

Eleanor Matthews

Albuquerque, New Mexico

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Education

- 2023 - present Ph.D., Evolutionary anthropology, student
Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
Advisor: Martin Muller
- 2023 - 2025 M.S., Evolutionary anthropology
Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
Committee: Martin Muller, Melissa Emery Thompson, Ian Wallace
- 2018 - 2022 B.S., Biology and Religion, *cum laude*
Department of Biology and Department of Religion, Tufts University
Advisors: Zarin Machanda (biology), Kenneth Garden (religion)
Thesis title: Strategic social aggression among wild chimpanzee males

Research**Indicates fieldwork*

- 2024 - present Comparative Human and Primate Physiology Center, University of New Mexico
Analyze steroid hormones using enzyme-linked immunoassays (ELISA) and radioimmunoassay (RIA) methods.
Role: Graduate student researcher
- 2024* Kibale Chimpanzee Project, Kibale National Park, Uganda
2 months of pilot dissertation data collection.
Role: Graduate student researcher
- 2022 - 2023* Inkawu Vervet Project, Mawana Game Reserve, South Africa
7 months of ad libitum behavioral data collection, field experimentation, and fecal sample collection with wild vervet monkeys.
Role: Field assistant
- 2021 - 2022 Kibale Chimpanzee Project, Tufts University
Utilized 13 years of data to investigate a dominance strategy among male chimpanzees.
Role: Undergraduate researcher
- 2021 Department of Research, North Carolina Zoo
3 months of data collection and implementation of novel enrichment in an American river otter habitat.
Role: Research intern
- 2020 - 2021 Starks Lab, Tufts University
1 year of conducting experiments to address heat responses within acorn ant colonies.
Role: Research assistant

Teaching

Instructor of Record, Department of Anthropology, New Mexico

Fall 2025 Introduction to Biological Anthropology, Lab (2 sections)

Spring 2025 Introduction to Biological Anthropology, Lab (2 sections, 36 students)

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico

Fall 2024 Introduction to Biological Anthropology (Instructor: Dr. Martin Muller)

Spring 2024 Introduction to Biological Anthropology (Instructor: Dr. Sherry Nelson)

Fall 2023 Introduction to Biological Anthropology (Instructor: Dr. Keith Hunley)

Publications and Presentations

Refereed Conference Abstracts

- 2025 **Matthews, E.J.**, Muller, M.N., Zhang, S., Otali, E., Kobusingye, M., Enigk, E., Emery Thompson, M., Wrangham, R.W., and Machanda, Z.P. (2024) Social contexts influence grooming interruptions by male chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*). 94th annual meeting of American Association of Biological Anthropologists (poster).
- 2025 **Matthews, E.J.**, Muller, M.N., Zhang, S., Otali, E., Kobusingye, M., Enigk, E., Emery Thompson, M., Wrangham, R.W., and Machanda, Z.P. (2024) Social contexts influence grooming interruptions by male chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*). University of New Mexico, Graduate Student Poster Showcase.
- 2024 **Matthews, E.J.**, Muller, M.N., Zhang, S., Otali, E., Kobusingye, M., Enigk, E., Emery Thompson, M., Wrangham, R.W., and Machanda, Z.P. (2024) Strategic aggression among wild male chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*). 9th annual meeting of Southwestern Association of Biological Anthropologists (poster).
- 2023 Sabbi, K.H., **Matthews, E.J.**, Zhang, S., Muller, M.N., Otali, E., Emery Thompson, M., Wrangham, R.W., and Machanda, Z.P. (2023) Dominance style and strategic sociality among alpha males in a community of wild chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*). 92nd annual meeting of American Association of Biological Anthropologists.

Grants and Awards

External

- 2024 Best Graduate Student Poster Conference award (\$200). *Southwest Association of Biological Anthropologists*

Internal

- 2025 Travel Award *Department of Anthropology, UNM*
Stipend supporting conference attendance (\$500).
- 2024 Professional Development Grant *Graduate-Professional Students Assoc., UNM*
Stipend supporting conference attendance (\$600).
- 2024 Evolutionary Anthropology Award *Department of Anthropology, UNM*
Stipend supporting fieldwork (\$2,500).
- 2024 Research Development Award *Department of Anthropology, UNM*

Stipend supporting graduate research in anthropology (\$1,000).

- 2022 Lily Glidden Award *Department of Biology, Tufts University*
 Scholarship awarded to students pursuing “paths that lead to their dreams of exploring and understanding the natural world” (\$2,250).
- 2022 Highest thesis honors *Department of Biology, Tufts University*
 Thesis title: Strategic social aggression among wild chimpanzee males

Service

- 2025 Rio Rancho Public Schools Student Research Expo *Rio Rancho High School*
 Role: evaluator, poster presentations for biology and social science topics
- 2024 McNair Scholars Research Conference *University of New Mexico*
 Role: evaluator, oral and poster presentations for social science topics
- 2024, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Conference *University of New Mexico*
 2025 Role: evaluator, oral and poster presentations for biology and humanities topics

Skills

Relevant graduate-level coursework: Paleoanthropology, Advanced Statistics I & II, Anthropological Genetics, Human Behavioral Ecology, Human Evolutionary Physiology & Anatomy, Introduction to GIS for Graduate Students, Evolution of Primate Behavior
 Data analysis: R, Microsoft Access, Microsoft Excel
 Behavioral data collection: Zoo Monitor, CyberTracker