

# Toe Aung

curriculum vitae

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## Assistant Professor of Psychology

Psychology & Counseling Department  
Loyola Hall  
Immaculata University  
[Lab Website](#)

**Major Research Interests:** Sexual selection in humans & nonhuman primates; Vocal & physical attractiveness; Human sex differences; Costly signaling; Cross-cultural psychology; Hormonal research; Coolidge Effect

## Education

- 2022** The Pennsylvania State University University Park, PA  
**Degree:** Ph.D., Anthropology **Emphasis:** Evolutionary Psychology, Cross-cultural Psychology  
**Advisor:** David A. Puts  
**Dissertation:** Sexual selection on human voice pitch: cross species, cross cultural, experimental, and naturalistic investigations  
**Funding:** Psi Chi Graduate Research Grant, Penn State RGSO Dissertation Research Grant
- 2019** The Pennsylvania State University University Park, PA  
**Degree:** M.A., Anthropology **Emphasis:** Evolutionary Psychology, Cross-cultural Psychology  
**Advisor:** David A. Puts  
**Funding:** Graduate Teaching Assistant
- 2017** Albright College Reading, PA  
**Degree:** B.S., Psychobiology, *summa cum laude*  
**Minor:** Evolutionary Studies  
**Advisor:** Susan M. Hughes  
**Honors Thesis:** Examining the Coolidge effect in humans  
**Funding:** Presidential Scholarship, ACRE Research Grants, Psi Chi & NSF-REU Research Grants

## Peer Reviewed Publications

Karthikeyan, S., Puts, D. A., **Aung, T.**, Link, J., Cristo, M., Rosenfield, K., Patel, J., Casey, A., Santos, A., Mackiel, A., Marks, K., & Geher, G. (under review). The language of human mating: Articulatory effects on perceptions of attractiveness and dominance. *Scientific Reports*.

**Aung, T.**, Hill, A., Hlay, J., Hess, C., Hess, M., Johnson, J., Doll, L., Carlson, S.M., Magdinec, C., González-Santoyo, I., Walker, R., Bailey, D., Arnocky, S., Kamble, S., Vardy, T., Kyritsis, T., Atkinson, Q., Jones, B., Koster, J., Palomo-Vélez, G., Tybur, J., Muñoz-Reyes, J., Choy, B. K. C., Li, N., Langenhoff, A., Klar, V., Batres, C., Bascheck, P., Schild, C., Penke, L., Pazhoohi, F., Kemirembe, K., Valentova, J.V., Varella, M .A. C., Silva, C. S. A. d., Borrás-Guevara, M., Hodges-Simeon, C., Ernst, M., Garr, C., Chen, B., & Puts, D. A. (under review). Sociocultural factors modulate effects of voice pitch on social perceptions. *Psychological Science*.

Baek, S., **Aung, T.**, Kamble, S., Arnocky, S., Kemirembe, K., Valentova, J. V., Varella, M .A. C., Silva, C. S. A. d., Puts, D. A. (in preparation). COVID-19 moderates the influence of voice pitch on social perceptions: A cross-cultural comparisons in four countries

**Aung, T.**, Hill, A. K., Pfefferle, D., McLester, E., Fuller, J., Garcia-Nisa, I., Kendal, R., Petersdorf, M., Higham, J., Galat, G., Lawrence, J., Lameira, A. R., Apicella, C. L., Barelli, C., Glenn, M. E., Ramos-Fernandez, G., & Puts, D. A. (under review). Group size and sex ratio predict deep male vocalization in primates.

Baek, S., Hill, A.K., Hess, C., **Aung, T.**, Rosenfield, K., Koster, J., Winking, J., and Puts, D. A. (in preparation). Mechanisms of sexual selection on men in a natural fertility population.

## Peer Reviewed Publications *continued*

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**Aung, T.**, Baek, S., & Puts, D. A. (2022). [Sex differences are insufficient evidence of ecological adaptations in human females](#). *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.

**Aung, T.**, Goetz, S., Adams, J., McKenna, C., Hess, C., Roytman, S., Cheng, J. T., Zilioli, S., Puts, D. (2021). [Low voice pitch predicts fighting ability among male mixed martial arts fighters](#). *Scientific Report*, 11(905).

**Aung, T.**, Rosenfield, K. A., & Puts, D. A. (2021). [Male voice pitch as a signal of dominance: The mediating role of voice pitch between formidability and perceived formidability](#). *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 42(2).

