

I am an undergraduate student at Nevada State College who is beginning my final year as a double major in Biology (Ecology and Evolution Concentration) and Environmental & Resource Science. After receiving my bachelor's degree my goal is to attend graduate school to earn a doctorate in microbial ecology. My overall goal is to become a professor at a research institution where I can continue research, while inspiring a love for science in others.

My project this year is a continuation of my research carried out over the summer of 2022 with my advisor Dr. El Hachemi Bouali. During this research we used filters to collect microbial samples from two springs within the Spring Mountains of southern Nevada. The DNA was then extracted from the filters and sent for sequencing; this data will be used to create a database of bacteria and archaea within the springs and perform a community comparison. In the continuation of this research, more samples will be taken over the next year following the same protocol and then will be analyzed for any changes within the bacterial community.