**Robert S Walker**

University of Missouri, Columbia MO

[walkerro@missouri.edu](mailto:walkerro@missouri.edu)

Websites: [A white letter on a blue background

Description automatically generated](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Robert-Walker-13) [A close-up of a google logo

Description automatically generated](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=ixiZVVoAAAAJ&hl=en) [A logo of a tiger

Description automatically generated](https://anthropology.missouri.edu/people/walker)[Image result for github](https://github.com/RobertSWalker)[A blue and grey logo

Description automatically generated](https://robert-walker.shinyapps.io/ggshiny/)

**EDUCATION**

2004 PhD with distinction, Anthropology, University of New Mexico

2001 MS with distinction, Anthropology, University of New Mexico

1998 BA magna cum laude, Anthropology, Colorado State University

**EMPLOYMENT (5 universities)**

2015 Associate Professor, Anthropology, University of Missouri

2009 Assistant Professor, Anthropology, University of Missouri

2008 Postdoctoral researcher, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology

2007 Research Professor, Anthropology, University of Colorado Denver

2006 Lecturer, Anthropology, University of New Mexico

2005 Lecturer, Anthropology, University of California Santa Barbara

**TEACHING (4 universities, 12+ courses)**

2009 Data Science in R/Python, Comparative Methods, Cultures of Amazonia, Archaeology of South America, Cultural Evolution, Anthropology of War, Honors Anthropology (MU)

2007 Biological Anthropology, Human Behavior (CU Denver)

2006 Human Lifecourse, Human Evolutionary Ecology (UNM)

2005 Human Growth & Development (UCSB)

**GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS (*n* = 27, $497k)**

2024 Fulbright Scholar Award to Brazil $22k

• [Steinmetz](https://www.archaeological.org/grant/the-ellen-and-charles-steinmetz-endowment-fund-for-archaeology/) Endowment for Archaeology (Archaeological Institute of America) $9k

2023 [PaleoWest](https://www.paleowestfoundation.org/grants) Foundation Research Grant Award $5k

• MU Center for the Humanities Grants $25k

• MU Research Council Grant $15k

• MU Arts & Humanities Research and Creative Works Fellow $13k

• MU Arts & Science Writing Fellowship $7k

2017 MU retention package $100k

2016 MU Research Council Grant Guajajara Guardians in Eastern Amazonia $10k

2015 National Geographic Society Research and Exploration Grant #9764-15 Co-father relationships among Aché hunter-gatherers of Paraguay $20k

• MU Research Board Grant Remote sensing uncontacted indigenous villages $25k

• MU Provost Outstanding Junior Faculty Research Award $1k

2014 MU Research Council Grant Remote sensing uncontacted indigenous villages $9k

• MU Richard Wallace Faculty Incentive Grant Remote sensing in Amazonia $4k

2013 National Geographic Society Research and Exploration Grant #9165-12 Population dynamics of recently contacted and isolated indigenous populations in Brazil $20k

2012 RocketHub SciFund Challenge Shrinking horizons: Preserving humans' homes $3k

2011 MU Research Board Grant Alloparental kin investment in Brazil $34k

• Richard Wallace Faculty Incentive Grant Partible paternity in Brazil $2k

2007 Leakey Foundation General Research Grant Growth & life history of the Hiwi $12k

2005 Leakey Foundation General Research Grant Visual evoked potentials of the Aché $12k

2003 Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Research Grant #6941 Makú skill investment $15k

• NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant $10k

• Leakey Foundation General Research Grant $12k

2002 UNM research and travel grants $5k

2001 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship 3 years $72k

1999 UNM Lewis R Binford Graduate Fellowship 3 years $36k

**PUBLICATIONS (*n* = 82, *h* = 32, citations = 5k+)**

nd Zhou A, F Wang, RS Walker, M Sturm, A Nalmas, S Murrell. VR reconstruction of Amazonian geoglyphs using LiDAR data. *Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers VR*.

