

RACHNA B. REDDY

Curriculum Vitae

January 11, 2022

Department of Human Evolutionary Biology
Harvard University
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[Google Scholar Profile](#)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Biological anthropology, primatology, social relationships, kinship, development, life history, adolescence, emotional learning, reproductive strategies, behavioral ecology, developmental psychology, social cognition, human evolution, mental health

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2020-present Mind Brain Behavior Interfaculty Initiative Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Human Evolutionary Biology & Department of Psychology, Harvard University

EDUCATION

2020 Ph.D. in Anthropology, University of Michigan
2012 B.A. with Distinction in Evolutionary Anthropology, Duke University

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- 2022 Negrey JD, Mitani JC, Wrangham RW, Otali E, **Reddy RB**, Pappas TE, Grindle KA, Gern JE, Machanda ZP, Muller MN, Langergraber KE, Emery Thompson M, Goldberg TL. Viruses associated with ill health in wild chimpanzees. *American Journal of Primatology*
- 2021 **Reddy RB**, Langergraber KE, Sandel AA, Vigilant L, & Mitani JC. The development of affiliative and coercive reproductive tactics in male chimpanzees. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences* 288, 20202679
- 2021 Sandel AA & **Reddy RB**. Sociosexual behaviour in wild chimpanzees occurs in variable contexts and is frequent between same-sex partners. *Behaviour* 158(3-4), 249-276
- 2021 Clark IR, Sandel AA, **Reddy RB**, & Langergraber KE. A preliminary analysis of wound care and other-regarding behavior in wild chimpanzees at Ngogo, Kibale National Park, Uganda. *Primates*
- 2020 **Reddy RB** & Mitani JC. Adolescent and young adult male chimpanzees form affiliative, yet aggressive relationships with females. *Journal of Human Evolution*, 144, 102813

- 2020 **Reddy RB** & Sandel AA. Social relationships between chimpanzee sons and mothers endure but change during adolescence and adulthood. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 74(150), 1-14
- 2020 **Reddy RB** & Wellman HW. Caregiving relationships as evolutionary and developmental bases of obligation. Commentary on target article: M. Tomasello, Moral psychology of obligation. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 43, E83
- 2019 **Reddy RB** & Mitani JC. Social relationships and caregiving behavior between recently orphaned chimpanzee siblings. *Primates* 60(5):389 – 400
- 2019 Negrey JD, **Reddy RB**, Scully EJ, Phillips-Garcia S, Owens L, Langergraber KE, Mitani JC, Emery Thompson M, Wrangham RW, Muller MN, Otali E, Machanda Z, Hyeroba D, Grindle KA, Pappas TE, Palmenberg AC, Gern JE, & Goldberg TL. Simultaneous outbreaks of respiratory disease in chimpanzees caused by distinct viruses of human origin. *Emerging Microbes & Infections* 8(1),139-149
- 2017 Sandel AA, **Reddy RB**, & Mitani JC. Adolescent male chimpanzees do not form a dominance hierarchy with their peers. *Primates* 58(1), 39-49
- 2016 **Reddy RB**, Krupenye C, MacLean EL, & Hare B. No evidence for yawn contagion in lemurs. *Animal Cognition* 19(5), 889-898
- 2015 **Reddy RB**, MacLean EL, Sandel AA, & Hare B. Social inhibitory control in five lemur species. *Primates* 56(3), 241-252
- 2014 MacLean EL, Hare B, Nunn CL, Addessi E, Amici F, Anderson RC, Aureli F, Baker J M, Bania AE, Barnard AM, Boogert NJ, Brannon EM, Bray EE, Bray J, Brent LJN, Burkart JM, Call J, Cantlon JF, Cheke LG, Clayton NS, Delgado MM, DiVincenti LJ, Fujita K, Herrmann E, Hiramatsu C, Jacobs LF, Jordan KE, Laude JR, Leimgruber KL, Messer EJE, Moura, AC de A, Ostojic L, Picard A, Platt ML, Plotnik JM, Range F, Reader SM, **Reddy RB**, Sandel AA, Santos LR, Schumann K, Seed AM, Sewall KB, Shaw RC, Slocombe KE, Su Y, Takimoto A, Tan J, Tao R, van Schaik CP, Virányi Z, Visalberghi E, Wade JC, Watanabe A, Widness J, Young JK, Zentall TR, & Zhao, Y. The evolution of self-control. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 111(20), E2140-E2148
- 2013 MacLean EL, Sandel AA, Bray J, Oldenkamp RE, **Reddy RB**, & Hare B. Group size predicts social but not nonsocial cognition. *PLoS One* 8(6), 0066359
- In revision **Reddy RB**, Echelbarger M, Toomajian N, Hammond T & Wellman HW. Children help dogs spontaneously
- In revision **Reddy RB** & Wellman HW. Children's reasoning about a basic aspect of consciousness in others
- In prep **Reddy RB**, Samuni L, Surbeck. Bonobo mothers are less likely than chimpanzee mothers are to intervene on behalf of offspring during aggressive conflicts

