

René D. Clark

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EDUCATION

- 2017-2023 Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolution, Rutgers University. Advisor: Dr. Malin Pinsky.
2015-2017 M.S. in Biology, Saint Joseph's University. Advisor: Dr. Jonathan Fingerut.
2010-2014 B.S. in Biology, Pennsylvania State University, *summa cum laude*.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2024-Present NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Drexel University
2023-2024 Postdoctoral Researcher, Drexel University
2017-2023 Graduate Research Assistant, Rutgers University
2015-2017 Graduate Research Assistant, Saint Joseph's University
2014-2015 Americorps Member, City Year, Philadelphia School District
2012-2014 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Pennsylvania State University
2012 Animal Husbandry Intern, Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
2011 Laboratory Technician, Telecardia Inc.

GRANTS, HONORS, AWARDS (total: \$295,800)

- 2024 NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Biology: Award #2410397 (\$240,000)
2023 NSF Discover ACCESS Grant, co-PI
2021 CRRSAA/HEERF Doctoral Advancement Award (\$35,000)
2020 RCN for Evolution in Changing Seas Working Group Grant (\$16,000)
2019 Rutgers Ecology & Evolution Departmental Conference Travel Award (\$500)
2018 Ecology & Evolution Departmental Small Grant Award (\$1,000)
2017 Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences Excellence Fellowship
2017 Outstanding Student Presentation, NAFBA
2017 Saint Joseph's University Travel Award (\$300)
2013 & 2014 Pennsylvania State University Undergraduate Research Grant (\$3,000 total)
2013 & 2014 Pennsylvania State University Evan Pugh Scholar Award

PUBLICATIONS

Bold is self. *Italicized* is undergraduate mentee.

In review

- Giancarli, S. M., Kasprovicz, A. E., Balman, M., **Clark, R. D.**, Kupchella, S. C., Lacy, L. J., Moeller, A. H., Suzuki, A. T., & Phifer-Rixey, M. V. (2026). Dietary and gut microbial variation among urban and rural populations of house mice (*Mus musculus domesticus*). *bioRxiv*. (doi:10.64898/2026.04.30.721966) In Review.
- Malabag, M. J.*, **Clark, R. D.**, & Pinsky, M. L. (2025). Variation in marine genetic diversity across life history traits. *Evolution*. In Revision. (*manuscript available upon request*)

Peer-reviewed publications

- Fitz, K. S., Abesamis, R. A., Baldesimo, J. G. P., Bucol, A. A., **Clark, R. D.**, Garcia, E., Lopez, I. R., Magnuson, S. F., *Malabag, M. J.*, Muallil, R. N., Parenti, L. R., Reid, B. R., Santos, M. D., Bird, C. E., Carpenter, K. E., & Pinsky, M. L. (2026). Preservation of genetic diversity and selection over a

century in a coral reef fish (*Taeniamia zosterophora*) in the Philippines. *The American Naturalist*, 207, 196-213. (doi:10.1086/738468)

