

## REBECCA B. BENARD

511 Millis Hall  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

216-368-8585  
rbb53@case.edu

### EDUCATION

**9/00-7/05** Ph.D. in Ecology, University of California-Davis  
**9/98-6/00** B.S. (High Honors) Evolution and Ecology, University of California-Davis  
**1/96-5/98** Undergraduate coursework, Cabrillo Community College, Aptos California

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**07/10-present** **Instructor, Case Western Reserve University**  
• Teach large non-major and majors courses at CWRU

**08/09-06/10** **Lecturer, Case Western Reserve University**  
• Taught large non-majors and majors courses at CWRU

**09/06-04/08** **Lecturer, University of Michigan**  
• Taught an upper level ecology course and part of the biology core for majors

**1/01-12/03** **Teaching Assistant-Zoology, University of California-Davis**  
• Taught laboratory sections and developed curriculum for various lower and upper division undergraduate courses (Zoology, Plant Ecology, Ecology)

### WORK EXPERIENCE

**11/05-04/08** **Advising Coordinator, University of Michigan**  
• Advise students on course and degree requirements for majors and academic minors offered through The Program in Biology  
• Develop, manage and update website material regarding advising, course scheduling, undergraduate policies, etc.  
• Conduct undergraduate advising forums for 50-100+ students on degree requirements and course scheduling  
• Work with curriculum chairs from the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department and Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology Department, and undergraduate coordinator on curriculum and administrative issues.  
• Organize student events (e.g., honors research poster session, research open house, etc).  
• Review introductory biology and ecology course equivalency for transfer students

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**9/00-7/05** **Graduate Student, University of California-Davis**  
• Implemented original research on how variation in seed size of *Ericameria nauseosa* influenced seed-seedling traits, and quantified how seed-seedling performance interacted with physical factors to influence seedling growth and survival in the sand-dune ecosystem at Mono Lake, CA.  
• Designed and conducted large-scale field and greenhouse experiments  
• Managed large data sets, conducted statistical analyses, and wrote manuscripts for peer reviewed journals

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

Benard, R.B. and C.A. Toft. (2008) Fine-scale spatial heterogeneity and seed size determine early seedling survival in a desert perennial shrub (*Ericameria nauseosa*: Asteraceae) Plant Ecology. 194:195-205

Benard, R.B. and C.A. Toft (2007) Effect of seed size on seedling performance in a long-lived desert perennial shrub (*Ericameria nauseosa*: Asteraceae) International Journal of Plant Sciences 168 (7): 1027-1033

#### **DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

**08/09-present** Department of Biology Curriculum Committee member

#### **AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS**

**3/10** 2010 Carl F. Wittke Award nomination for excellence in undergraduate teaching at Case Western Reserve University