

Levi Raskin

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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

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

Preprints

- 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>

Manuscripts in preparation

- Raskin, Levi Y.**; Šešelj, Maja; Huelsenbeck, John; Lim, Wonseop; Li, Jacky; Bitarello, Bárbara D.; and O'Hara, Mackie C. (in prep; near-submission). A hierarchical Bayesian framework unifies population and phylogenetic inference in multivariate traits. Intending to submit to *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Appointments

- 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.**; 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. Paleanthropology 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.

Grants

Pending Leakey Foundation Research Grant. *A Bayesian morphometric framework for resolving hominin origins and the differentiation of Homo*. Requested: \$8,958.

Awards

Spring 2026 Paleoanthropology 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	<u>Graduate research:</u> Integrating geometric morphometric data with likelihood-based phylogenetic inference. Advised by Professor John Huelsenbeck (University of California, Berkeley).
2020 – 2024	<u>Bachelor's research:</u> 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) – 3D scanning great ape specimens for phylogenetics research.
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. She is a coauthor on my 2024 AABA podium presentation.
- 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