• Hamilton MJ, RS Walker, B Buchanan. Institutional complexity emerges from socioecological complexity in small-scale human societies. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B*

• Paige J, RS Walker, B Buchanan, C Gilbert, J Baldino, S McKinny, MI Eren, MR Bebber. Copper- versus stone-tipped dart relative functional efficiency: a “naturalistic” experiment assessing penetration depth into hog carcasses by human atlatlists, in *Indigenous Metals*. Ed MR Bebber. Berghahn Books

• Samuels AG, D Holly, MR Bebber, MI Eren, S McKinny, B Buchanan, J Paige, RS Walker, C Wolff. Using experimental archaeology to think about the impact of European colonialism on North American Indigenous technology: a case study on the Beothuk of Newfoundland, Canada

2024 Walker RS, J Paige. Modeling the social drivers of environmental sustainability among Amazonian indigenous lands using Bayesian networks. *PLoS ONE* 19:e0297501

• Aung T, A Hill, J Hlay, C Hess, M Hess, J Johnson, L Doll, I González-Santoyo, RS Walker, D Bailey, K Douglass, S Arnocky, S Kamble, T Vardy, T Kyritsis, Q Atkinson, B Jones, J Koster, G Palomo-Vélez, J Tybur, J Muñoz-Reyes, B Cheng, N Li, A Langenhoff, K Verena, C Batres, P Bascheck, C Schild, L Penke, F Pazhoohi, K Kemirembe, JV Valentova, M Varella, M Borras-Guevara, C Hodges-Simeon, M Ernst, C Garr, B Chen, D Puts. Effects of voice pitch on social perceptions vary with relational mobility and homicide rate. *Psychological Science*

• Hamilton MJ, B Buchanan, J Lobo, RS Walker. Food storage, mobility, and the density-dependence of hunter-gatherer movement ecology. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 54:104441

• Eren MI, J Romans, RS Walker, B Buchanan, A Key. Bullet ricochet mark plan-view morphology in concrete: an experimental assessment of five bullet types and two distances using machine learning. *Forensic Sciences Research*

2023 Walker RS, MV Flinn, SP Prall, MJ Hamilton. Remote sensing evidence for population growth of isolated indigenous societies in Amazonia. *Scientific Reports* 13:22448

• Walker RS, JR Ferguson, A Olmeda, MJ Hamilton, J Elghammer, B Buchanan. Predicting the geographic distribution of ancient Amazonian archaeological sites with machine learning. *PeerJ* 11:e15137

• Bebber MR, B Buchanan, MI Eren, RS Walker, D Zirkle. Atlatl use equalizes female and male projectile weapon velocity. *Scientific Reports* 13:13349

• Mika A, J Lierenz, A Smith, B Buchanan, RS Walker, MI Eren, MR Bebber, A Key. Hafted technologies reduced stone tool-related selective pressures acting on the hominin hand. *Scientific Reports* 13:15582

• Mullen D, J Sitton, B Story, B Buchanan, RS Walker, MI Eren, MR Bebber. Comparison of four ballistic and thrusting target materials: An experimental and Bayesian approach using static testing of stone and steel arrow tips. *Archaeometry* 65:1108-1124

• Buchanan, B, MJ Hamilton, N Gala, H Smith, M Wilson, MI Eren, RS Walker. Comparing Clovis and Folsom fluting via scaling analysis. *Archaeometry*

• Baldino J, S McKinny, J Taylor, M Wilson, B Buchanan, RS Walker, B Story, MR Bebber, MI Eren. North American Clovis point form and performance V: An experimental assessment of spear thrusting penetration and entry wound size. *Lithic Technology*

• Conrad G, S Hough, J Baldino, N Gala, B Buchanan, RS Walker, A Key, B Redmond, MR Bebber, MI Eren. Clovis bone versus stone weapon tip penetration: thinking about relative costs and benefits, experimental assumptions, and archaeological unknowns at Sheriden Cave, Ohio, U.S.A. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 52:104295

