

Katherine C. MacKinnon, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Anthropology

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Education:

Ph.D. in Anthropology, University of California at Berkeley

M.A. in Anthropology, University of Alberta

B.A. in Anthropology (High Honors), University of California at Berkeley

Courses Taught:

Introduction to Anthropology

SLU Inquiry Introduction to Anthropology

Biological Anthropology

Primate Social Behavior

Environmental Anthropology

Cross-Cultural Perspectives in Human Sexuality

Peace and Conflict

Primate Behavior & Ecology Field Course in Nicaragua

Research Interests:

My subfield specialization within Anthropology is Biological Anthropology, and specifically the study of primate social behavior. My research interests involve New World monkeys, particularly capuchins (genus *Cebus*). I have been involved in fieldwork in Central and South America since 1992, and my current work focuses on the social behavior and development of wild infant and juvenile capuchin monkeys. I have observed the behavior of primates in Central America (Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panamá), South America (Suriname) and Indonesia (Bali), and will continue field-based primate research in the areas of social behavior, behavioral ecology, and conservation. I am also interested in long-term conservation efforts in Latin America, especially those that involve local human communities. I plan on incorporating this interest in upcoming fieldwork and research endeavors in Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Suriname. Finally, larger overarching themes of interest include primate and hominin evolutionary strategies through time, and complexity in primate and human sociality.

Specific research projects include:

Infant and juvenile social behavior and development in wild white-faced capuchin monkeys (*Cebus capucinus*) and brown capuchin monkeys (*Cebus apella*).

Social interactions between infants/juveniles and adult male primates.

Age-class differences in foraging behavior in capuchin monkeys (*Cebus*).

The period of adolescence in nonhuman primate development.

Behavioral ecology and conservation of primates in Suriname.

Examination of reductionist paradigms in the field of primatology, and specifically, of reductionist views of human behavior based on the nonhuman primate data.

Examination of complexity in Hominin evolution.

Selected Publications:

MacKinnon, K. C. (2007). Social beginnings: The tapestry of infant and adult interactions. In: S. K. Bearder, C. J. Campbell, A. Fuentes, **K. C. MacKinnon**, and M. A. Panger (eds), *Primates in Perspective*. Oxford University Press.

Campbell, C. J., Fuentes, A., **MacKinnon, K. C.**, Panger, M., Bearder, S. K. (2007). Where we have been, where we are, and where we are going: The future of primatological research. In: S. K. Bearder, C. J. Campbell, A. Fuentes, K. C. MacKinnon, and M. A. Panger (eds), *Primates in Perspective*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 702-705.

MacKinnon, K. C. (2006). Food choice by juvenile capuchin monkeys (*Cebus capucinus*) in a tropical dry forest. In: A. Estrada, M. Pavelka, P. Garber and L. Luecke (eds), *New Perspectives In The Study Of Mesoamerican Primates: Distribution, Ecology, Behavior, And Conservation*. New York: Kluwer Press. pp. 349-365.

MacKinnon, K. C. and Fuentes, A. (2005). Reassessing Male Aggression and Dominance: The View From Primatology. In: S. MacKinnon and S. Silverman (eds.), *Complexities: Beyond Nature and Nurture*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pp. 83-105.

MacKinnon, K. C. (2003). Guest editor of "Behind Many Masks: Gerald Berreman and Berkeley Anthropology, 1959-2001", Special Edition of *The Kroeber Anthropological Society Papers*, vol. 89/90. University of California, Berkeley.

Rose, L.M., Perry, S., Panger, M., Jack, K., Manson, J., Gros-Louis, J., **MacKinnon, K.C.**, and Vogel, E. (2003). Interspecific Interactions between *Cebus capucinus* and other species at three Costa Rican sites. *Int. J. Primatol.*, vol. 24(4): 759-796.

Perry, S., Baker, M. Fedigan, L. M. Gros-Louis, J., Jack, K., **MacKinnon, K. C.**, Manson, J. H., Panger, M., Pyle, K., and Rose, L. M. (2003). Social conventions in wild white-faced capuchins: Evidence for traditions in a Neotropical primate. *Current Anthropology* 44(2):241-268.

