

# Andrea Gramling | Senior Instructor: Department of Biology

## *About*

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Andrea Gramling joined The Citadel in 2013 as an adjunct faculty member in the Biology Department and now serves as a senior instructor and advising facilitator for the Swain Family School of Science and Mathematics. She teaches a variety of general education courses, including Foundations of Biology, Human Disease, The Standard American Diet, and Human-Wildlife Conflict, and coordinates the General Biology Labs for non-majors.

Andrea earned her B.S. in Biology from Clemson University with a focus on plant studies and went on to receive an M.S. in Ecology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. During her graduate studies, she conducted ecological research at Highlands Biological Station.

Before joining The Citadel, Andrea taught high school science at Hillside High School in Durham, NC, and Garrett Academy of Technology in North Charleston, SC. Outside of the classroom, she enjoys volunteering with a local Scouting troop and spending time with her family.

## *Advising Philosophy*

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"As a college student, I prided myself on being self-sufficient. I figured out how to register for classes and choose the courses needed to complete my degree on my own. With a different advisor each year, I did not develop a strong professional relationship with anyone on campus until my senior year. Looking back, I wish I had realized that academic advising goes beyond simply choosing classes. In my role as an instructor and as an advisor, I want to provide the type of support that I did not know I needed.

I believe that effective advisors should be well-versed in policies, procedures, and degree requirements, but also dedicate time to building meaningful relationships with students, helping them maximize their college experience. Cadets at The Citadel choose to embrace the challenges of the Fourth-Class System, but that doesn't mean every aspect of their time here should feel like a struggle. Advisors can make a huge difference by helping students identify the obstacles standing in the way of their personal and professional success. By offering strategies and resources, advisors can empower students to find academic success, direct their own learning, and develop positive habits and professional skills."



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