2022 Mika A, B Buchanan, RS Walker, AJM Key, B Story, MR Bebber, MI Eren. North American Clovis point form and performance III: an experimental assessment of knife cutting efficiency. *Lithic Technology* 47:203-220

• Buchanan B, RS Walker, MJ Hamilton, B Story, M Bebber, D Wilcox, MI Eren. Experimental assessment of lanceolate projectile point and haft robustness. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 42:103399

• Lewis A, J Williams, B Buchanan, RS Walker, M Bebber, MI Eren. Knapping quality of local versus exotic Upper Mercer chert (Ohio, U.S.A.) during the Holocene. *Geoarchaeology* 37:486-496

• Eren MI, L Mukusha, J Lierenz, M Wilson, M Fisch, T True, M Kavaulic, RS Walker, B Buchanan, AJM Key, MR Bebber. Another tool in the experimental toolbox: On the use of aluminum as a substitute for chert in North American prehistoric ballistics research and beyond. *North American Archaeologist* 43:151-176

• Gala N, A Mika, M Wilson, J Williams, B Buchanan, RS Walker, M Bebber, MI Eren. Experimental assessment of obsidian versus chert lanceolate projectile point durability and robusticity: semi-static fracture strength and dynamic impact. *Archaeometry* 64:1307-1324

2021 Walker RS. Cultural phylogenetics in lowland South America, in *Language Dispersal, Diversification, and Contact: A Global Perspective*. Eds M Crevels & P Muysken. Oxford University Press, p. 291-300

2020 Hamilton MJ, RS Walker, C Kempes. Diversity begets diversity in human cultures and mammal species. *Scientific Reports* 10:19654

• Hamilton MJ, RS Walker, B Buchanan, DS Sandeford. Scaling human sociopolitical complexity. *PLoS ONE* 15:e0234615

• Eren MI, B Story, A Perrone, M Bebber, MJ Hamilton, RS Walker, B Buchanan. North American Clovis point form and function: An experimental assessment of penetration depth. *Lithic Technology* 45:263-282

2019 Walker RS, MJ Hamilton. Machine learning with remote sensing data to locate uncontacted indigenous villages in Amazonia. *PeerJ Computer Science* 5:e170

• Hamilton MJ, RS Walker. Nonlinear diversification rates of linguistic phylogenies over the Holocene. *PLoS ONE* 14:e0213126

• Hamilton MJ, RS Walker, B Buchanan. Spatiotemporal diversification of projectile point types in western North America over 13,000 years. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 24:486-495

2018 Hamilton MJ, B Buchanan, RS Walker. Scaling the size, structure, and dynamics of residentially mobile hunter-gatherer camps. *American Antiquity* 83:701-720

• Hamilton MJ, RS Walker. A stochastic density-dependent model of long-term population dynamics in hunter-gatherer populations. *Evolutionary Ecology Research* 19:85-102

2017 Beckerman S, M Lizarralde, DM Peluso, C Yvinec, N Harris, D Parker, RS Walker, KR Hill. Partible paternity, the secondary sex ratio and a possible Trivers-Willard effect. *Current Anthropology* 58:540-543

2016 Walker RS, DC Kesler, KR Hill. Are isolated indigenous populations headed toward extinction? *PLoS ONE* 11:e0150987

• Puts DA, AK Hill, DH Bailey DH, RS Walker, D Rendall, JR Wheatley, LLM Welling, K Dawood, R Cárdenas, RP Burriss, NG Jablonski, MD Shriver, D Weiss, AR Lameira, CL Apicella, MJ Owren, C Barelli, ME Glenn, G Ramos-Fernandez. Sexual selection on male vocal fundamental frequency in humans and other anthropoids. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B* 283:20152830

• De Vynck JC, R Anderson, C Atwater, RM Cowling, EC Fisher, CW Marean, RS Walker, KR Hill. Return rates from intertidal foraging from Blombos Cave to Pinnacle Point: understanding early human economies. *Journal of Human Evolution* 92:101-115

