

Laura Haney

261 S Ave 52, Los Angeles, CA 90042 | 401-525-1338 | l.vican525@gmail.com
laura-vican-haney.squarespace.com

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Astronomy, UCLA, June 2016

M.A., Astronomy, UCLA, June 2013

B.A., Astrophysics, Barnard College of Columbia University, June 2011 (minor in Math)

TEACHING

SEQUOYAH SCHOOL:

Science Department Chair | Fall 2018 - present

- Acted as a supervisor for faculty in the science department (classroom observations, professional growth and evaluation tracking, etc)
- Managed the budget for the science department
- Worked closely with other department chairs and administration to develop school-wide programs and policies
- Participated on hiring committees
- Helped develop credit areas for the Mastery Transcript Consortium

Founding Science Teacher | Fall 2016 - present

- Developed and taught 9th grade Conceptual Physics, 10th grade Introductory Chemistry, Biophysics, and 11th-12th grade Advanced Physics
- Developed and taught a series of elective courses including Scientific Research, Scientific Writing, Python Programming, Robotics, Astrobiology, and Geology
- Facilitated a [Social Innovation Program](#) group studying (in subsequent years): The water quality of the LA River, GMOs, alternative energy, and gender equity in STEM
- Helped develop and run the Talking Leaves program
- Started and oversaw the [STEM Institute](#)
- Supervised an advisory group from 9th grade through graduation
- Participated in committee work (disciplinary committee, admissions committee, etc)

UCLA:

Teaching Fellow | Summer 2015 (2 courses)

- Created content for two 4-credit college courses in Astrobiology as the instructor of record
- Developed a syllabus with an emphasis on student-centered learning
- Wrote and graded quizzes and exams

Teaching Assistant Coordinator | 2012-2014, 2016 (3 courses)

- Developed the syllabus for a department-mandated teacher training course for graduate students
- Created course content with a focus on interactive teaching techniques and discipline-based educational research
- Mentored first-year graduate students as they worked as teaching assistants at UCLA
- Attended courses and workshops run by the Office of Instructional Development at UCLA

Teaching Associate | Winter 2012-Fall 2015 (5 courses)

- Created content for one-hour discussion sections with up to 50 students per section
- Helped develop syllabus and course material for lectures
- Wrote homework assignments and helped write exams for classes of over 130 students
- Worked with a diverse body of students, including international students and students with learning differences

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Education Courses

- Central Seminar (UCLA Office of Instructional Development)
- Language Structure and Acquisition (UCLA Education Department graduate course)
- Social Foundations (UCLA Education Department graduate course)
- Educational Psychology (UCLA Education Department graduate course)
- Secondary Content and Literacy Methods (UCLA Education Department graduate course)

Workshops, Seminars, and Conferences

- Conference: Deeper Learning 2016
- Conference: Deeper Learning 2017 (presented a workshop)
- Conference: Deeper Learning 2020 (presented a workshop)
- Workshop: Up for Debate! Role-playing and debate in the STEM Classroom (2020)
- Conference: ComSciCon2015 (over 900 applicants, 50 selected)
- Workshop: Citizen Science in the College Classroom
- Workshop: Teaching Astronomy Through Role-Playing and Debate
- Workshop: Teaching Physics to Life Science Majors
- Workshop: Science Communication 101 (organizing committee)
- Seminar: Teaching Astro 101 (Center for Astronomy Education)
- Seminar: UCLA Physics Educational Research Journal Club (co-founder)

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Astronomy Live! Outreach Coordinator | Winter 2013 - Spring 2015

- Oversaw day-to-day operations; duties include: managing demonstration supplies, managing ongoing funds, coordinating with local teachers and community leaders, organizing small (<200 student) events, and soliciting volunteers
- Led an interdisciplinary team of outreach coordinators across many STEM fields for our annual Exploring Your Universe event in 2013 and 2014
- Raised over \$40,000 in funds in 2014 to support our annual Exploring Your Universe event. This event saw over 5,500 attendees in 2014, 4,500 in 2013, and 2,500 in 2012
- Wrote a successful grant proposal for \$25,000 to support the creation of educational videos of the hands-on demonstrations and activities available in the Physics and Astronomy Department and the Department of Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences
- Wrote a successful grant proposal for \$3,500 to hire undergraduate Physics and Astronomy majors to develop and update educational demonstrations
- Organized an eight-week summer observing workshop for high school students at UCLA for Summer 2014 to give students research experience and to bridge the gap between high school and college
- Presented over 20 planetarium shows for the general public and small school groups, and developed four new planetarium shows

SciComm Hub Co-Founder / Director | Spring 2015 - Spring 2016

- Co-founded an organization dedicated to providing resources and networking opportunities to graduate students interested in careers in science education, outreach, and communication
- Organized several events, including a career panel, demo development workshop, and panel discussion on science in pop culture
- Organized an 8-week science communication workshop for graduate students (Fall 2015)
- Curated a rotating Twitter account (@iamscicomm), allowing science communicators from around the world to share their experiences and questions, and to facilitate discussions and collaborations

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

- Completed original research, resulting in four first-author papers in refereed journals
- Mentored five undergraduates as they completed their senior research projects
- Completed over 30 nights of astronomical observations in support of thesis work