

Levi Raskin

levi_raskin@berkeley.edu | leviraskin.com | [GitHub Profile](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Education

- Fall 2024 – ongoing PhD candidate in Integrative Biology with designated emphasis in computational biology, University of California, Berkeley.
Advisor: Dr. John Huelsenbeck.
Dissertation committee: Dr. John Huelsenbeck, Dr. Rasmus Nielsen, and Dr. Jack Tseng.
- 2020 – 2024 Haverford College, Biology and Anthropology double major at Bryn Mawr College via Haverford-Bryn Mawr Bi-College consortium.
Advisors: Dr. Maja Šešelj and Dr. Bárbara Bitarello
Honors: cum laude, departmental honors in Biology, departmental honors in Anthropology

Accepted manuscripts

Chatar, Narimane; Vankelst, Melvin; Pérez Ramos, Alejandro, Pollock, Tahlia; Tamagnini, Davide; Michaud, Margo; **Raskin, Levi Y.**; Tseng, Z. Jack (accepted). Novel experimental insights into the functional evolution of mammalian carnassials. *Science*.

Manuscripts in review

Raskin, Levi Y.; Bitarello, Bárbara D.; Šešelj, Maja; Stroustrup, Sofia; Li, Jacky; and Huelsenbeck, John (in revision) Principal Components Analysis fails to recover phylogenetic structure in hominins. *American Journal of Biological Anthropology*.
Currently available on bioRxiv as a preprint: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.10.31.685754>

Preprints

Raskin, Levi Y.; Šešelj, Maja; Huelsenbeck, John; Lim, Wonseop; Li, Jacky; O'Hara, Mackie C.; and Bitarello, Bárbara D. (2026). A hierarchical Bayesian framework accommodates intraspecific and interspecific variation in multivariate traits. Submitted to *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. <https://doi.org/10.64898/2026.05.28.728593>

Jacky Kaiyuan Li, Wonseop Lim, Fiona Margaret Callahan, **Levi Yoder Raskin**, Maya Lemmon-Kishi, Rasmus Nielsen (2026). STEM-LM: Spatio-Temporal Ecological Modeling via Masked Language Model for Joint Species Distribution Modeling. bioRxiv. Submitted to NeurIPS as a conference paper. <https://doi.org/10.64898/2026.05.13.724718>

Raskin, Levi Y.; Šešelj, Maja; and Bitarello, Bárbara D. (2024). Assessing phylogenetic information content and redundancy in hominin craniodental traits. bioRxiv.
<https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.10.31.616875>

Appointments

- Summer 2026 Research intern, Quantum Algorithms and Applications Collaboratory, Sandia National Laboratories, Livermore
- Fall 2025 – ongoing Graduate Student Researcher, Department of Integrative Biology, University of California, Berkeley
- Fall 2024 – Spring '25 Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Integrative Biology, University of California, Berkeley

Conference Presentations

Raskin, Levi Y.; Šešelj, Maja; Bitarello, Bárbara D.; Lim, Wonseop; Li, Jacky; O’Hara, Mackie C.; and Huelsenbeck, John (2026). A hierarchical Bayesian framework for simultaneously inferring evolutionary and intraspecific covariances applied to great ape dental development. Evolution. Cleveland, OH.

Raskin, Levi Y.; Lim, Wonseop; Li, Jacky; Tseng, Jack; Šešelj, Maja; Bitarello, Bárbara D.; and Huelsenbeck, John (2026). Phylogenetic simulation estimates recovered morphological variation in the hominin fossil record. Paleoanthropology Society. Denver, CO.

Raskin, Levi Y.; Bitarello, Bárbara D.; O’Hara, Mackie C.; and Huelsenbeck, John (2026). Principal Components Analysis is inaccurate for Plio-Pleistocene hominin systematics. American Association of Biological Anthropologists. Denver, CO.

Chatar, Narimane; Vankelst, Melvin; Pérez Ramos, Alejandro; Pollock, Tahlia I.; Tamagnini, Davide; Michaud, Margot; **Raskin, Levi Y.**; Tseng, Z. Jack (2026). From innovation to constraint: experimental insights into the evolution of mammalian teeth. Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology.

Chatar, Narimane; Vankelst, Melvin; Pérez Ramos, Alejandro; Pollock, Tahlia I.; Tamagnini, Davide; Michaud, Margot; **Raskin, Levi Y.**; Tseng, Z. Jack (2025). Supertooth: Slicing, crushing, and the limits of carnassial design. Society for Vertebrate Paleontology.

Raskin, Levi Y.; Bitarello, Bárbara D.; O’Hara, Mackie C.; and Huelsenbeck, John (2025). Principal Components Analysis is inaccurate for Plio-Pleistocene hominin systematics. European Society for the study of Human Evolution. Paris, France.

Raskin, Levi Y.; Bitarello, Bárbara D.; O’Hara, Mackie C.; and Šešelj, Maja (2025). Hidden state prediction suggests perikymata are unlikely to differentiate Middle Pleistocene hominins. American Association of Biological Anthropologists. Baltimore, MD.

Raskin, Levi Y.; Šešelj, Maja; and Bitarello, Bárbara D. (2024). The effect of trait redundancy on parsimony-inferred tree topologies from a hominin character matrix. Paleoanthropology Society. Los Angeles, CA.

Raskin, Levi Y.; O’Hara, Mackie C.; Erskine, Amy I.; and Šešelj, Maja. (2024). Moving great ape osteobiographies forward: digitally linking macro and micro data and media at the individual level. American Association of Biological Anthropologists. Los Angeles, CA.

Raskin, Levi Y.; Reeves, Jonathan S.; Douglass, Matthew J.; and Braun, David R. (2023). Least-effort knapping as a baseline to study social transmission in the Early Stone Age. Society for American Archaeology. Portland, Oregon.

