorate	Saint Petersburg, FL
2002-2003	NSF Advance Institutional Transformation Program Faculty in Training Component	Humacao, PR
2001-2003	NASA Space Grant Consortium Scholarship	Río Piedras, PR
2001	PRSL-AMP Alliance for Minority Participation	Río Piedras, PR