9. **Clark, R. D.**, Reid, B. R., Garcia, E., Malabag, M., Waples, R. S., Abesamis, R. A., Baldisimo, J. G. P., Bucol, A. A., Fitz, K. S., Magnuson, S. F., Muallil, R. N., Nanola Jr., C. L., Roberts, R., Whalen J. C., Bird, C. E., Carpenter, K. E., & Pinsky, M. L. (2025). Anthropocene genetic diversity loss in the marine tropics. *PNAS*, 122, e2513012122. (doi:10.1073/pnas.2513012122)
* Associated news article in *Science*: DNA from rum-soaked fishes chronicles century of environmental change. (doi:10.1126/science.zzj2h2m)
8. Paz-Vinas, I., Vandergast, A. G., Schmidt, C., Leigh, D. M., Blanchet S., **Clark, R. D.**, Crandall, E. D., De Kort, H., Falgout, J., Garroway, C. J., Karachaliou, E., Kershaw, F., O'Brien, D., Pinsky, M. L., Segelbacher, G., & Hunter, M. E. (2025). Uneven genetic data limits biodiversity assessments in protected areas globally. *Frontiers in Ecology & the Environment*, e2867. (doi:10.1002/fee.2867)
7. **Clark, R. D.**, Catalano, K. A., Fitz, K. S., Garcia, E., Jaynes, K. E., Reid, B. N., Sawkins, A., Snead, A. A., Whalen, J. C., & Pinsky, M. L. (2025). The practice and promise of temporal genomics for measuring evolutionary responses to global change. *Molecular Ecology Resources*, 25, e13789. (doi:10.1111/1755-0998.13789)
6. **Clark, R. D.** & Pinsky, M. L. (2024). Global patterns of nuclear and mitochondrial genetic diversity in marine fishes. *Ecology and Evolution*, 14, e11365. (doi:10.1002/ece3.11365)
5. Pinsky, M. L., **Clark, R. D.**, & Bos, J. T. (2023). Coral reef population genomics in an age of global change. *Annual Review of Genetics*, 57, 87-115. (doi:10.1146/annurev-genet-022123-102748)
4. Snead, A. & **Clark, R. D.** (2022). The biological hierarchy, time, and temporal 'omics in evolutionary biology: A perspective. *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, 62, 1872-1886. (doi:10.1093/icb/icac138)
3. **Clark, R. D.**, Aardema, M. L., Andolfatto, P., Barber, P. H., Hattori, A., Hoey, J. A., Montes Jr., H. R., & Pinsky, M. L. (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)
2. **Clark, R. D.**, DiPiero, M., Fingerut, J. T., & McRobert, S. P. (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)

Other

1. Kitchel, Z. J., Bandara, R. M. W. J., Bos, J. T., **Clark, R. D.**, Forrest, D. L., & Pinsky, M. L. (2021). Book Review: Ocean Recovery: A Sustainable Future for Global Fisheries? *Fisheries*, 46, 201. (doi:10.1002/fsh.10580)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instruction

2026	Research in Evolutionary Genomics, Drexel University (quarter course, data lead)
2025	Quantitative Methods for Ecology & Conservation, ASU Online (quarter course, co-instructor)
2023	Principles of Ecology, Rutgers University (semester course, teaching assistant)
2023	Quantitative Methods for Ecology & Conservation, ASU Online (quarter course, teaching assistant)
2020-2023	Conservation Biology, Rutgers University (semester course, teaching assistant)
2021	General Biology, Rutgers University (semester course, teaching assistant)
2020	Principles of Biology, Rutgers University (semester course, head teaching assistant)

2018 Special Topics in Ecology, Rutgers University (semester course, instructor)
2013 Evolution, Pennsylvania State University (semester course, teaching assistant)

Workshop instruction

2022 Bioinformatics & Genomics Workshop, Silliman University, Philippines (instructor)
2018 & 2019 Bioinformatics & Genomics Workshop, Silliman University, Philippines (instructor)

Guest lectures

2026 Genetics & Evolution, Drexel University, *Speciation*.
2025 Genetics & Evolution, Drexel University, *Speciation*.
2024 Genetics & Evolution, Drexel University, *Speciation*.
2023 Principles of Ecology, Rutgers University, *Biodiversity & Biomes*.
2023 Principles of Ecology, Rutgers University, *Mimicry*.
2023 Conservation Biology, Rutgers University, *Human Cultures & Ideas*.
2022 Ecological Data Analysis, Rutgers University, *Introduction to HPCs*.
2022 Ecological Data Analysis, Rutgers University, *Introduction to Git & GitHub*.
2021 Conservation Biology, Rutgers University, *Human Culture & Ideas*.
2020 Conservation Biology, Rutgers University, *Invasive Species*.
2019 Molecular Ecology, Rutgers University, *Selection & Adaptation*.

