

Emma Young | CV

Email: youngea@ucla.edu

Education

Graduate Student in Biological Anthropology UCLA *2023-current*

B.A. in Anthropology with Departmental Honors University of Kansas *2016-2020*

Experience

The University of California Los Angeles - Ph.D. Candidate

September 2023-current

I am developing a research project that analyzes the selection of genes related to metabolism and adiposity among Andean Highlanders as a long-term evolutionary response to cold climate conditions.

Mentors: Abigail Bigham (PI)

Postbaccalaureate Researcher at the National Institute of Health

January 2021-April 2023

I co-designed a project based on PAR-CLIP (photoactivatable ribonucleoside-enhanced crosslinking and immunoprecipitation) to study the dysregulation of TDP-43, a protein associated with ALS. During this time I have also gained experience with NGS, coding (Python, bash script and data pipelines) and other proteomic focused lab methods.

Mentors: Markus Hafner (PI) and James Marks

Laboratory Technician, Kansas Health & Environmental Services Laboratories

August 2020-December 2020

Worked as a lab technician in response to the COVID-19 crisis. I processed COVID-19 tests for analysis, managed sample data, and input client information into the Horizon system.

Assistant Curator at Spooner Hall, University of Kansas

August 2019-May 2020

During my assistantship, I worked with a team of peers to database thousands of unique objects and improve their storage and organization within the archeological collections. These items included pottery sherds, lithics and faunal remains. A majority of the collections needed to be cataloged in accordance with Bureau of Indian Affairs specifications for repatriation to American Indigenous peoples.

Mentor: Mary Adair

Slavia Archeological Field School and Osteological School

July 2019

I worked in the field to identify, dig and prepare human remains for analysis from an 11th century gravesite in Giecz, Poland. I also worked in the lab to clean, label and store the human skeletal remains and associated artifacts, including pottery and faunal bone. Additionally, I excelled in hand-drawn mapping of skeletal remains. I completed the associated three-week osteology course with an A from Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland.

Mentor: Amanda Agnew

Undergraduate Researcher in Raff Lab, University of Kansas

February 2019-August 2019

As an undergraduate researcher I trained in PPE required sterile lab facilities to do DNA extraction, prepare samples, PCR amplification, Q-bit and gel electrophoresis. I also coordinated with fellow lab members to identify remains and re-house samples for further aDNA research.

Mentors: Jennifer Raff (PI) and Lydia Sykora

Papers and Posters

Papers: "The Ubiquitin-Specific Protease USP36 SUMOylates EXOSC10 and promotes the nucleolar RNA exosome function in rRNA processing" Fourth authorship. *NAR* 2023

Posters: •“eQTL analysis of cold adaptation regulation in Peruvian Quechua populations” accepted for the 2024 American Association of Biological Anthropology 2024 •“TDP-43 protein dysregulation in regards to ALS” NIAMS Three Minute Talk Competition 2022 •“Developing Surface-CLIP”.NIH post-baccalaureate poster competition 2021

Honors and Awards

NSF-GRFP Fellow 2024

Genomic Analysis Training Program Fellow 2024

Departmental Honors in Anthropology 2020

Earned for completion of my Senior Honors Thesis “Exploratory Look at Effective Population Among the Unangax Using a Bayesian Skyline Model” at the University of Kansas.

Advisor: Jennifer Raff

Dennis R. and Nancy E. Dahl Award 2019

Carroll D. Clark Fund Award 2019

United States Army Medical Research and Materiel Command and Fort Detrick Volunteer Award for the National Museum of Health and Medicine 2018