Hughes, S. M., **Aung, T.**, Harrison, M. A., LaFayette, J. N., & Gallup, G. G. (2021). [Experimental evidence for sex differences in sexual variety preferences: Support for the Coolidge Effect in humans](#). *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 50, 495-509.

**Aung, T.**, & Puts, D. A. (2020). [Voice pitch: a window into the communication of social power](#). *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 33, 154-161.

Schild, C., **Aung, T.**, Kordsmeyer, T., Cardenas, R., Puts, D. A., & Penke, L. (2020). [Linking human male vocal parameters to perceptions, body morphology, strength and hormonal profiles in contexts of sexual selection](#). *Scientific Report*, 10 (21296).

**Aung, T.**, Hughes, S. M, Hone, L. S. E., & Puts, D. A. (2019). [Operational sex ratio predicts binge drinking across United States counties](#). *Evolutionary Psychology*, 17(3), 1-11.

**Aung, T.**, & Williams, L. (2019). [Mirror, mirror on the wall: Whose figure is the fairest of them all?](#) *Evolutionary Behavioral Sciences*, 13(4), 387-393.

**Aung, T.**, & Williams, L. (2019). [Low waist-to-hip, waist-to-stature, and waist-to-bust ratios predict higher rankings of plus-size models in a naturalistic condition](#). *Human Ethology Bulletin*, 33(4) 3-18.

Puts, D. A. & **Aung, T.** (2019). [Does men's voice pitch signal formidability? A reply to Feinberg et al.](#) *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*, 34(3), 189-190.

Hughes, S. M. & **Aung, T.** (2018). [Symmetry in motion: How perception of attractiveness changes with facial movement](#). *Journal of Non-Verbal Behavior*, 42, 267-283.

Hughes, S. M. & **Aung, T.** (2017). [Modern day female preferences for resources and provisioning by long-term mates](#). *Evolutionary Behavioral Sciences*, 11(3), 242-261.

**Aung, T.** (2016) [Mating mind during drinking: An evolutionary perspective](#). *The Journal of Evolutionary Studies Consortium*, 7(1), 95-112.

## Presentations & Posters

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### Oral Presentations

**Aung, T.**, et. al. (April, 2022). Effects of voice pitch on social perceptions vary with relational mobility and other socioecological variables. Oral presentation at the 33rd annual Human Behavior & Evolution Society (virtual).

**Aung, T.**, et. al. (April, 2022). Socioecological factors modulate effects of voice pitch on social perception. Oral presentation at the 15th annual Evolutionary Behavioral Science Conference of the Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society, April 2022. Pittsburgh, PA.

**Aung, T.**, & Puts, D. (July, 2021). Sexual selection on voice pitch in men. Oral presentation at the 14th annual Evolutionary Behavioral Science Conference of the Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society. Virtual **Awarded Gordon Bear Best Student Presentation**

Karthikeyan, S., Patel, J., Link, J., Cristo, M., Casey, A., Santos, A., Mackiel, A., Marks, K., Rosenfield, K., **Aung, T.**, Puts, D. (July, 2021). The language of human mating: Accent effects on attractiveness and dominance ratings sexual selection on voice pitch in men. Oral presentation at the 14th annual Evolutionary Behavioral Science Conference of the Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (virtual).

## Presentations & Posters *continued*

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### Oral Presentations *continued*

**Aung, T.**, & Puts, D. (July, 2021). Who's afraid of Thanos? Sexual selection, honest signaling, and low voice pitch in men. In Stern, J. (Chair), Voice pitch as a signal of individual differences in humans. Symposium conducted at the 32nd annual Human Behavior & Evolution Society (virtual).

**Aung, T.**, & Puts, D. (April, 2018). Does operational sex ratio predict binge drinking behaviors among young American adults? In Mating & Parenting. Symposium conducted at Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society, New Paltz, NY.

**Aung, T.**, & Hughes, S. (June, 2017). Sex differences in attraction toward novel versus repeatedly exposed faces: Testing the Coolidge Effect. In Cognition. Symposium conducted at Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society, Binghamton, NY.

Susan M. Hughes, **Aung, T.**, & Harrison, M. (June, 2017). Sex Differences in preferences for variety: An examination of the Coolidge Effect in humans. In Cognition. Symposium conducted at Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society, Binghamton, NY.

