



Dr. Emily Sessa

Assistant Professor

Department of Biology

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Dr. Sessa is an Assistant Professor of Plant Systematics in the Biology Department at UF. Her research focuses on understanding the ecological and evolutionary processes that have contributed to modern fern diversity. Her work integrates phylogenetics, ecophysiology, and genomics approaches to understand relationships between ferns, their biogeographic distributions, and how they have adapted to their environments. She joined the UF faculty in 2013 following a postdoctoral appointment in the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology at the University of Arizona. She earned her PhD from the Botany Department at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 2012 and her B.A. *magna cum laude* in Biological Sciences from Cornell University in 2005.

Global research interests:

- Phylogenetics and historical biogeography of African ferns
- Phylogenetics, historical biogeography, and reticulate evolution of neotropical *Dryopteris* (wood ferns)
- Reticulate evolution and multiple origins of polyploid species in European *Dryopteris* (wood ferns) and *Asplenium* (rock ferns)

Mentor: Douglas Soltis

- Distinguished Professor
- Department of Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Florida Museum of Natural History
- Email: dsoltis@ufl.edu

Countries I am interested in or currently working in:

- South Africa (currently working in)
- Finland (currently working in)
- Spain (currently working in)
- Kenya (planning to work in)
- Mexico (planning to work in)

How to Connect:

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