Perry, S., Panger, M., Rose, L., Baker, M., Gros-Louis, J., Jack, K., **MacKinnon, K. C.**, Manson, J. H., Fedigan, and Pyle, K. (2003). Traditions in wild white-faced capuchin monkeys. IN: Fragaszy, D. M., and Perry, S. (eds.), *The Biology of Traditions: Models and Evidence*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 391-425.

Panger, M., Perry, S., Rose, L.M., Gros-Louis, J., Vogel, E., **MacKinnon, K.C.**, Baker, M. (2002). Cross-site differences in the foraging behavior of white-faced capuchins (*Cebus capucinus*). *Am. J. Phys. Anthropol.*, 119:52-66.

Selected Publications in Preparation:

MacKinnon, K. C. (in prep). Growing up primate: The ontogeny of behavior. Invited article for the 2007 *Yearbook of Physical Anthropology* (Sara Stinson, editor).

MacKinnon, K. C. (in prep). *Social Behavior And Ecology Of Young White-Faced Capuchin Monkeys In Costa Rica*. Volume to be part of the Prentice Hall monograph series, *Primate Field Studies* (edited by R. W. Sussman and N. Vasey).

MacKinnon, K.C. (in prep). Primatology field schools in Central America: Bridging the cultural anthropology/primatology divide. In: J. MacClancy and A. Fuentes (eds.), *Fieldwork: Examining Its Practice by Biological Anthropologists and Primatologists*, Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

MacKinnon, K.C. (in prep). Adolescence in capuchin monkeys (Genus *Cebus*). In: S. Copans and D. Watts (eds.), *Adolescence in Animals and Humans: An Ethological and Evolutionary Perspective*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Fuentes, A., Wyczalkowski, M., MacKinnon, K. C. (in prep). Niche construction, complexity and cooperation: Modeling human evolutionary responses.

Additional Information:

Minor Degree in Anthropology

With two full-time Anthropology faculty now at SLU, we are able to offer an exciting degree in the Dept. of Sociology & Criminal Justice: a Minor in Anthropology! An Anthropological perspective emphasizes biocultural processes, cultural relativism, and a multi-cultural viewpoint - concepts that are vital to many areas of study at Saint Louis University. By participating in Anthropology, students will be further prepared to successfully function in an interconnected world. If interested, please contact Dr. MacKinnon for more information.

Field School and Field Research Opportunities in Latin America

Opportunities to participate in fieldwork are vital for a well-rounded undergraduate experience, and I offer field school courses in Nicaragua to SLU students during the summer months of various years. During a 4-week course on Primate Behavior & Ecology students learn

fundamental concepts related to the study of primate behavior and ecology, as applied in a tropical forest setting. They gain actual field experience in data collection techniques, and independently design and conduct a research project. This field course is equivalent to an upper-level primate behavioral ecology course, but with a greater emphasis on field techniques, data collection, and research design. Contact me for more information, and also take a look at the website for the Ometepe Biological Field Station in Nicaragua:

<http://www.lasuerte.org/ometepe.htm>.

In addition, as I continue my own fieldwork research in Central and South America, I will need qualified and enthusiastic undergraduate field assistants in the years to come.

Professional Associations

American Association of Anthropology
American Association of Physical Anthropology
American Society of Primatologists
International Primatological Society
Midwest Primate Interest Group
Animal Behavior Society
Association of Women in Science

Professional Service

Biological Seat & Chair-Elect, Committee on Ethics,
American Anthropological Association
<http://www.aaanet.org/committees/ethics/members.htm>

Board of Directors, La Suerte Biological Research Station
<http://www.lasuerte.org>

Secretary-Treasurer, Midwest Primate Interest Group (MPIG)
<http://www.mpig.org>

Board of Directors, P.E.R.S.S.I.M.O.N. (People for Environmental Restoration and Sustainability in Mid-Missouri)