**Aung, T.**, Wilkins, J., Wif, S., & Woodruff, C. C. (August, 2016). The invisible man: Investigating mu suppression in perceived non-biological movement. In L. C. Stevens (Chair), The Neuroscience of Empathy, Compassion, and Self-Compassion. Symposium conducted at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Denver, CO.

### Poster Presentations

Hughes, S. M., Harrison, M.A., **Aung, T.**, & Gallup, G.G. Jr. (2019). Experimental evidence for sex differences in sexual novelty preferences. Poster presented at Human Behavior & Evolution Society, Boston, MA.

Adams, J., **Aung, T.**, Cheng, J., Goetz, M. M., Hess, C., McKenna, C. C., Puts, D.A., & Zilioli, S. (2019). Vocal parameters and physical formidability. Poster presented at Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society, Boston, MA.

**Aung, T.**, Rosenfield K., & Puts, D. (2019). Voice Pitch Paradox: Why do we perceive low-pitched men as dominant? Poster presented at The Nittany Lion Inn. (Anthropology Day)

**Aung, T.**, & Hughes, S. M. (2017). The Coolidge Effect: An examination of eye gaze for novel and repeated faces that differ in attractiveness level. Poster presented at Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society, Binghamton, NY. **Awarded Best Student Poster**

**Aung, T.**, & Seidman, G. (2017). Age and sex differences in perceived relationship quality among couples: An evolutionary perspective. Poster presented at Higher Education Council of Berks County (HECBC) conference, Reading, PA.

**Aung, T.**, & Hughes, S. M. (2017). The Coolidge Effect: An examination of eye gaze for novel and repeated faces that differ in attractiveness level. Poster presented at Higher Education Council of Berks County (HECBC) conference, Reading, PA.

**Aung, T.**, & Seidman, G. (2017). Age and sex differences in perceived relationship quality among couples: An evolutionary perspective. Poster presented at Higher Education Council of Berks County (HECBC) conference, Reading, PA.

**Aung, T.**, & Hughes, S. M. (2017). An examination of eye gaze for novel and repeated faces that differ in attractiveness level. Poster presented at the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), Memphis, TN.

## Presentations & Posters *continued*

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### Poster Presentations

**Aung, T.,** Lecuhga-Gutierrez, L., & Woodruff, C. C. (2016). The invisible man: Investigating mu suppression in perceived non-biological movement. Poster presented at Penn Honors Diversity (PHD) Symposium at University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

Hughes, S. M., **Aung, T.,** & Harrison, M. A. (2016). Modern Day Female Preferences for Resources and Provisioning by Long-term Mates. Poster presented at Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (NEEPS), Nova Scotia, Canada.

**Aung, T.,** & Forte, V. J. (2016). Does the Belief in Determinism Influence the Propensity for Forgiveness? Poster presented at Higher Education Council of Berks County (HECBC) conference, Reading, PA.

**Aung, T.,** & Forte, V. J. (2016). Does the Belief in Determinism Influence the Propensity for Forgiveness? Poster presented at Undergraduate Research at the Capitol, Harrisburg, PA. ***One of the two students selected to represent Albright College at Capitol***

**Aung, T.,** & Hughes, S. M. (2016). Modern Day Female Preferences for Resources and Provisioning by Long-term Mates. Poster presented at Eastern Psychological Association (EPA) conference, Philadelphia, PA. ***Received 2015-2016 Psi Chi Eastern Regional Research Award***

**Aung, T.,** & Hughes, S. M. (2016). Modern Day Female Preferences for Resources and Provisioning by Long-term Mates. Poster presented at Higher Education Council of Berks County (HECBC) conference, Reading, PA.

Place, E. L., **Aung, T.,** & Hughes, S. M. (2016). Women's self-perceived mate value predicts perceived partner attractiveness, partner SES, and relationship. Poster presented at Eastern Psychological Association (EPA) conference, Philadelphia, PA. ***Received 2015-2016 Psi Chi Eastern Regional Research Award***

**Aung, T.,** Wilkins, J., Wif, S., & Woodruff, C. C. (2015). The invisible man: Investigating mu suppression in perceived non-biological movement. Poster presented at High County conference center, Flagstaff, AZ.

**Aung, T.,** & Hughes, S. M. (2015). Perceptions of altruistic behaviors depending upon recipient type: Family, friends, and strangers. Poster presented at Higher Education Council of Berks County (HECBC) conference, Reading, PA.

