

René D. Clark

Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources | Rutgers University
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EDUCATION

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ **Cumulative GPA:** 4.00/4.00

Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolution (Expected May 2022)

- **Dissertation Title:** Spatial and temporal patterns of adaptation and adaptive potential in a changing ocean
- **Advisor:** Malin Pinsky, Ph.D.
- **Committee Members:** Debashish Bhattacharya, Ph.D., Holly Kindsvater Ph.D & Peter Smouse, Ph.D.

Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA **Cumulative GPA:** 3.95/4.00

M.S. in Biology – with Thesis (May 2017)

- **Thesis Title:** The effect of microtopography on blackfly larval settlement & an analysis of female postcopulatory behavior in *Drosophila suzukii*
- **Advisor:** Jonathan Fingerut Ph.D.
- **Committee Members:** Scott McRobert Ph.D. & Matthew Nelson Ph.D.

Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA **Cumulative GPA:** 3.98/4.00

B.S. in Biology – Ecology Option (May 2014)

- Graduated with Highest Honors (top 10 students in program)

PROFESSIONAL & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher, Global Change Ecology & Evolution Lab 2017 – Present
Ecology & Evolution Graduate Program, Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ

Graduate Student Researcher, Fingerut Lab 2015 – 2017
Biology Graduate Program, Saint Joseph's University
Philadelphia, NJ

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Baums Lab August 2012 – January 2014
Biology Department, Pennsylvania State University
State College, PA

Animal Husbandry Intern, Sea Turtles & Seahorses June – August 2012
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
Pittsburgh, PA

Laboratory Intern, Telecardia Inc. May – August 2011
Pittsburgh PA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

INSTRUCTION

Teaching Assistant , Biological Research Lab <i>School of Biological Sciences, Rutgers University</i>	January – May 2021
Teaching Assistant , Conservation Biology <i>Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources Department, Rutgers University</i>	January – May 2020, 2021
Head Teaching Assistant , Principles of Biology <i>School of Biological Sciences, Rutgers University</i>	August 2020 – December 2020
Ecology Teacher , Little Owls Enrichment <i>Cranbury, NJ</i>	2018-2021
GeoKids Fellow , Saint Joseph's University <i>Philadelphia School District, Philadelphia PA</i>	2015 – 2017
Science Camp Teacher , Ross Twp. Summer Program <i>Ross Township, Pittsburgh PA</i>	June – July 2014, 2015 & 2017
AmeriCorps Member , City Year <i>Philadelphia School District, Philadelphia PA</i>	August 2014 – June 2015
Teaching Assistant , Biology 427 (Evolution) <i>Biology Department, Pennsylvania State University</i>	August – December 2013

LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

Instructor , Bioinformatics & Genomics Workshop <i>Silliman University, Dumaguete Philippines</i>	June 2018, 2019
Guest lecture , Molecular Ecology (Instructor: Malin Pinsky)	April 2019

GRANTS, HONORS, & AWARDS

RCN for Evolution in Changing Seas Working Group Grant (\$10,000)	2020
Conference Travel Award (\$500)	2019
Ecology & Evolution Small Grant (\$1000)	2018
SEBS Graduate School Excellence Fellowship	2017 - 2018
Sigma Xi Honors Society	2017
Outstanding Student Presentation, NABFA	2017
Saint Joseph Travel Award (\$300)	2017
GeoKids Fellowship, Saint Joseph's University	2015 – 2017
Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society	2013 – 2015
Evan Pugh Scholar Senior Award, Pennsylvania State University	2014
Undergraduate Research Grant, Pennsylvania State University	2013 & 2014
Evan Pugh Scholar Junior Award, Pennsylvania State University	2013
Dean's List, Pennsylvania State University	2010 – 2014

PAPERS

René D. Clark, Matthew L. Aardema, Peter Andolfatto, Paul H. Barber, Akihisa Hattori, Jennifer A. Hoey, Humberto R. Montes Jr. & Malin L. Pinsky. (2021) Genomic signatures of spatially divergent selection at clownfish range margins. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, **288**:20210407. (doi:10.1098/rspb.2021.0407)

