

Cortez-Ortiz Short Biographical Sketch

Dr. Cortés Ortiz investigates processes and mechanisms involved in the origin and maintenance of biological diversity, with emphasis on the primates of the Americas (platyrrhini). Specifically, she studies how geography, ecology, and evolutionary history shape the distribution of primate diversity in space and time. Additionally, she studies genetic admixture in a natural primate hybrid zone to identify parts of the genome associated with the delimitation and maintenance of species boundaries and with the exchange of potentially adaptive genetic variation between species. Her research is highly collaborative with strong field and laboratory components, and integrates evidence from genetics, social behavior, ecology, and morphology to address evolutionary questions.
