

# Laura Rocha Prado

Tempe, AZ  
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📄 <https://github.com/arbolitoloco>

## Summary

Creative and resourceful biologist turned programmer with experience in biodiversity informatics, full-stack web development, database analysis and data standards. Five-plus years of experience helping natural history museums and researchers to digitize, clean, and publish Open Data. Seven-plus years of experience developing webapps and APIs in a variety of modern frameworks (especially in PHP and JavaScript). Looking to apply varied skillset to perform problem-solving in data-focused projects.

## Education

- 2015 **Doctor of Science**, *University of São Paulo (USP)*, Brazil.  
Zoology
- 2010 **Master of Science**, *University of São Paulo (USP)*, Brazil, sensu stricto.  
Zoology
- 2007 **Bachelor of Biological Sciences**, *State University of Campinas (UNICAMP)*, Brazil.  
Taxonomy and Systematics of Plants

## Professional Experience

- Jan 2021 – **Full-Stack Web Developer**, Symbiota Support Hub, iDigBio3 project.
- May 2023 Responsible for designing and developing Symbiota software and documentation, as well as different related tools using modern technologies (PHP, JavaScript, NodeJS, ReactJS, Python, Jekyll, Hugo, GitHub pages, open APIs) to improve the workflows of natural history collections and access to open biodiversity data
- Feb 2019 – **Database Analyst, Biodiversity Informatician**, *Biodiversity Knowledge Integration Center*, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, USA.  
May 2023 Working for the NEON Biorepository at ASU, managing and cleaning data, and full-stack web developer for the NEON Biorepository Data Portal, creating and improving workflows to provide open access to biodiversity data related to specimens collected by the NEON project and hosted at ASU and other collections
- Apr 2018 – **Postdoctoral Research Associate**, *College of Agricultural and Life Sciences*, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, USA.  
Feb 2019 Biodiversity Informatician, Data Coordinator and developer for the Symbiota portal aggregating biodiversity data for five natural history museums on campus
- Sep 2016 – **Museum Research Technician**, *Entomology Section*, Zoology Museum of The University of São Paulo (MZSP), São Paulo, Brazil.  
Feb 2018 Started as specimen digitizer, and became the supervisor of digitizers, offering training and database cleaning.
- Nov 2016 – **Web Developer**, *Freelance, Front-End*, São Paulo, Brazil.  
Feb 2019 Worked with designers and marketing agencies to develop websites and other digital solutions in WordPress, PHP, JavaScript, HTML and CSS

Mar 2016 – **Scientific Translator**, *Freelance, Portuguese-English*, American Journal Experts (AJE), São Paulo, Brazil.  
Feb 2019

## Skills

### Computational

- Languages HTML+CSS (advanced), SaSS (advanced), JavaScript (advanced), PHP (advanced), Python (basic), R (basic), Ruby (basic), SQL (advanced), GraphQL (basic), L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X(advanced), VBA (basic), GoogleAppsScripts (basic)
- Web Django (basic), Rails (basic), WordPress (advanced), Lumen (advanced), Laravel (basic), Development ExpressJS (basic), ReactJS (basic), GatsbyJS (basic), Jekyll (basic), Hugo (basic), Bootstrap Frameworks (advanced), Foundation (advanced), TailWindCSS (advanced), MaterialUI (basic)
- Other NodeJS (basic), Apache Server (basic), Apache Solr (basic), Windows (advanced), MacOS Technologies (basic), Linux Ubuntu (basic), Linux CentOS (basic), Git (advanced), GitHub (advanced), GitLab (basic), PowerShell (advanced), Ms Terminal (advanced), bash (basic)
- Databases MySQL (advanced), MariaDB (advanced), PostgreSQL (basic), MongoDB (basic)
- Collections Arctos (basic), TaxonWorks (basic), eMU (basic), Specify (expert), Symbiota (expert/developer)
- Management Systems
- Other TNT (advanced), Mesquite (advanced), WinClada (advanced), DELTA/Open DELTA (advanced), Software PAUP (advanced), Nona (advanced), Lucid (basic), Ms Access (advanced), FileMaker Pro (basic), Office Suite (advanced), Open Refine (advanced)
- Other Documentation writing, research in taxonomy and systematics of insects, field work experience in insect collecting, museum entomological collection curatorship, teaching (undergraduate-level biology)

### Languages

- Portuguese **Mother tongue**
- English **Fluent**
- German **Advanced**
- Spanish **Basic**

*Writing intermediate*

*Reading intermediate*

### Other Interests

- Crafting Print making, sewing, embroidery, illustration, animation
- Women in STEM Helping women to join STEM careers by offering education and mentorship
- Open Science Developing tools to lower the barrier to making science really open and accessible to everyone