**Aung, T.,** & Hughes, S. M. (2015). Perceptions of altruistic behaviors depending upon recipient type: Family, friends, and strangers. Poster presented at Eastern Psychological Association (EPA) conference, Philadelphia, PA.

**Aung, T.** (2014). How mindfulness can help college students physically and mentally. Individual paper presented at Higher Education Council of Berks County (HECBC) conference, Reading, PA.

## Grants, Funding, Honors, & Awards

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### 2022

Penn State University, Anthropology Professional Meeting Travel Grant (\$400)  
Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (NEEPS), Elected Social Officer

### 2021

Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (NEEPS), Gordon Bear Best Student Presentation Award

### 2019

Psi Chi Fall Research Grant (\$1,500)  
RGSO Dissertation Grant (\$2,000)

## Grants, Funding, Honors, & Awards *continued*

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### 2018

Penn State University, Anthropology Professional Meeting Travel Grant (\$400)

### 2017

Albright College, GOLD A Award: "Highest Student Award Given to Seniors"

Albright College, Albright Creative Research Experience (ACRE) Grant (\$1,250)

Albright College, The Outstanding Individual Contribution to Psychology Award

Albright College, The Psychobiology Award

Albright College, Jacob Albright Scholar, GPA  $\geq 3.85$  (2013-2017)

Albright College, Dean's Honor List, GPA  $\geq 3.75$  (2013-2017)

Albright College, Presidential Scholarship (\$20,000/yr.)

Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (NEEPS), Best Student Poster Award

### 2016

Psi Chi/Council on Undergraduate Research Summer Research Grant (\$3,500)

Albright College, Albright Creative Research Experience (ACRE) Grant (\$3,500)

Northern Arizona University, Student Travel Grant (\$1,000)

Albright College, Student Travel Grant (\$750)

Albright College, Albright Creative Research Experience (ACRE) Grant (\$1,380)

Albright College Student Travel Grant (\$460)

Psi Chi Eastern Regional Research Award (\$300)

Psi Chi Eastern Regional Research Award (\$300)

### 2015

National Science Foundation (NSF-REU) Fellowship (\$4,000)

Albright College Student Travel Grant (\$388)

## Teaching

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### Assistant Professor - Immaculata University

Fall 2022 - Statistics, 15 students

Statistics, 20 students

Statistics, 20 students (Pope John Paul II High School)

Foundations in Psychology, 19 students (online)

### Instructor of Record - Penn State University

Summer 2022 - Introductory Biological Anthropology, 45 students (online)

Fall 2021 - Introductory Biological Anthropology, 47 students (online)

- Overall effectiveness as a teacher rating of **6.47** on a 7 point scale (7 = Highest Rating)

Summer 2021 - Humans as Primates, 13 students (online)

### Graduate Student Teaching Assistant - Penn State University

Spring 2021 - Sex and Evolution, 89 students (online)

- Overall effectiveness as a teacher rating of **6.45** on a 7 point scale (7 = Highest Rating)

Fall 2020 - Sex and Evolution, 90 students

Spring 2020 - Sex and Evolution, 88 students

Fall 2019 - Sex and Evolution, 85 students

- Overall effectiveness as a teacher rating of **6.55** on a 7 point scale (7 = Highest Rating)

Spring 2019 - Sex and Evolution, 82 students

Fall 2018 - Humans as Primates, 103 students

Spring 2018 - Humans as Primates, 85 students

Fall 2017 - Introductory Biological Anthropology, 74 students

## Teaching *continued*

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### Undergraduate Student Teaching Assistant - Albright College

2016 - Psychology Research Methods I & II  
 2015 - Psychology Research Methods I & II

### Guest Lecturer

2021 - *Lunch Series Talk, Sexual selection on voice pitch in humans and other anthropoids*, Boston University  
 2018 - *The Evolution of Human Mating, Topic: Coolidge Effect*, The Pennsylvania State University  
 2016 - *Animal Behavior, Topic: Animal Cognition & Attention*, Albright College

### Psychology Peer Tutor - Albright College

2015-2017 - Bio Behavior, Group Study Tutor  
 2014-2017 - Psychology Research Methods I & II, Introduction to Psychology, Social Psychology, and Bio Behavior

