

Tyler J. Kulak
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(a) Education

University of Massachusetts Boston	Environmental Science	B.S.	2023
Montana State University Bozeman	Environmental Science	Exchange prog.	2022-2023
University of Massachusetts Boston	Environmental Science	M.S.	2025-pres

(b) Appointments

2025	Co-Instructor, Biodiversity of Freshwater Invertebrates, UMass Boston
2025- pres	Teaching Assistant, School for the Environment, UMass Boston
2024	Research Assistant, Poynton Research Lab, UMass Boston
2024	Teaching Assistant, Spiders of Nantucket, UMass Boston
2023	Research Assistant, Entomology, Montana State University
2022-2023	Research Assistant, Weed Ecology & Management, Montana State University

(c) Research Experience

Biodiversity of Freshwater Invertebrates

Awarded Nantucket NBI research grant to access macroinvertebrate biodiversity in addition to teaching a 2-week field course ENVSCI 480 Biodiversity of Freshwater Invertebrates.

Biodiversity and Insecticide Sensitivity of Nantucket Bog Spiders 2024-2025

Awarded Nantucket NBI research grant to compare spider populations in a commercial cranberry system to those in recently restored cranberry bog systems as part of research into the impact of cranberry management practices on non-target beneficial spiders.

Summer Spiders of Nantucket TA 2024

TA of “Spiders of Nantucket” course ENVSTY/ENVSCI 321L summer 2024 at the Nantucket MA research station.

Biodiversity and Insecticide Sensitivity of MA Cranberry Bog Spiders Capstone 2023

Looked at spider diversity and the non-target impact of management practices on their populations in MA cranberry bog systems.

Weed Ecology and Management Research Assistant 2022-2023

Assisted Dr. Fabian Menalled and his graduate students out of Montana State University Bozeman in research involving pest plants in Montana Agriculture.

Wild Bees of Montana Summer Research Assistant 2023

Assisted Dr. Mike Ivie and Dr. Casey Delphia in their research on the Wild Bees of Montana project. As a research assistant I helped collect, pin, curate, and organize the bee collection.

Summer 2022 Nantucket Field Station Research

Studied “Spiders of Nantucket,” course ENVSTY/ENVSCI 321L summer 2022 at the Nantucket MA research station.

(d) Poster Sessions

Kulak, T., Poynton, H.C, Biodiversity and Insecticide Sensitivity of Nantucket Bog Spiders. Poster presentation at the American Arachnological Society (AAS) Annual Meeting. Golden, CO, June 16-18, 2025.

- Kulak, T.,** Poynton, H.C, Biodiversity and Insecticide Sensitivity of Nantucket Bog Spiders. Poster Presentation at the 13th Annual UMass Boston Earth Day Symposium, Boston, MA, April 22nd, 2025.
- Kulak, T.,** Poynton, H.C, Biodiversity and Insecticide Sensitivity of MA Cranberry Bog Spiders Capstone. Poster Presentation at the 12th Annual UMass Boston Earth Day Symposium, Boston, MA, April 22nd, 2024.
- Kulak, T.,**Ebel Roland, Menalled Fabian D. Testing the Influence of Biofertilizer from a Prototype Montana Biofertilizer Unit on Cabbage and Spinach Crop. Virtual Poster Presentation at the 11th Annual UMass Boston Earth Day Symposium, Boston, MA, April 22nd, 2023.
- Kulak, T.,**Ebel Roland, Menalled Fabian D. Testing the Influence of Biofertilizer from a Prototype Montana Biofertilizer Unit on Cabbage and Spinach Crop. Poster Presentation at the 2023 LRES GSO Colloquium, Bozeman, MT, April 13th, 2023.

(e) Relevant Coursework

Insect Identification	Biological Data Analysis & Biostatistics Lab
Spiders of Nantucket	Intro to GIS
Insects and Human Society	Advanced GIS and Spatial Analysis
Weed Ecology and Management	Chemistry Principles 1 and 2
Plant Life	Evolution for Environmental Scientists
Natural Resource Ecology	Water Resources
Environmental Toxicology	Introduction to Oceanography
Environmental Risk Assessment	Intro Envi Policy & Management

(f) Professional Skills

Spider Morphological Identification	R-Studio
Insect Morphological Identification	Arc-GIS
Plant Identification	Microsoft Office Suit
Teaching	Molecular biology techniques (DNA extraction, PCR, gel electrophoresis)

(g) Awarded Grants

- Poynton, H. (Principal), Kulak, T. (Co-Investigator) Macroinvertebrate Diversity of a Restored Nantucket Wetland, Nantucket Biodiversity Initiative, \$3,491.00, (6/1/2025 – 02/15/2026)
- Kulak, T. (Principal) Biodiversity and Insecticide Sensitivity of Nantucket Bog Spiders, Arachnological Research Fund, \$500, (5/1/2025)
- Poynton, H. (Principal), Kulak, T. (Co-Investigator) Biodiversity and Insecticide Sensitivity of Nantucket Bog Spiders, Nantucket Biodiversity Initiative, \$3,374.00, (6/1/2024 – 02/15/2025)
- Kulak, T. (Principal) Biodiversity and Insecticide Sensitivity of MA Cranberry Bog Spiders Capstone, Undergraduate Research Fund, \$652, (12/7/2025)
- Kulak, T. (Fellow), Spiders of Nantucket Summer Course, Summer Beacon Student Success Fellowship, \$3,000.00, (7/31/2022 – 8/13/2022)