

ARIANNA MISTRY

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EDUCATION

Arizona State University

2025-Present

PhD in Geography

- Advisor: Dr. Kelli Larson
- Focus: Human-wildlife interactions and coexistence in urban areas

University of Michigan

2019-2023

B.S. in Environmental Studies and Biopsychology, Cognition, and Neuroscience (BCN)

- GPA: 3.99/4.00, Summa Cum Laude
- Concentration in Cognitive Evolution

DIS Copenhagen

2022

Summer Study Abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark and Reykjavík, Iceland

- GPA: 4.00
- Courses: Neuropsychology of Social Behaviors, Climate Change and Glaciers

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant, Arizona State University

2025-Present

DISES Project Assistantship ([PI](#): Dr. Kelli Larson)

Objective: Exploring human-carnivore interactions across four American cities to help identify factors that lead to conflict and coexistence.

- Collaborated with social scientists to design a survey evaluating resident encounters with wildlife, risk and benefit perceptions, and attitudes and behaviors towards management strategies.
- Organizing and analyzing public wildlife report data from Chicago, Phoenix, San Francisco, and DC area.
- Mapping data from the Lincoln Park Zoo's Urban Wildlife Information Network in ArcGIS Pro to spatially analyze wildlife occupancy alongside survey and public wildlife report data.

Lab Manager, Emory University Joint APE Lab

2023-2025

Lonsdorf Lab ([PI](#): Dr. Elizabeth Lonsdorf)

Objective: Monitoring long term health, aging, mother-infant relationships and infectious disease in wild chimpanzees at Gombe National Park.

- Tracked chimpanzee health using fecal and urine samples, daily focal follows, and weekly, monthly, and annual reports as part of a long term, multi-collaborator project.
- Used laser photogrammetry methods and ImageJ to measure body size with Dr. Ian Gilby.
- Aliquoted and organized fecal samples for parasitology work with Dr. Beatrice Hahn and Dr. Karen Terio.

Social Cognition and Primate Behavior Lab ([PI](#): Dr. Marcela Benítez)

Objective: Investigating the relationship between hormones and behavior in wild capuchins at Taboga Forest Reserve and captive capuchins at the Georgia State Research Center with Dr. Sarah Brosnan.

- Managed laboratory administration, grants, and certifications for a new BSL2 hormone lab.
- Led project to uncover menopause in tufted capuchins using fecal estradiol assays and behavioral estrus observations, publication in prep.

Project and Research Assistant

2023

Root Solutions (Supervisor: Nya Van Leuvan)

Objective: Collaborating virtually with a nonprofit team to create and share tools for environmental solutions using social and behavioral science methods.

- Developed trainings to teach leaders and organizations how to conduct Behavioral Drivers Analyses (BDAs) to analyze motivators and barriers to sustainable behaviors and identify effective solutions.
- Researched and edited content for *Making Shift Happen: Designing for Successful Environmental Change*.
- Assisted with client projects including message testing, developing, conducting, and evaluating surveys, intervention design, and drafting materials and presentations for submission.

Student Researcher

2023

University of Michigan Biological Station Ecology Lecture (Instructor: Dr. Rebecca MacKay)

Objective: Quantification of biodiversity across bog ecosystems.

- Designed methods to collect arthropods in lake, peat, and forest areas of a bog.
- Used microscopes to identify order and calculate species richness and abundance.
- Wrote a final research paper and presented findings to class.

University of Michigan Biological Station Ecology Lab (Instructor: Dr. Corrinne Higley)

Objective: Understanding the effects of water temperature on zebra mussel binding in Douglas Lake.

- Recorded temperature readings from YSI Multimeter, raked to collect aquatic macrophytes, and determined mussel abundance on macrophytes collected.
- Ran linear regression in R/RStudio, interpreted results, and prepared a scientific manuscript and scientific communication video to share findings.

Research Assistant and Leadership Intern

2021-2023

University of Michigan Cognitive Evolution Group (PI: Dr. Alexandra Rosati)

Objective: Investigating the link between individual differences in chimpanzee temperament, age, sex, and rank with problem solving skills.

- Entered, analyzed, and characterized trends in video data from 91 chimpanzees at two sanctuaries.
- Led 4 lab meetings to present and discuss current papers on animal behavior and cognition.
- Authored a final paper and generated figures with RStudio and Excel to create and present a poster that won "Best Presentation" at a poster session with 60+ people.

