



# Aubrey Gorbman

## Endowed Biology Seminar

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### Multimodal communication and reproductive-dependent sensory plasticity in an African cichlid fish



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12:00 PM PST

Animals live in a multisensory world and use different sensory channels to communicate during crucial behavioral contexts such as aggression and reproduction. Despite the importance of this multimodal

communication, there are relatively few species in which information on sender signals and receiver responses are known. How do individuals send information in multiple sensory channels and where is this information processed and integrated in the receiver's brain to produce context-dependent behaviors? The African cichlid fish *Astatotilapia burtoni* uses visual, acoustic, chemosensory, and mechanosensory communication during courtship and provides an ideal system to examine the mechanisms of multisensory signaling and processing in a single species with tractable behaviors. In this talk I will discuss what we know about multimodal communication in *A. burtoni*, where sensory information is processed in decision centers of the brain, and how an individual's reproductive condition and social status might modulate sensory perception to facilitate adaptive behaviors.

Seminar Speaker Host: Sujay Balebail