Books

- In progress *Chimpanzee Boys*, a coming-of-age novel based on my research on wild chimpanzees. Featuring an adolescent chimpanzee as its protagonist, the book details actual events that precede the 2018 fission of the Ngogo chimpanzee community.

RESEARCH GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

External

- 2016 **National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant**, “The development of male reproductive strategies in wild chimpanzees,” Co-PI (\$17,146)
- 2016 **L.S.B. Leakey Foundation Grant**, “The development of male reproductive strategies in wild chimpanzees,” Co-PI (\$5,272)
- 2016 **James F. Nacey Fellowship, Nacey-Maggioncalda Foundation**, “The development of male reproductive strategies in wild chimpanzees,” PI (\$5,000)
- 2015 **National Geographic Young Explorer Grant**, National Geographic Society, “The development of male-female social relationships in male chimpanzees,” PI (\$4,910)
- 2014 **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship**, “The development of aggression in male chimpanzees, PI (\$132,000)

Internal

- 2020 **Mind Brain Behavior Interfaculty Initiative Postdoctoral Fellowship Award, Harvard University**, “Pathways to emotional well-being in adolescent apes,” PI (\$143,655)
- 2019 **Rackham Graduate School Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan**, “The development of male reproductive strategies in wild chimpanzees,” PI (\$32,640)
- 2017 **Junior Fellowship, Gayle Morris Sweetland Center for Writing, University of Michigan**, “Coming of Age as an Ape,” PI (\$6,000 & teaching appointment)
- 2016 **Rackham International Research Award, University of Michigan**, “The development of male reproductive strategies in wild chimpanzees,” PI (\$7,500)
- 2015 **Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, University of Michigan**, “The development of male-female social relationships in wild chimpanzees,” PI (\$1,500)
- 2014 **International Institute Individual Fellowship, University of Michigan**, “The development of aggression in male chimpanzees,” PI (\$3,300)
- 2014 **African Studies Center Award, University of Michigan**, “The development of aggression in male chimpanzees,” PI (\$2,500)
- 2011 **Deans’ Summer Research Fellowship, Duke University**, “Assessing chimpanzee use of logged and un-logged forest in Budongo Forest Reserve, Uganda: Information for habituation and conservation,” PI (\$2,500)
- 2011 **Undergraduate Internship Fund Grant, Duke University**, “Assessing chimpanzee use of logged and un-logged forest in Budongo Forest Reserve, Uganda: Information for habituation and conservation,” PI (\$2,328)
- 2011 **Molly H. Glander Student Research Grant, Duke Lemur Center**, “Contagious yawning in ring-tailed and mongoose lemurs,” PI (\$300)
- 2011 **Independent Study Grant, Duke University**, “Do red ruffed lemurs yawn contagiously?,” PI (\$400)
- 2011 **Independent Study Grant, Duke University**, “Do mongoose lemurs comprehend what others can perceive?,” PI (\$400)
- 2010 **Deans’ Summer Research Fellowship, Duke University**, “Inhibitory control in primates,” PI (\$2,000)
- 2009 **Howard Hughes Research Fellows Program, Duke University** (\$4,000)

AWARDS & HONORS

2019	Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan
2015	Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan
2010	Melcher Family Award for Excellence in Journalism, Duke University