Reeves, Jonathan S.; **Raskin, Levi Y.**; Douglass, Matthew J.; and Braun, David R. (2023). Establishing baselines for stone tool variation across the Early Pleistocene: A least effort approach. Society for American Archaeology. Portland, Oregon.

Fellowships

Spring 2025

Department of Energy Computational Science Graduate Fellowship.

Spring 2025 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship honorable mention.

Awards

Spring 2026 Paleanthropology Student travel award: \$250

Fall 2025 European Society for the study of Human Evolution Student Travel Award: €200

Spring 2025 American Association of Biological Anthropology Mildred Trotter student presentation prize.

Spring 2025 American Association of Biological Anthropology William S. Pollitzer Student Travel Award: \$595.

Fall 2023 Louis Green Fund and the Koshland Integrated Natural Sciences Center Conference Fund: \$2400

Fall 2023 Bryn Mawr College Award for Conference Travel: \$450

Summer 2023 Bryn Mawr College Summer Science Research Program Stipend

Spring 2023 Barry Goldwater Scholarship

Fall 2022 Louis Green Fund: \$1500

Spring 2022 Pauline Adams Fund for Excellence in Anthropology: \$4500

Spring 2022 Deborah Lafer-Scher International Internship: \$1800

Spring 2022 Hurford Center Breaking the Rules Fellowship: \$3200

Spring 2022 Frederica de Laguna Fund: \$700

Research Experience

2024 – ongoing

Graduate research:

Integrating geometric morphometric data with likelihood-based phylogenetic inference. Advised by Professor John Huelsenbeck (University of California, Berkeley).

2020 – 2024

Bachelor's research:

Investigated the utility of great ape perikymata for taxonomy. Mentored by Professors Maja Šešelj and Bárbara Bitarello (Bryn Mawr College).

Experimental archaeology research into social transmission in the Early Pleistocene using 3D geometric morphometrics. With Jonathan Reeves (Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology).

Collections Experience

2024 – ongoing

University of California Museum of Paleontology (Berkeley, California) – affiliated student.

2024 – ongoing

University of California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology (Berkeley, California)

- 2023 Field Museum of Natural History (Chicago, Illinois) – 3D scanning great ape specimens for senior thesis research.
- 2022 Field Museum of Natural History (Chicago, Illinois) – dental mold making of great ape specimens for senior thesis research.

Fieldwork Experience

- 2022 Excavation at a 1.5 Ma Acheulean site in Koobi Fora, Kenya. Led by Dr. Jonathan Reeves as part of the Koobi Fora Field School.
- 2021 Excavation at the ancestral Wichita site of Etzanao, near Arkansas City, Kansas. Led by Dr. Donald Blakeslee and Dr. Crystal Dozier.

Workshops

- 2025 Center for Computational Evolutionary Morphology Stochastic Morphometrics Workshop (Copenhagen, Denmark). Presented on applications of stochastic morphometric models for hominin systematics.
- 2024 Phylogenetic Biogeography Workshop (Washington University in St. Louis). Learned to do phylogenetic biogeography in RevBayes.
- 2022 Intro to GIS using R (University of Reading). Learned how to integrate R and GIS for spatial analysis.
- 2022 Koobi Fora Research and Training Project Workshop (George Washington University). Presented my research on the Acheulean industry and received feedback on my study design and research.
- 2021 TOOTH workshop (University of Zurich). Learned how to do dental occlusal wear and fingerprinting.

Courses Taught

- Spring 2025 UC Berkeley Integrative Biology 35AC Human Biological Variation, Graduate Student Instructor
- Fall 2024 UC Berkeley Integrative Biology Bio 1B lab, Graduate Student Instructor
- Fall 2023 Bryn Mawr College Biology Biostatistics with R, undergraduate TA
- Fall 2022 Bryn Mawr College Anthropology Introduction to Biological Anthropology, undergraduate TA

Mentoring Experience

- Fall 2025 Mentored undergraduate at the Northwestern University via the Goldwater Ambassadors program.
- Fall 2025 Mentored undergraduate at the Cornell University via the Goldwater Ambassadors program.

- Summer 2025– ongoing Mentored a high school student as part of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy summer Student Inquiry and Research program.
- Summer 2025 Helped mentor two CSU Fullerton students via an NIH funded program to support student access to computational biology research.
- Fall 2024– Jan 2025 Mentored undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire via the Goldwater Ambassadors program.
- Summer 2024 Helped mentor a Bryn Mawr College Summer Science Research student studying fluctuating asymmetry in incremental dental microstructures to test hypotheses about embodied morphologies in those tissues.
- Summer 2023 Helped mentor a University of St. Andrews summer research student 3D scanning dental casts and conducting archival research into the Field Museum of Natural History great apes.
- 2023 Mentored undergraduate at University of Hartford via the Goldwater Ambassadors program.

Service

- Spring 2026 – ongoing Ran a phylogenetics methods reading group at UC Berkeley.
- 2025 reviewer, *Systematic Biology*.
- 2025 Helped organize the annual Integrative Biology department research symposium.
- 2024 Ran a phylogenetics methods reading group at UC Berkeley.
- 2023 Helped design and write an R package for teaching biostatistics at Bryn Mawr College.
- 2022 – 2023 Helped plan the “Inclusivity in Fieldwork” workshop with Yale’s Paleoarchaeology Laboratory to develop more ethical fieldwork practices drawing from a diversity of disciplines which do fieldwork.

Professional Memberships

Society for Systematic Biologists

American Association of Biological Anthropologists

European Society for the study of Human Evolution

Paleoanthropology Society