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

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*.

Raskin, Levi Y.; Bitarello, Bárbara D.; Šešelj, Maja; Stroustrup, Sofia; Li, Jacky; and Huelsenbeck, John (accepted). 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

Manuscripts in review

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*.
Currently available on bioRxiv as a preprint:
https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.64898/2026.05.28.728593v1

Preprints

Jacky Kaiyuan Li, Wonseop Lim, Finn 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.; Šešelj, Maja; 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.; Šešelj, Maja; 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	Paleoanthropology Student travel award
Fall 2025	European Society for the study of Human Evolution Student Travel Award
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
Fall 2023	Louis Green Fund and the Koshland Integrated Natural Sciences Center Conference Fund
Fall 2023	Bryn Mawr College Award for Conference Travel
Summer 2023	Bryn Mawr College Summer Science Research Program Stipend
Spring 2023	Barry Goldwater Scholarship
Fall 2022	Louis Green Fund
Spring 2022	Pauline Adams Fund for Excellence in Anthropology
Spring 2022	Deborah Lafer-Scher International Internship
Spring 2022	Hurford Center Breaking the Rules Fellowship
Spring 2022	Frederica de Laguna Fund

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 an Acheulean technology site in Koobi Fora, Kenya. Led by Dr. Jonathan Reeves as part of the Koobi Fora Field School.

2021	Excavation at the ancestral Wichita city of Etzanoa, 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