• Ellsworth RM, DH Bailey, MK Shenk, RS Walker. Comparative study of reproductive skew and pair-bond stability using genealogies from 80 small-scale human societies. *American Journal of Human Biology* 28:335-342

2015 Walker RS, KR Hill. Protecting isolated tribes. *Science* 348:1061

• Walker RS, L Sattenspiel, KR Hill. Mortality from contact-related epidemics among indigenous populations in Greater Amazonia. *Scientific Reports* 5:14032

• Kesler DC, RS Walker. Geographic distribution of isolated indigenous societies in Amazonia and the efficacy of indigenous territories. *PLoS ONE* 10:e0125113

• Walker RS, C Yvinec, RM Ellsworth, DH Bailey. Co-father relationships among the Suruí (Paiter) of Brazil. *PeerJ* 3:e899

• Ellsworth RM, RS Walker. Sociobiology of lethal violence in small-scale societies, in *Routledge Handbook of Biosocial Criminology*. Eds M DeLisi & MG Vaughn. Routledge, p. 57-74

• Walker RS. Human residence patterns, in *Emerging Trends in the Social and Behavioral Sciences.* Eds R Scott & S Kosslyn. Wiley, p. 1-8

• Walker RS. Evolution of culture, in *Basics in Human Evolution.* Ed MP Muehlenbein. Academic Press, p. 525-531

2014 Walker RS, MJ Hamilton, AA Groth. Remote sensing and conservation of isolated indigenous villages in Amazonia. *Royal Society Open Science* 1:140246

• Macfarlan SJ, RS Walker, MV Flinn, NA Chagnon. Lethal coalitionary aggression and long-term alliances among Yanomamö men. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 111:16662-16669

• Walker RS. Amazonian horticulturalists live in larger, more related groups than hunter-gatherers. *Evolution & Human Behavior* 35:384-388

• Ellsworth RM, DH Bailey, KR Hill, AM Hurtado, RS Walker. Relatedness, co-residence, and shared fatherhood among Ache foragers of Paraguay. *Current Anthropology* 55:647-653

• Walker RS, MJ Hamilton. Amazonian societies on the brink of extinction. *American Journal of Human Biology* 26:570-572

• Walker RS, DH Bailey. Marrying kin in small-scale societies. *American Journal of Human Biology* 26:384-388

• Walker RS, KR Hill. Causes, consequences, and kin bias of human group fissions. *Human Nature* 25:465-475

• Bailey DH, KR Hill, Walker RS. Fitness consequences of spousal relatedness in 46 small-scale societies. *Biology Letters* 10:20140160

• Hamilton MJ, RS Walker, DC Kesler. Crash and rebound of indigenous populations in lowland South America. *Scientific Reports* 4:4541

• Ellsworth RM, RS Walker. Integrating approaches to human uniqueness. *Current Anthropology* 55:768-769

2013 Walker RS, S Beckerman, MV Flinn, M Gurven, CR von Rueden, KL Kramer, RD Greaves, L Córdoba, D Villar, EH Hagen, JM Koster, L Sugiyama, TE Hunter, KR Hill. Living with kin in lowland horticultural societies. *Current Anthropology* 54:96-103

• Walker RS, DH Bailey. Body counts in lowland South American violence. *Evolution & Human Behavior* 34:29-34

• Bailey DH, RS Walker, GE Blomquist, KR Hill, AM Hurtado, DC Geary. Heritability and fitness correlates of personality in the Ache, a natural-fertility population in Paraguay. *PLoS ONE* 8:e59325

2012 Walker RS, S Wichmann, T Mailund, CJ Atkisson. Cultural phylogenetics of the Tupí language family in lowland South America. *PLoS ONE* 7:e35025

• Bailey DH, MJ Hamilton, RS Walker. Latitude, population size, and the language-farming dispersal hypothesis. *Evolutionary Ecology Research* 14:1057-1067

