

# Daniela Catania

Email: danielacatania28@gmail.com  
Address: 25 Dunedin Drive, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 6BA. United Kingdom  
Tel: +447717 413133  
Nationality: Italian  
Date of Birth: 28<sup>th</sup> December 1987

## Education

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### Msc in Marine Science

**King Abdullah University of Science & Technology (KAUST), Thuwal, Saudi Arabia, 2011-2012**

GPA 3.70

Thesis Title: The Prevalence of Benthic Dinoflagellates Associated with Ciguatera in the Central Red Sea. Under the supervision of Dr. Donald Anderson, Dr. Michael Berumen and Dr. Burton Jones.

Worked and became proficient with genetic laboratory analyses, including polymerase chain reaction (PCR), electrophoresis, DNA sequence interpretation, and eukaryotic cell culture growth. KAUST Fellowship recipient and KAUST Provost Award recipient.

### BSc (Honours) in Zoology

**Royal Holloway, University of London, United Kingdom, 2006-2009**

2:1 Degree

Biological Science Scholarship recipient given to students with outstanding A level results.

### A-Levels

**Caterham School Surrey, United Kingdom, 2004-2006**

Grade A in Chemistry, Biology, and French

## Work experience, cruises and courses

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### Research Cruise Member

**April 2013 (10 days), Red Sea, Saudi Arabia**

I was a research assistant on the research cruise. The aims of the cruise were to document the biodiversity of the fauna in the Saudi Arabian Red Sea, specifically to observe the level of endemism of species in the Central region, and to see if there were new species. I worked with Dr. Gert Woerheide and Dr. Andrew Baird on their respective research.

### Research Assistant

**February-June 2013 King Abdullah University of Science and Technology. K.S.A**

Worked in Dr Michael Berumen's Coral Reef Ecology lab. I assisted in various ongoing projects, one of which is the connectivity project of fish larvae, conducted by Dr. Berumen's post-doc Dr. Pablo Saenz Agudelo. I also expanded on my thesis project.

### Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Naples, Italy, February 2013

Participated and completed an intense course on the taxonomic and morphological identification of toxic marine algae present in the Mediterranean Sea.

### Research Intern

**March 2012 – April 2012 Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, MIT, USA**

Worked under the supervision of Dr. Donald Anderson and Dr. Mindy Richlem in the genetic analysis of harmful algae and population dynamics of harmful algal blooms.

Learnt how to carry out polymerase chain reaction (PCR) analysis and various other genetic analyses of eukaryotic organism, developed analytical skills and applied statistical analysis related to genetic data processing.

### Research Cruise Member

#### **October 2011 (2 weeks) Aegaeo R/V, Red Sea, Saudi Arabia**

Collaborated with Dr. André Antunes in a project on preliminary exploration and survey of the deep-sea brines of the Red Sea focusing on microbial community structure and variability across physic-chemical gradients.

### Research Cruise Member

#### **Red Sea, Saudi Arabia, September 2011 (1 week)**

Participated in a cruise in Al-Lith, Farasan banks in Saudi Arabia. Tagged reef fish with acoustic tags to determine movement patterns of predatory reef fish. This project was run by Dr. Elizabeth Tyler.

### Events and Marketing Intern

#### **Frontier – Conservation Organization, London, United Kingdom, Jan-May 2011**

Successfully coordinated and organized university and school presentations, career fairs, and various other events throughout the United Kingdom; published two articles for the company's public relations.

### Research Assistant

#### **Centre of Marine Studies, University of Queensland, Australia, March-August 2010**

Worked in Ian Tibbetts' lab where I collated and implemented a new method of organizing the data that determined the feeding habits of five primary species of fish in Lake Wivenhoe, Queensland, Australia; developed a strong background in research skills and data analysis, biological evaluations, developing internal ideas, and problem solving.

Presented results to SEQ Waters (leading water utility in southeastern Queensland) with outstanding feedback.

## Conferences

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### **12th International Coral Reef Symposium (ICRS)**

#### **Cairns, Australia 9-13th July 2012**

Represented KAUST, as an official ICRS sponsor, attended lectures of the efforts to advance our knowledge of coral reef science, management and conservation across the globe.

## Computer and Language skills

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### Computer

Fluency in Windows and MS Office suite  
SPSS – statistical analysis

### Languages

Italian	Native
English	Native
French	Fluent

## Activities

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PADI certified SCUBA Rescue Diver  
EFR/CPR Certified  
Travelling  
Cooking

References available upon request.