INVITED TALKS

Upcoming	“Adaptive basis for adolescent flexibility and vulnerability in wild apes,” Institute of Human Development Colloquium, University of California, Berkeley, April 18, 2022
2021	“Social Relationships and Reproduction in Adolescent Male Chimpanzees,” Biological Anthropology Group, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University, April 16, 2020
2020	“Social Relationships and Reproduction in Adolescent Male Chimpanzees,” Social Origins Laboratory, Department of Psychology, University of California, Berkeley, October 8, 2020
2020	“The Social Lives of Chimpanzees,” The Leakey Foundation’s Lunch Break Science Talk Series, July 23, 2020
2020	“The Social World of Chimps,” National Geographic Explorer Classroom Series, May 13, 2020
2019	“The Development of Reproductive Tactics in Male Chimpanzees,” Primatology Research Group, Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin, March 8, 2019
2016	“The Development of Reproductive Tactics in Male Chimpanzees,” Makerere University Biological Field Station, Kibale National Park, Uganda, July 15, 2016

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Upcoming	Reddy RB , Samuni L, Surbeck M. Bonobo mothers intervene less than chimpanzee mothers in their offspring’s conflicts. 91 st Annual Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists. Denver, CO
Upcoming	Negrey JD, Emery Thompson M, Langergraber KE, Machanda Z, Mitani JC, Muller MN, Ota E, Reddy RB , Wrangham RW, & Goldberg TL. Viral infection and life history trade-offs in wild chimpanzees. 91 st Annual Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists. Denver, CO
2020	Reddy RB , Engelmann J, Herrmann E, & Surbeck M. Does love motivate apes to help others? The Love Consortium Community Event. August 27, 2020
2020	Reddy RB . Variation in adolescent male chimpanzee reproductive tactics: implications for understanding what is a “population” of chimpanzees. Published abstract. 89 th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Los Angeles, CA (conference canceled)
2020	Clark IR, Reddy RB , Sandel AA, & Langergraber KE. Alloparental carrying and wound care in wild chimpanzees at Ngogo, Kibale National Park, Uganda. Published abstract. 89 th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Los Angeles, CA (conference canceled)

- 2019 **Reddy RB**, Langergraber KE, Sandel AA, & Mitani JC. The development of male chimpanzee reproductive strategies. 88th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Cleveland, Ohio
- 2019 Goldberg TL, Basnet S, Emery Thompson M, Gern JE, Grindle KA, Langergraber KE, Machanda Z, Mitani JC, Muller MN, Negrey JD, Otali E, Owens L, Palmenberg AC, Pappas TE, Phillips-Garcia S, **Reddy RB**, Scully EJ, & Wrangham RC. Chimpanzee reverse zoonoses: unfortunate natural experiments in great ape comparative medicine and demography. 88th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Cleveland, Ohio
- 2018 **Reddy RB** & Mitani JC. Social relationships between orphaned chimpanzee siblings at Ngogo, Kibale National Park, Uganda. 87th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Austin, Texas
- 2016 **Reddy RB** & Sandel AA. Adolescent male chimpanzees do not form a linear dominance hierarchy with their peers. 85th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Atlanta, Georgia
- 2015 **Reddy RB**, Krupenye C, MacLean EL, Hare B. Lemurs do not yawn contagiously. 84th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. St. Louis, Missouri
- 2014 **Reddy RB**, Anderson RC, Hare B. Vocal recognition in ring-tailed lemurs. 83rd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- 2013 MacLean EL, Sandel AA, Bray J, Oldenkamp R, **Reddy RB**, Hare B. Group size predicts social but not nonsocial cognition in lemurs. 20th International Conference on Comparative Cognition. Melbourne, Florida

CAMPUS TALKS

- Upcoming “Learning and Vulnerability in Chimpanzee and Bonobo Adolescence,” Tuesday Lunch Symposium, Department of Human Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University, February 22, 2022
- 2020 “The Development of Adolescent Male Chimpanzee Social and Reproductive Behavior,” Tuesday Lunch Symposium, Department of Human Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University, September 15, 2020
- 2019 Panelist, “Graduate Students and Their Exploration of the Future,” Celebrating our Donors and Their Lasting Impact, Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan, October 4, 2019
- 2018 “Some Male Chimpanzees Maintain Close Social Bonds with Their Mothers in Adulthood,” Biological Anthropology Meeting, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan, January 17, 2018
- 2018 “Comparative Field Research Methods,” Psychology Methods Hour, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan, February 23, 2018
- 2017 “Social Relationships Between Recently Orphaned Chimpanzee Siblings,” Biological Anthropology Meeting, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan, October 25, 2017
- 2014 “Vocal exchanges among ring-tailed lemurs. Four Field Anthropology Conference, University of Michigan, March 22, 2014

