

# Brianna M. Wilson

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(785) 501-9474

## Education

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**BS** Washburn University; Topeka, Kansas  
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology; GPA: 3.66

University of New England 2022 (4 credit hours)

Kansas State University 2019-2021 (42 credit hours)

Colby Community College 2021 (8 credit hours)

Allen Community College 2020 (6 credit hours)

## Honors

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**Dean's List**

**Fall 2019 – Spring 2022**

**Magna Cum Laude Latin Honors**

**Graduated Spring 2023**

## Relevant Professional Experience

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### **Family Pet Hospital**

**April 2022 – May 2023**

*Kennel Technician Employment Position*

Current part time paid position in Topeka, KS providing care to boarding animals. Help around clinic as needed.

### **Tender Loving Care Pet Nursing Hotel**

**June 2021 – December 2022**

*Kennel Assistant Employment Position*

Worked in a paid, part time position in Topeka, KS. Worked the phone, cleaned kennels, fed and watered animals, provided medication, and made transactions.

### **Topeka Zoo and Conservation Center Internship**

**Fall 2021**

*Animal Care Internship*

Part time (9 hours/week) semester internship position learning daily zookeeper tasks. Learned skills in habitat cleanliness, animal diets, cognitive enrichment, and understanding animal behavior throughout entire zoo. Completed a pronghorn enrichment project and presented my design and findings.

### **TimberCreek Veterinary Hospital**

**Nov 2020 - June 2021**

*Kennel Technician Employment Position*

Part time paid position in Manhattan, KS. Primarily cared for boarding pets, but also learned general veterinary practices and helped clients. Learned skills in medication administration, vaccine preparation, fecal test performance, and animal restraint.

## Research Experience

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**Washburn University; Ornate Box Turtle Telemetry****Fall 2021 - Present***Research Assistance (25 hours)**Supervised by Dr. Benjamin Reed*

Assisted in the use of radio telemetry to locate a subset of ornate box turtles. Recorded information regarding microhabitat and behavior.

**Washburn University; Cognition/Behavior Summer Research Summer 2022 - Present***Research Project (15 weeks)**Summer Research at Cedar Point Biological Station*

Created own study on box turtle cognition. Designed and implemented study throughout the summer. Conducted field behavior tests to compare lab and field data. Used radio telemetry to locate turtles and recorded relevant information.

**Presentations**

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Primary author:**KHS Research Conference (Poster)****Nov 4-6, 2022****Learning and BT in *Terrapene ornata***

**Wilson B**, Wagner P, Brighton K, Chanay M, Gauntt, A, Kim S, Munsell K, Trautman A, Speer T, Wagner S, Reed BM. 2022. Learning and BT in *Terrapene ornata*. Kansas Herpetological Meetings. Missouri Southern State University, Joplin, MO.

**Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference (Poster)****April 2, 2023****Learning and BT in *Terrapene ornata***

**Wilson B**, Wagner P, Brighton K, Chanay M, Gauntt, A, Kim S, Munsell K, Trautman A, Speer T, Wagner S, Reed BM. 2022. Learning and BT in *Terrapene ornata*. Kansas Herpetological Meetings. Missouri Southern State University, Joplin, MO.

**Apeiron Conference at Washburn (Poster)****April 21, 2023****Ecological consequences of cognition in *Terrapene Ornata***

**Wilson B**, Wagner P, Brighton K, Chanay M, Gauntt, A, Kim S, Munsell K, Trautman A, Speer T, Wagner S, Reed BM. 2022. Learning and BT in *Terrapene ornata*. Kansas Herpetological Meetings. Missouri Southern State University, Joplin, MO.

Co-Author:**KHS Research Conference (Poster)****Nov 4-6, 2022**

Brighton K, Munsell K, Gauntt A, Speer T, Trautman A, Wagner P, **Wilson B**, Reed BM. 2022. Examining the reproductive ecology of *Terrapene ornata* in western Nebraska. Kansas Herpetological Meetings. Missouri Southern State University, Joplin, MO.

**Grants**

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**Student Research Development Grant****Feb 22, 2023***Washburn Student Government Association Grant*

Proposed and received \$2000 grant with co-researcher to attend the Conference on Comparative Cognition in Melbourne, Florida, April 12-15, 2023.

**WTE Research Grant****Nov 11, 2022***Washburn Transformational Experience Grant*

Wrote and received \$1000 grant to continue turtle cognition research during summer 2023.

**Certifications**

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**R Programming A-Z: R for Data Science with Real Exercises!****In Progress***Udemy Online Certification*

Taught by Kirill Eremenko and the Ligeny Team. Class covers introduction to data analytics, data science, statistical analysis, packages, functions, and GGPlot2. Currently in progress.

**GRT Handling Certification****June 6, 2022***General Regulation Training Certificate for wildlife handling related to research*

Expires 06/06/2027.

**Involvement**

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**Washburn University Biology Club****Fall 2021 - Present***Positions*

- Co-Historian: Work on social media presence-post informational and educational content, take photos/videos, and inspire students to attend club events (Feb 1, 2023-present)

*Activities*

- Bird Banding (12 hours): learned process by in-person observation
- Attended guest speaker seminars
  - Dr. Erika Weirman ultrasound seminar and demonstration (April 25, 2022)
- Participated in creation of ecological audio tour through Washburn's campus koi pond
- Gave a 5-minute presentation over epigenetics of trauma (Nov 16, 2022)
- Gave a 5-minute presentation over "dognition" research from Dr. Gregory Berns' lab (Nov 16, 2022)

*Volunteering*

- Assist in collection and management of 2 and 5 plastics from Washburn and local businesses to donate to NexTrex (1 hour/week, spring 2023, Topeka, KS)
- Co-host adaptations-themed rotation for Christ the King 3<sup>rd</sup> grade field trip (3/3/23, 2 hours, Topeka, KS)
- Worked Biology stand at Majors and Minors Fair at Washburn (2/22/23, 1 hour, Topeka, KS)
- Fundraising for KAW River Restoration (2 hours, Topeka, KS)
- Trash clean up at Shunga Creek (2 hours, Topeka, KS)

**Kansas State University Equestrian Club****Fall 2020***Photographer*

Attended team meetings, participated in discussion, helped at the ranch, and took pictures during practice and competitions for the team.

**Volunteer and Outreach**

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**Operation Wildlife; Lawrence, Kansas****February 22, 2022 – Present***Animal Rehabilitation Volunteer (130+ hours)*

Learned and practiced skills necessary to help rehabilitate displaced and injured wildlife.

**Young Nebraska Scientists; Ogallala, Nebraska****June 9, 2022***Volunteer Research Presentation*

Gave a field presentation over the scientific process of my cognition research to a group of YNS students at Cedar Point Biological Station.

**T. Russell Reitz Animal Shelter; Manhattan, Kansas****Sep 29, 2020 – Feb 23, 2021***Facility Volunteer (9 hours)*

Kept up with cleanliness of building: completed laundry, swept, mopped, wiped surfaces, and cleaned dishes. Stopped volunteer time because of transfer to Washburn University in Topeka.

**Ad Astra; Topeka, Kansas****April 22, 2023***Volunteer Demonstration (3 hours)*

Gave small demonstration / explanation of radio telemetry and discussed turtle ecology and significance to children of a broad age range.

**Skills**

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- Proficiency in Microsoft products including Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- Animal care knowledge – strong background in pet care and experience with zoo animals
- Strong background in animal behavior recognition
- Effective communication skills
- Attention to detail
- Maintaining accurate documentation practices
- Analytical thinking and application
- Basic understanding in Rstudio
- Radio Telemetry