• Hamilton MJ, O Burger, RS Walker. Human Ecology, in *Metabolic Ecology: A Scaling Approach.* Eds RM Sibly, A Kodric-Brown & JH Brown. Wiley & Sons, p. 248-257

2011 Hill K, RS Walker, M Bozicevic, J Eder, T Headland, B Hewlett, AM Hurtado, F Marlowe, P Wiessner, B Wood. Co-residence patterns in hunter-gatherer societies show unique human social structure. *Science* 331:1286-1289

• Wichmann S, EW Holman, T Rama, RS Walker. Correlates of reticulation in linguistic phylogenies. *Language Dynamics & Change* 1:205-240

• Walker RS, KR Hill, MV Flinn, RM Ellsworth. Evolutionary history of hunter-gatherer marriage practices. *PLoS ONE* 6:e19066

• Walker RS, LA Ribeiro. Bayesian phylogeography of the Arawak expansion in lowland South America. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B* 278:2562-2567

• Walker RS, MJ Hamilton. Social complexity and linguistic diversity in Austronesian and Bantu population expansions. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B* 278:1399-1404

• Hogg RT, RS Walker. Life-history correlates of enamel microstructure in Cebidae (Platyrrhini, Primates). *Anatomical Record* 294:2193-2206

• Gawlik A, RS Walker, Z Hochberg. Impact of infancy duration on adult size in 22 subsistence-based societies. *Acta Paediatrica* 100:e248-e252

• Hochberg Z, A Gawlik, RS Walker. Evolutionary fitness as a function of pubertal age in 22 subsistence-based traditional societies. *International Journal of Pediatric Endocrinology* 2011:2

2010 Walker RS, MV Flinn, KR Hill. Evolutionary history of partible paternity in lowland South America. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 107:19195-19200

• Burger O, RS Walker, MJ Hamilton. Lifetime reproductive effort in humans. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B* 277:773-777

2009 Hamilton MJ, O Burger, JP DeLong, RS Walker, M Moses, JH Brown. Population stability, cooperation and the invasibility of the human species. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 106:12255-12260

2008 Walker RS, M Gurven, O Burger, MJ Hamilton. Trade-off between number and size of offspring in humans and other primates. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B* 275:827-833

• Walker RS, MJ Hamilton. Life history consequences of density dependence and the evolution of human body sizes. *Current Anthropology* 49:115-122

2007 Hamilton MJ, BT Milne, RS Walker, O Burger, JH Brown. Complex structure of hunter-gatherer social networks. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B* 274:2195-2202

• Hamilton MJ, BT Milne, RS Walker, JH Brown. Nonlinear scaling of space use in human hunter-gatherers. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 104:4765-4769

• Hill K, AM Hurtado, RS Walker. High adult mortality among Hiwi hunter-gatherers: Implications for human evolution. *Journal of Human Evolution* 52:443-454

2006 Walker RS, O Burger, J Wagner, CR von Rueden. Evolution of brain size and juvenile periods in primates. *Journal of Human Evolution* 51:480-489

• Walker RS, M Gurven, K Hill, A Migliano, NA Chagnon, R De Souza, G Djurovic, R Hames, AM Hurtado, H Kaplan, K Kramer, WJ Oliver, C Valeggia, T Yamauchi. Growth rates and life histories in twenty-two small-scale societies. *American Journal of Human Biology* 18:295-311

• Walker RS, K Hill, O Burger, AM Hurtado. Life in the slow lane revisited: Ontogenetic separation between chimpanzees and humans. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 129:577-583

• Gurven M, RS Walker. Energetic demand of multiple dependents and the evolution of slow human growth. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B* 273:835-841

2005 Burger O, M Hamilton, RS Walker. Prey as patch model: A marginal gains curve for vertebrate prey. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 32:1147-1158

2003 Walker RS, KR Hill. Modeling growth and senescence in physical performance among the Ache of Eastern Paraguay. *American Journal of Human Biology* 15:196-208

