

Re: PhD Position on Grassland Ecosystem Services and Climate Resilience, University of Florida

Position Synopsis: Understanding how to foster sustainable and long-term resilient agroecosystems in an altered climate remains challenging. Such knowledge is particularly crucial for grasslands that account for 70% of the global agricultural production area. This research aims to address how land management and grazing regime interact to affect grassland ecosystem services under future climate variabilities, and the extent to which manipulation of grazing could serve as adaptations to enhance climate resilience of grasslands. Knowledge gained from this project will provide vital information to be integrated into decision support tools to guide climate adaptations and inform innovative best management practices.

Qualifications: Ideal candidate is expected to have the following qualifications and experience:

- Interests and/or experience in ecosystem service, landscape ecology, and global change ecology, and interests in interdisciplinary research;
- MS degree in a related field (e.g., ecology, environmental science, etc.);
- Experience in conducting field studies and lab analyses with demonstrated quantitative skills (e.g., statistics, geospatial analyses, modeling, etc.);
- Strong motivation and independent research abilities with teamwork spirit;
- Good written and oral communication skills.

Anticipated start date: Fall semester, 2021

Deadline: Review of applications will start on 15 December, 2020.

Salary and benefits: It is a fully-funded position, and the selected candidate will be offered a competitive annual stipend plus the comprehensive health insurance and full tuition waiver.

How to apply? Interested students are strongly encouraged to contact Dr. Jiangxiao Qiu (qiu.j@ufl.edu) through sending a current resume/CV with GPA, GRE and TOEFL (or equivalent for non-native English speaker candidates only), a list of references, and a brief statement of research interests and experience as a single PDF. Research in the Qiu lab can be found in: <http://jiangxiaoqiu.weebly.com>; Qiu Lab is in the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, and based at Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Thank you for your interests!



Photo credit: Carlton Ward Jr.