MENTORING

*indicates high-school student

2026 Matthew Peck* - Demographic modeling of *Atherinomorus endrachtensis*
2026 Wyatt Lipinski* - Demographic modeling of *Atherinomorus endrachtensis*
2025-2026 Lily Tran - Tajima's D in urban mice populations
2024-2025 Eli Parker* - Genetic diversity of tuna populations
2024-2025 Arif Yildirim* - Genetic diversity in the flora & fauna of Greece & Turkey
2022-2023 Alyssa McCoy* - Genetic diversity of *Amphiprion clarkii*
2022-2023 Emma Patsilevas* - Genetic connectivity of *Amphiprion clarkii* populations
2020-2023 Marial Malabag - The effect of reproductive traits on the maintenance of genetic diversity in marine species
2020 Daniel Ross-Miller* - Genetic diversity between populations of *Amphiprion clarkii*
1st place in regional Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) competition
2019-2020 Adriana Chumacero - Reproductive biology of the yellow-tail barracuda in the Philippines
2018-2020 Marhuma Zaman - An analysis of gut and gill microbial diversity in *Leiognathus equulus*
2016-2017 Marissa DiPiero - An analysis of reproductive behavior in *Drosophila suzukii*

WORKING GROUPS, INVITED SEMINARS, CONFERENCES

Working groups

2023-present Standardizing, Aggregating, Analyzing, and Disseminating Global Wildlife Genetic and Genomic Data for Improved Management and Advancement of Community Best Practices Working Group, John Wesley Powell Center for Analysis and Synthesis
2020-2023 Temporal Genomics Working Group, RCN for Evolution in Changing Seas (lead)

Invited seminars

2025 Texas A&M Corpus Christi, Temporal Genomics Seminar Series.

2022 RCN for Evolution in Changing Seas Training & Integration Workshop.
2022 University of Pittsburgh, Sustainability Seminar Series.
2022 St. Joseph's University, Biology Seminar Series.
2016 Saint Joseph's University, Science on the Hill.

Contributed talks and posters

2026 Population, Evolutionary, and Quantitative Genetics Conference (poster).
2025 Conference of the American Society of Naturalists (**invited talk**).
2024 Evolution (talk).
2021 Evolution (talk).
2019 Ecological Society of America (poster).
2017 North American Black Fly Association (talk).

OUTREACH & SERVICE

Reviewer for NSF, *The American Naturalist*, *Ecology & Evolution*, *EMBO Reports*, *Estuaries & Coasts*, *G3 Genes|Genomes|Genetics*, *Gene Reports*, *Global Ecology and Biogeography*, *Journal of Animal Ecology*, *Molecular Ecology*, *PNAS*

2025 Start Talking Science, presenter
2024-2025 Drexel Academy of Natural Sciences, Member's Night presenter
2018-2023 Ecology Teacher, Little Owls Enrichment (afterschool ecology to 1st-5th grade)
2014-2017 Science Camp Teacher, Ross Township Summer Program
2016-2017 St. Joseph's Biology Graduate Student Council (Vice President)
2014 Pennsylvania State's IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (Rules & Regulations Captain 2014, Rules & Regulations Committee Member 2011-13)

Pennsylvania public schools

2025-2026 SLAMS Instructor, Philadelphia School District
2025 STEAM Day Instructor, Philadelphia School District
2019-present High school student research mentor, North Hills High School
2015-2017 GeoKids Fellow, Saint Joseph's University (instructor to K-5th classrooms)
2014-2015 AmeriCorps Volunteer, City Year, Philadelphia School District

Rutgers University

2018-2022 Shorebowl volunteer
2018-2021 Ecology & Evolution Graduate Student Association (Outreach Chair 2020-21, Secretary 2020-21, Treasurer 2018-20)
2019 Geology Museum, open house presenter

MEMBERSHIPS

American Society of Naturalists, Association for Women in Science, Ecological Society of America, Genetics Society of America, Society for the Study of Evolution