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2013-present **Ngogo Chimpanzee Project**, Kibale National Park, Uganda, P.I.'s Drs. John Mitani, David Watts, & Kevin Langergraber, Fieldwork on wild chimpanzee social behavior
- 2020-present **Kokolopori Bonobo Research Project**, Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve, Democratic Republic of Congo, P.I. Dr. Martin Surbeck, Fieldwork on wild bonobo social behavior
- 2020-present **Stress & Development Laboratory**, Department of Psychology, Harvard University, P.I. Dr. Katie McLaughlin, learning developmental neuroscience and clinical psychology approaches for understanding how life experiences impact mental health
- 2022-present **The Alex Foundation Laboratory**, Somerville, Massachusetts, P.I. Dr. Irene Pepperberg, volunteer to provide care and object-label practice to African grey parrots
- 2014-present **Infant Cognition Lab**, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan, P.I. Dr. Henry Wellman, Developmental psychology research on child (and dog) social cognition
- 2008-2013 **Duke Lemur Center**, Durham, North Carolina
Designed and performed experiments to study cognition, social behavior and vocal communication in lemurs
- 2009-2013 **North Carolina Zoo**, Asheboro, North Carolina
Tested hamadryas baboons and chimpanzees in comparative studies of cognition
- 2008-2013 **Hominoid Psychology Research Group & Duke Canine Cognition Center**, Department of Evolutionary Anthropology, Duke University, P.I. Dr. Brian Hare, Managed laboratory, conducted cognitive experiments with primates and pet dogs
- 2011 **Budongo Conservation Field Station**, Budongo Forest Reserve, Uganda
Habituated and studied the behavior of wild chimpanzees

WORKSHOPS

- 2019 Kundiman Fiction & Poetry Workshop, Fordham University, New York, NY, USA
- 2018 Diverse Intelligences Summer Institute, Templeton World Charity Foundation, University of St. Andrews, Scotland
- 2018 Sweetland Fellows Seminar, Gayle Morris Sweetland Center for Writing, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA
- 2016 Kundiman Fiction & Poetry Workshop, Fordham University, New York, NY, USA
- 2014 AnthroTree Workshop, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, USA

TEACHING

Instructor-of-Record, University of Michigan

- 2019 Introduction to Biological Anthropology,
- 2018 Writing and Academic Inquiry: Coming of Age Stories

Assistant Instructor, University of Michigan

- 2019 Primate Evolutionary Ecology (teaching award recipient)
- 2015 Introduction to Biological Anthropology
- 2014 Primate Social Behavior (teaching award recipient)

MENTORING

2022	Megumi Kirby, Undergraduate Student, Harvard University
2020	Marysa Gatica, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, University of Michigan
2019	Alexis Smith, Michigan Summer Program in Cognitive Development, Undergraduate Student, Spelman College
2018-2019	Natalie Toomajian, Undergraduate Student & Lab Manager, University of Michigan
2018	Janelis Lopez, Michigan Summer Program in Cognitive Development Undergraduate Student, University of Michigan
2018	Taeah Hammond, Michigan Summer Program in Cognitive Development Undergraduate Student, University of Michigan
2018	Samantha Ladd, Michigan Summer Program in Cognitive Development Undergraduate Student, Colby College
2017-2018	Sarah Conwisar, Undergraduate Independent Study Student, University of Michigan
2017-2018	Liza Rosenfeld, Undergraduate Independent Study Student, University of Michigan
2016-2017	Jeremy Clift, Research Assistant, Ngogo Chimpanzee Project
2013	Seraphina Wong, High School Summer Research Program, North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics
2013	Laura Lewis, Howard Hughes Research Fellows Program, Duke University
2012-2013	Sruti Pisharody, Undergraduate Independent Study Student, Duke University
2012	Melissa Klein, Howard Hughes Research Fellows Program, Duke University

