

Randi Mendes, Ph.D., - is currently a Postdoc at UConn in Environmental Engineering and a staff member of the Vergnano Institute for Inclusion. She is originally from Southern California and attended Oregon State University for her undergraduate education. There she received her Bachelor of Science and Engineering in ecological engineering and optioned in veterinarian school. During her time in undergrad, she was involved in the LSAMP program as a member and mentor, she worked for the LSAMP program as a student program coordinator, she was involved in research, and competed in club sports. From there, Randi attended the University of Connecticut for graduate school. As a graduate student she studied environmental engineering, and her research focuses on biogeochemistry of wetland systems. Through that research, she studies how the soil chemistry affects greenhouse gas emissions in wetland systems and how anthropogenic sources alter the natural processes in the environment. She is an NSF and GAANN fellow and has a myriad of teaching experiences from UConn. Randi also worked for the school of engineering dean's office while in graduate school and has been involved in EREU, Explore Engineering, and many other activities at UConn.