

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 , Conservation Biology (Instructor: Rae Winfree)	April 2020, 2021
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 2020 - 2021
Rutgers University, NJ

Secretary, Ecology & Evolution Graduate Student Association Board 2020 - 2021
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