SERVICE

Harvard University, Department of Human Evolutionary Biology

2021-present	Diversity, Inclusion, & Belonging Committee Leader of subcommittee on mentoring
2020-2021	Diversity and Inclusion Task Force Working group leader on mentorship training in inaugural task force, member of outreach working group
2020-present	Mind Brain Behavior Initiative Young Investigator Committee Organize talk series and other events

University of Michigan, Department of Anthropology

2016-2020	Biological Anthropology Conduct Committee Spearheaded, developed, and wrote guidelines for preventing and addressing misconduct and discrimination at field sites, developed strategies with international field teams to implement (and continue to implement) these on-the-ground
2018	Search Committee, Biological Anthropology Faculty Hire
2013-2016	Co-Coordinator, Four Field Anthropology Graduate Talk Series
2014-2016	Panelist, Undergraduate Honors Student Discussion Panel on Writing
2014-2015	Judge, Undergraduate Senior Honors Thesis Poster Session

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Institutions & Ongoing Projects

- 2015-present Backyard Wildlife Drawing Exchange Program
Started program where primary school students around the world exchange drawings of their favorite local wildlife. More than 500 students have participated
- 2014-present Kyakagunga Primary School, Kamwenge District, Uganda
Work with teachers and community members to apply for permanent government funding, raise funds for classroom construction, conduct biodiversity and conservation lessons, organize and judge science fairs for students
- 2018 “Careers in the Forest” Workshop for women in Bigodi Village, Kamwenge District, Uganda
- 2012-2013 Duke Canine Cognition Center, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina
Hosted school field trips and designed interactive activities to teach K-12 students about the scientific process and the evolution of cognitive traits.

Classroom Talks

- 2019 Haisley Elementary School, Ann Arbor, MI, USA
- 2019 Emerson School, Ann Arbor, MI, USA
- 2019 Huron High School, Ann Arbor, MI, USA
- 2019 Pioneer High School, Ann Arbor, MI, USA
- 2019 The Evergreen School, Shoreline, WA, USA
- 2018 Pioneer High School, Ann Arbor, MI, USA
- 2018 The Evergreen School, Shoreline WA, USA
- 2018 Niji-Iro Japanese Immersion Elementary School, Livonia, MI, USA
- 2016 The Evergreen School, Shoreline, WA, USA
- 2016 Kyakagunga Primary School, Kamwenge District, Uganda
- 2014 Southwest Detroit Charter School, Detroit, MI, USA
- 2014 Angell Elementary School, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

Media Collaborations

- 2018-2021 Scientific Consultant, Silverback Films for the BBC’s “The Mating Game”
- 2019 Speaker, National Geographic’s Explorer Academy Event
- 2017 Contributor, National Geographic Panorama: Science, “What Do Animals Need?”

MEDIA COVERAGE

- Upcoming Research featured in documentary, *Second Nature*.
- 2022 Research featured in BBC1 television program, *The Mating Game*.
- 2021 Research featured in *National Geographic* article, “Why chimp moms are so much like our own,”
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/article/why-chimpanzee-moms-are-so-much-like-our-own>
- 2021 Research featured in *Sciences et Avenir* article, “Young male chimpanzees create special bonds with females to seduce them.”
https://www.sciencesetavenir.fr/animaux/primates/les-jeunes-chimpanzes-creent-des-liens-sociaux-privileges-avec-les-femelles-pour-les-seduire_151345

- 2020 Research featured in *Science* magazine article, “Even as young adults, male chimps are ‘mama’s boys,’”
<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/12/even-young-adults-male-chimps-are-mama-sboys>
- 2019 Research featured in *New Scientist* article, “Chimps really do care,”
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0262407919311546?via%3Dihub>
- 2017 Research featured in *National Geographic* Panorama: Science video program, “What do animals need?”
- 2014 Research featured in *National Geographic* article, “This is how you study the evolution of animal intelligence,”
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/phenomena/2014/04/22/this-is-how-you-study-the-evolution-of-animal-intelligence/>
- 2013 Research featured in *NBC News* article, “How lemurs and monkeys exploit the social wisdom of crows,”
<https://www.nbcnews.com/science/science-news/how-lemurs-monkeys-exploit-social-wisdom-crowds-flna6C10475586>
- 2012 Research featured in *Duke Today* article, “The allure of lemurs,”
<https://today.duke.edu/2012/05/reddy>