



## Lucas Gimenez

BSc (Honours) in Marine Biology, MSc (Research) in  
Marine Ecology

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<https://scholar.google.com.au/citations?user=0B7jt50AAAAJ&hl=en>

### Summary

Detecting and responding in an adaptive manner to chemical compounds serves as the primary window to sense the world for most species. Chemical cues constitute a language of life, and its appreciation is pivotal to better understand ecological behaviours and interactions. Chemical ecology is an interdisciplinary field that examines the role of naturally occurring compounds in interactions among organisms under realistic ecological contexts. Ecological functions of chemical compounds are diverse and ubiquitous from feeding and reproduction to complex interspecies interactions. In fact, they play a relevant role in marine invertebrates that lack complex sensing organs, as it is the case of jellyfish and other cnidarians. My thesis project aims to use an experimental chemical ecology approach to detect and describe the role of chemical cues in different ecological processes of jellyfish. The outcomes of this research will advance our understanding of the underlying chemical signalling involved in the life cycles of jellyfish. Additionally, this knowledge could be linked to relevant aspects of the population dynamics of jellyfish, especially their bloom events and their associated impacts on human activities.

### Research Expertise

- Marine Ecology
- Cnidarians and other invertebrates
- Invasive species
- Coastal ecosystems