## Mentoring & Project Supervision

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- ARISE: Summer institute for underrepresented and underserved students** Summer 2022
- Taught a module on sexual differentiation of the human brain and behavior
- NEEPS Conference** Spring 2022
- Participated in student lunch and graduate school questions
- Behavioral Endocrinology & Evolution Lab** Fall 2017-Fall 2022
- Mentored students with data collection & manuscript preparation for research projects
- Rosalie Ruhlmann** Spring 2019
- I mentored Rosalie, Dr. Joey Cheng's student, with data collection on [MMA fighters project](#)

## Service

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- 2022** Evolutionary Psychology, Editorial Board Member  
 Evolutionary Psychological Science, Editorial Board Member  
 Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (NEEPS), Elected Social Officer
- 2021** Human Behavior & Evolution Society (HBES), Conference Volunteer
- 2019** Hands On Therapeutic Riding Program, Youth Session "Sidewalker" Volunteer  
 Hands On Therapeutic Riding Program, Grant Writer Volunteer, *Awarded \$4,197 from the Centre Foundation Grant*
- 2018** Centre County Youth Service Bureau, Volunteer Youth Program Leader
- 2017** Centre County Youth Service Bureau, Volunteer Youth Program Leader  
 Psi Chi Chapter, Albright College, Elected President  
 Evolutionary Studies (EvoS) Consortium Journal, Undergraduate Peer Review Editor

## Service *continued*

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### 2016

Psi Chi Chapter, Albright College, Elected President  
EvoS Consortium Journal, Undergraduate Peer Review Editor

### 2015

Psi Chi Chapter, Albright College, Elected President  
EvoS Consortium Journal, Undergraduate Peer Review Editor

## Professional Development

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[Google UX Design Professional Certificate](#) (In Progress; completed 2 out of 7 courses)

[Google Data Analytics Certification \(2021\)](#)

Python Programming: A Concise Introduction, Coursera (2021)

Foundations of Data Science: K-Means Clustering in Python, Coursera (2021)

NSF-REU Internship, Social Cognitive Electrophysiology Lab, Northern Arizona University (2015)

## Select Technical Skills

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R	Open Science Framework (OSF)
SPSS	Multilevel Statistical Modeling
Qualtrics	Multivariate Statistics
Canvas Learning Management Software	Bayesian Analysis
User Experience Research & Design	Structural Equation Modeling
Comprehensive Meta-Analysis	Praat Analysis

## Ad Hoc Reviewer For:

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*Adaptive Human Behavior and Physiology*

*Animal Behavior*

*Collabra Psychology*

*Evolutionary Behavioral Sciences*

*Evolution and Human Behavior*

*The Journal of Nonverbal Behavior*

*The Journal of Evolutionary Studies Consortium*

*Personality & Individual Differences*

*Philosophical Transactions B*

*Psychology & Sexuality*

*Royal Society Open Science*

*Scientific Reports*

*The Journal of Sex Research*

*The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*

## Professional Affiliations

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Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (NEEPS)

- Elected Social Officer (2022 - Present)

Psi Chi

- Elected President (2015-2017)

The Evolutionary Studies Consortium

- Undergraduate Peer Review Editor

American Psychological Association

Association for Psychological Science

Eastern Psychological Association

Human Behavior and Evolution Society

## Selected Media Coverage

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**2022**

"What's the Appeal of Deep Voices in Men," *SAPIENS*

"The Chemistry of the Best Friendships," *Psychology Today*

**2020**

"How to Reignite Your Sexual Spark in a Relationship in 3 Steps," *Medium*

**2019**

"Binge drinking is a sexual signal," *Metro News*

**2018**

"Disney Princesses Have Absurdly Small Waists," *Pacific Standard*

**2017**

"Toe Aung: Understanding Human Behavior," *Senior Spotlight*, Albright College

"Life an Education for Albright Senior," *Reading Eagle*

**2016**

"Penn Honors Diversity Symposium Participant," The University of Pennsylvania

"Wealth of Experience," *Student Spotlight*, Albright College

## References

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**Dr. David A. Puts** | dap27@psu.edu  
Professor of Anthropology  
The Pennsylvania State University

**Dr. Mary K. Shenk** | mks74@psu.edu  
Associate Professor of Anthropology, Demography, and Asian Studies  
The Pennsylvania State University

**Susan M. Hughes** | shughes@albright.edu  
Professor of Psychology  
Albright College