Zoë J. Kitchel, R. M. W. J. Bandara, Jaelyn T. Bos, **René D. Clark**, Daniel L. Forrest, Malin L. Pinsky. (2021) Book Review: Ocean Recovery: A Sustainable Future for Global Fisheries? *Fisheries*. (doi:10.1002/fsh.10580)

René Clark, Marissa DiPiero, Jonathan T. Fingerut, & Scott P. McRobert. (2020) An analysis of female postcopulatory behavior in *Drosophila suzukii* and *Drosophila biarmipes*. *Journal of Insect Behavior*, **33**:193-200. (doi:10.1007/s10905-020-09761-x)

René Clark. (2017) The effect of micro-topography on *Simulium tribulatum* larval settlement and recruitment & An analysis of female postcopulatory behavior in *Drosophila suzukii* and *Drosophila biarmipes*. Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA. (Master's Thesis – print edition)

PRESENTATIONS

René Clark & Malin Pinsky. Genomic signatures of spatially divergent selection at clownfish range margins. *Evolution Conference*, Virtual. June 2021 (faux-live talk)

René Clark & Malin Pinsky. Genomic signatures of spatially divergent selection in *Amphiprion clarkii* populations across a thermal gradient. *Ecological Society of America Conference*, Louisville KY. August 2019 (poster presentation)

René Clark & Malin Pinsky. Genomic signatures of spatially divergent selection in *Amphiprion clarkii* populations across a thermal gradient. *Rutgers Ecology & Evolution Graduate Student Association Seminar*, New Brunswick NJ. April 2019

René Clark. A tale of two flies: The effect of micro-topography on *Simulium tribulatum* larval settlement and recruitment & An analysis of female postcopulatory behavior in *Drosophila suzukii* and *Drosophila biarmipes*. *Master's Thesis Public Defense*, Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA. June 2017 (presentation)

René Clark & Marissa DiPiero. Reproductive behavior in *Drosophila suzukii* (update). *Sigma Xi Research Symposium*, Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA. April 2017 (poster presentation)

René Clark. The effect of micro-topography on *Simulium tribulatum* larval settlement and recruitment. *North American Black Fly Association Conference*, Harrisburg, PA. March 2017 (student presentation)

René Clark, Nicole Sullivan, Mark Tingey. Small but powerful: what can we learn from flies, worms, and yeast? *Science on the Hill*, Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA. October 2016. (invited speakers)

René Clark, Hannah Bartling, Marissa Diorio, & Marissa DiPiero. Reproductive behavior in *Drosophila suzukii*. *Sigma Xi Research Symposium*, Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA. April 2016. (poster presentation)

René Clark. The effect of triggerfish and mussel interactions on coral reproduction.
Undergraduate Research Symposium, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA. April 2013. (poster presentation)

MENTORING

North Hills High School senior, Daniel Ross-Miller, “Genetic diversity between populations of *Amphiprion clarkii*”

*1st place in regional Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) competition

*Special award in state PJAS competition

Rutgers University undergraduate, Marial Malabag, “The effect of reproductive traits on the maintenance of genetic diversity in marine species.”

Rutgers University undergraduate, Adriana Chumacero, “Reproductive biology of the yellow-tail barracuda in the Philippines.”

Rutgers University undergraduate, Marhuma Zaman, “An analysis of gut and gill microbial diversity in *Leiognathus equulus*.”

ACADEMIC & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Outreach Chair, Ecology & Evolution Graduate Student Association Board August 2020 – Present
Rutgers University, NJ

Secretary, Ecology & Evolution Graduate Student Association Board August 2020 - Present
Rutgers University, NJ

Treasurer, Ecology & Evolution Graduate Student Association Board 2018-2020
Rutgers University, NJ

Vice President, Biology Graduate Student Council 2016 – 2017
Saint Joseph’s University, PA

Rules & Regulations Captain, IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (THON) 2014
Pennsylvania State University

Rules & Regulations Committee Member, THON 2011 – 2013
Pennsylvania State University

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Certified in Adult/Child CPR & AED Administration • Certified PADI Open Water Diver • Experienced in R, Unix, RegEx, ImageJ, & OpenBUGS • Member of Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society, Sigma Xi Honors Society, Ecological Society of America & Society for the Study of Evolution