Emma Thurau

Postdoctoral Fellow
University of Notre Dame
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primatology, Biological Anthropology, Ecology, Metabolomics, Bioinformatics

EDUCATION

2026-2027	Postdoctoral Fellow	University of Notre Dame Department of Anthropology PI: Sam Patterson
2019-2025	Ph.D.	The Graduate Center City University of New York New York Consortium in Evolutionary Primatology Dissertation: Decoding the plant metabolome: A metabolomics approach to guereza (*Colobus guereza*) feeding ecology in Kibale National Park Uganda Advisor: Jessica Rothman Committee: Damon Little, Ryan Raaum, Brian Sedio
2019	M.A.	Northern Illinois University Department of Anthropology Thesis Title: Prevalence of tannins in the diet, and its impact on protein intakes, in Diademed Sifakas *(Propithecus diadema*) at Tsinjoarivo, Madagascar. Advisor: Mitchell Irwin
2017	B.A.	California State University Los Angeles Major in Anthropology Minor in Biology Thesis Title: Male Deference Among Captive *Lemur catta* at the Los Angeles Zoo. Graduated with honors and Magna Cum Laude Advisor: Joyce Parga

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Thurau, E.G.,** Rothman, J.M., Raaum, R.L., Little, D.P., Foley, W.J., and Sedio, B.E. (in prep). Integrating metabolomics into plant-herbivore interactions reveals drivers of leaf selection by a widespread African primate. Ecology.
2. **Thurau, E.G.,** Foley, W., Rothman, J. & Sedio. B. (in review). Correlating metabolomics and wet chemistry: A methodological approach. Biotropica.
3. **Thurau, E.G.,** Valenta, K. & Rothman, J. (in prep). Functional links between leaf color, nutritional content and trichromatic vision of a folivorous primates. Behavioral Ecology.

4. **Thurau, E.G.,** Raubenheimer, D., & Rothman, J. (in prep). Nutritional anchoring, compensatory foraging and nutrient balancing in a folivorous primate, *Colobus guereza*.
5. **Thurau, E.G.,** Raaum, R.L., Little, D.P., Foley, W.J., Sedio, B.E. and Rothman, J.M., (in prep). Foodomics: A metabolomics approach to primate feeding ecology.
6. **Thurau, E.G.,** Lowry, B., Nkurunungi, J., and Rothman, J.M. (2023). Primate movements across the nutritional landscapes of Africa. In Reyna-Hurtado, R., Chapman, C.A., and Melletti, M .(Eds.) Movement Ecology of Afrotropical Forest Mammals. Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-27030-7_7
7. Parga, J.A. and **Thurau, E**. (2022) Food availability, male deference, and female dominance in *Lemur catta*. *American Journal of Primatology,* 84, e23422. https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/ajp.23422
8. **Thurau, EG**, Rahajanirina, AN, Irwin, MT. (2021). Condensed tannins in the diet of folivorous diademed sifakas and the gap between crude and available protein. *American Journal of Primatology.* e23239. https://doi.org/10.1002/ajp.23239
9. **Thurau, E &** Cords, M.C**.** (2024). Variable intergroup encounters: what drives neutral and intolerant encounters in blue monkeys? *Animal Behaviour*. 212: 1-12. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0003347224000885
10. Rijamanalina, H.G., Volontsoa, C. T., **Thurau, E.G**., Hamrick, A.M., Ranaivoarisoa, J.F., Randrianasy, Irwin, M.T. (2020) Observation of fission-fusion dynamics in Diademed Sifakas (Propithecus diadema) at Tsinjoarivo, eastern Madagascar. *Lemur News*. 22:76-81. https://www.sadabe.org/Irwin/articles/51_Rijamanalina%20et%20al%202019_20%20Fission%20fusion.pdf

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

American Behavior Society ($1500)	2023
Leakey Foundation ($20,000)	2022
International Primatological Society ($1500)	2022
American Society of Mammalogy ($1500)	2022
Doctoral Student Research Grant ($724)	2022
Primate Conservation Incorporated Grant ($4100)	2018
Founders Grant ($500)	2018
Lemur Conservation Action Fund Grant ($2286)	2018
Phi Kappa Phi Study Abroad Grant ($1000)	2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Lecturer 2025 - 2026
Lehman College
Ant 171, Ant 120

Adjunct Professor 2021-2025
Hunter College
Taught Anthp 105 lecture/lab (Human Species)
Taught Anthp 101 lab (Introduction to Human Evolution)
Taught Human Biology 401(Senior Capstone)

Graduate Teaching Assistant 2019- 2025
Hunter College

Taught Anthp 105 lab (Human species)
Taught Anthp 101 lab (Introduction to Human Evolution)

Graduate Teaching Assistant 2017-2019
Northern Illinois University
Head Teaching Assistant
Taught Anth 210 (Exploring Archaeology), Anth 102 (Rise of Civilization) Lab Sections, Anth 240H (Introduction to Physical Anthropology-Honor Section)

TEACHING WORKSHOPS

CUNY Online Teaching Essentials 2021
The Inclusive STEM Teaching Project 2021
Evidence Based Undergraduate STEM teaching 2021

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. Thurau, E., Sedio, B. & Rothman, J. A nutritional ecology and metabolomics approach to understanding guereza ?(*Colobus guereza*) feeding ecology. International Primatological Society.
2. Thurau, E., Sedio, B. & Rothman, J. Interspecific and intraspecific selection of the plant metabolome in guerezas (*Colobus guereza*) in Kibale National Park, Uganda. American Association of Biological Anthropology.
3. Thurau, E and Valenta, K. (2024). Color differences in selected versus avoided leaves in the diet of black-and-white colobus monkeys (*Colobus guereza*) in Kibale National Park, Uganda. American Society of Primatology.
4. Thurau, E and Cords, M. (2024). Heterogeneous intergroup encounters in a single population of blue monkeys. American Association of Biological Anthropology.
5. Thurau, E and Irwin, M. (2020). Condensed tannins in the diet of Diademed Sifakas (*Propithecus diadema*) at Tsinjoarivo, Madagascar. Northeast East Evolutionary Primatology.
6. Thurau, E. (2019) Condensed tannins in the diet of Diademed Sifakas (*Propithecus diadema*) at Tsinjoarivo, Madagascar. Lembersky Conferences in Human Evolutionary Studies.
7. Thurau, E. (2019) Investigating interannual and seasonal variation in sifaka diet in Tsinjoarivo, Madagascar. American Association of Physical Anthropology.
8. Thurau, E. (2017) Male Deference Among Captive *Lemur catta* at the Los Angeles Zoo. Midwestern Primate Interest Group.

OUTREACH

Science in Residence (New York Academy of Science) 2025 -Present
After School STEM mentoring program (New York Academy of Science) 2024-Present
Tweeter for the American Journal of Primatology Twitter 2019-Present
Skype a Scientist 2020-Present

SERVICE

Reviewed Manuscripts: *American Journal of Primatology* (2), *International Journal of Primatology (1)*
Curriculum committee at NYCEP

NYRP committee volunteer at NYCEP
NYCEP student liaison
President of Graduate Student Council at Northern Illinois University
Field Coordinator for NSF IRES Program at Kibale National Park, Uganda (Summer, 2025)

REFERENCES

Jessica Rothman
Professor of Anthropology
Hunter College
Jessica.Rothman@hunter.cuny.edu

Brian Sedio
Professor of Integrative Biology
University of Texas, Austin
sediob@utexas.edu

Damon Little
Professor of Biology
New York Botanical Garden
Dlittle@nybg.org