



Graduate Positions in Systematics, Phylogenomics, and Coevolution



The [Sosa-Calvo Lab](#) at the [University of Central Florida](#) (UCF) is recruiting motivated graduate students to explore the systematics and evolution of Hymenoptera, with a special emphasis on ants. Our lab integrates fieldwork, molecular systematics, and evolutionary biology to study how insects diversify and interact with their fungal and other microbial partners.

Graduate students will develop independent research questions, conduct local and international fieldwork, present at national and international conferences, and contribute to the vibrant, in-person academic community of the Department of Biology at UCF. Major research areas in the Sosa-Calvo Lab include insect–fungal (and other microbes) symbioses, systematics and phylogenomics of Hymenoptera, and insect biodiversity.

Positions are fully funded through a combination of Teaching and Research Assistantships, including tuition waivers and health insurance. Applicants should have a strong interest in organismal biology, excellent writing skills, and enthusiasm for fieldwork in challenging environments. A valid driver's license is required, and prior experience in insect taxonomy or animal care is encouraged.

Ph.D. applicants must hold a B.S. in Entomology, Evolution and Ecology, or a related field, with evidence of research productivity (e.g., thesis, publication, or independent project). *M.S. applicants* must have prior research or lab experience.

To apply: Review recent publications from the lab and email Jeffrey.Sosacalvo@ucf.edu with: (1) a **CV** (including coursework and research experience), (2) a **1-page cover letter** outlining research interests and goals, and (3) **copies of publications, theses, or other written research products**.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis through **November 20, 2025**, for positions beginning August 2026. Selected candidates will be invited for a Zoom interview. Formal applications to the University of Central Florida Biology Graduate Program (<https://sciences.ucf.edu/biology/graduate/applying/>) are due **December 1, 2025**.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Sosa-Calvo, PhD.
Department of Biology
University of Central Florida
Orlando, FL, USA