PEER-REVIEWED (in preparation)

Mistry, A.*, Whiteside, E.*, Benítez, M., et al. Reproductive Senescence in Tufted Capuchin Monkeys (*Sapajus apella*): Analyzing the Relationship Between Estradiol, Aging, and Behavioral Estrus in a Captive Population. Manuscript in preparation. (*co-first authors)

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

Presentations

Mistry, A.*. Reproductive Senescence in Tufted Capuchin Monkeys (*Sapajus apella*). Podium Presentation, Atlanta, GA. (*co-first author; presented by A. Mistry)

- Mistry, A. Cantwell, A., and Rosati, A. G. 2022. "Are bolder chimpanzees more innovative? Linking temperament and problem-solving in chimpanzees." University of Michigan Biopsychology Poster Session. Ann Arbor, MI. Poster Presentation.
- Mistry, A. and Persad, C. 2019. "A retrospective study on the efficacy of group and individual therapy in aphasia recovery." Greenhills School Advanced Research Poster Session. Ann Arbor, MI. Poster Presentation.

Conferences

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| Attendee at International Urban Wildlife Conference in Atlanta, Georgia | 2025 |
| Steering committee for 2025 South Eastern Evolution and Human Behavior Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. | 2025 |
| Attendee at Animal Behavior Society Conference in London, Ontario. | 2024 |
| Participant in Animal Behavior Society Great Lakes Conservation Workshop. | 2024 |

FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND OTHER AWARDS

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| Graduated with Highest Distinction at the University of Michigan | 2023 |
| Graduated with Excellence in Sustainability Honors at the University of Michigan | 2023 |
| Margaret T. & Frank C. Gates Scholarship for UM Biological Station (\$600) | 2023 |
| James B. Angell Scholar at the University of Michigan | 2019-2023 |
| University Honors from the University of Michigan | 2019-2023 |
| Undergraduate Research Internship in Cognitive Evolution Group (\$1500) | 2022 |
| Residential College Silverman International Educational Scholarship (\$900) | 2022 |

MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

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| Participated in Letters to a Pre-Scientist outreach and mentorship program | 2025 |
| Trained graduate and undergraduate APE Lab members on hormone assay procedures and lab safety protocols. | 2024 |
| Trained future Epsilon Eta communications chairs on the role and responsibilities. | 2022-2023 |
| Trained new staff members in multiple cafes and restaurants. | 2020-2023 |
| Tutored French for undergraduate college students at University of Michigan. | 2020 |
| Taught courses on sustainability, biology, and theater to middle school students. | 2017-2019 |
| Coached middle school students for public speaking competitions. | 2015-2019 |

COMMUNICATIONS EXPERIENCE

Manuscript Editor **2023**

Michigan Medical Vocal Health Center

- Edited textbook chapters in APA 7th Edition format to update the newest edition of *The Vocal Athlete*.
- Sourced books, journal articles, newspapers, websites, reports, and tapes for reference citations.

Chair of Communications and Public Relations **2021-2022**

Epsilon Eta Professional Environmental Fraternity

- Coordinated with executive board members, alumni, and internal members to manage communications, public relations, and internal affairs in an organization with over 200 members.

- Grew media following by 10% while maintaining official website, email, and 6 media accounts.
- Improved mentorship by spearheading the first senior-alumni mentorship program and connected 30+ current members with alumni in professional environmental fields.

Restorative Justice Webinar Series Planner

2020

University of Michigan Residential College

- Piloted an event planning group of students and staff to build community during the COVID pandemic.
- Recruited local activists and professors to create a 4-part series of teach-ins on restorative justice.
- Advertised webinar events using social media graphics to attract audiences of 100+ people.

Lead Curriculum Designer and Environmental Educator

2017-2019

Inno Education

- Led curriculum design groups and directed meetings for a 501c3 nonprofit whose mission was creating a summer program to educate middle schoolers on interdisciplinary subjects outside typical curricula.
- Managed projects for 4 classes resulting in final coursework presentations to 80+ stakeholders.
- Budgeted materials, submitted expense reports, and secured funding to increase financial stability.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Hands On Atlanta

2024

- Cared for local parks, nature centers, and other urban greenspaces to protect biodiversity in Atlanta.

University of Michigan Campus Farm

2021-2023

- Tended multiple crops for 6 hours each week to provide sustainable produce for campus dining halls.

We the People Opportunity Farm

2021-2023

- Fundraised and worked with a local nonprofit that empowers previously incarcerated people through sustainable farming.

University of Michigan Vocal Health Center

2022

- Managed demographic data while running clients to assist in conducting research in a speech clinic.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

Animal Behavior Society

2023-Present

Cognitive Development Society

2023-Present

Epsilon Eta Professional Environmental Fraternity - Executive Board Member

2021-2023

University of Michigan Residential College - Student of Highest Distinctions

2019-2023

University of Michigan Eco-Forum

2019-2023

SKILLS

Programming and Software: R/RStudio, ESRI ArcGIS Pro, ImageJ, Microsoft Office, Google

Workspace, Adobe Creative Suite, Canva, Trello, Wordpress web design, Zotero, Mendeley

Laboratory: Hormone extractions and assays, DNA extraction, cell culture, management of biological materials, microscope proficiency, pipetting

Other: Camera trapping, DSLR camera use, focal observation, field research, literature reviews, podcast creation

Languages: Proficient in French (written and verbal)