2002 Walker RS, KR Hill, H Kaplan, G MacMillan. Age-dependency in hunting ability among the Ache of Eastern Paraguay. *Journal of Human Evolution* 42:639-657

2001 Todd LC, DC Jones, RS Walker, P Burnett, J Eighmy. Late archaic bison hunters in Northern Colorado: 1997-1999 Excavations at the Kaplan-Hoover Bison Bonebed. *Plains Anthropologist* 46:125-147

**FIELDWORK (51 months)**

2023 Discovering geoglyphs in Brazil, 2 months

2016 Indigenous protection of forests with Guajajara Guardians in Brazil, 3 months

2013 Population dynamics of indigenous populations in Brazil, 2 months

2011 Alloparental kin investment & reproductive strategies in Brazil, 6 months

2010 Aché personality research in Paraguay, 2 months

2009 Cultural & linguistic variation in lowland South America, 6 months

2006 Trio & Wayana demography in Brazil & Suriname, 3 months

2005 Visual evoked potentials & electroencephalography with Aché, 2 months

2002 Makú growth & life history in Brazil, 6 months

2000 Aché age-specific hunting ability in Paraguay, 4 months

1999 Hudson-Meng Bison Bonebed archaeological excavations in Nebraska, 3 months

1998 Kaplan-Hoover Bison Bonebed archaeological excavations in Colorado, 12 months

**INVITED PRESENTATIONS (*n* = 31)**

2023 Detection of ancient Amazonian geoglyphs. MU AI/Machine Learning Forum

2018 Last of the world’s uncontacted tribes. Miami

2017 Mysteries of the Missing documentary starring Terry O’Quinn (Season 1, Episode 7B)

• Multiple fathers in lowland South America. Miami

2016 Last of the world’s uncontacted tribes. Baylor

2015 Body counts in lowland South American violence. [NIMBioS](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M0EJ5Vz0Vw8&ab_channel=NIMBioS)

• Last of the world’s uncontacted tribes. MU Saturday Morning Science

2014 Remote sensing uncontacted indigenous villages in Amazonia. UNLV

• Uniqueness of human social structure. Leipzig

• Remote sensing uncontacted indigenous villages in Amazonia. ASU

• Multiple fathers in lowland South America. University of Kent

• Extensive versus intensive human kinship systems. Penn State

2013 Multiple fathers in lowland South America. MU Life Sciences and Society

2012 Cultural phylogenetics in lowland South America. Amsterdam

• Body counts in Amazonian violence. UNM

• Living with kin in traditional human societies. Penn State

2011 Mode & tempo of human cultural evolution. Yale

2010 Evolutionary history of partible paternity. Yale

• Cultural variation in the Amazon. Missouri Southern State

2009 Lifetime reproductive effort in humans. Washington University

2008 Human life history from a comparative perspective. UNM

• Number & size tradeoff of offspring in humans & other animals. UNM

• Life-history theory of small & large body size in hunter-gatherers. ASU

2007 Age uncertainty & comparative human life history. Leipzig/Rostock

• Human life history from a comparative perspective. UCLA

• Trade-off between number & size of offspring. William & Mary

• Density dependence & human life history evolution. Philadelphia

2006 Density dependence in the evolution of hunter-gatherer body sizes. Philadelphia

• Activity patterns & health of Aché hunter-gatherers. Denver

• Are there two human ontogenies? Anchorage

2005 The unique human life history. UNM

**REFERENCES**

Dr. Mark Flinn, Professor of Anthropology

Department of Anthropology, Baylor University

One Bear Place, Waco, TX 76798

email: Mark\_Flinn@baylor.edu, phone: (254) 710-4050

Dr. Kim Hill, Professor of Anthropology

School of Human Evolution and Social Change, and Institute of Human Origins

Arizona State University, Tempe AZ 85287-2402

email: Kim.Hill@asu.edu, phone: (480) 727-0679

Dr. Marcus Hamilton, Associate Professor of Data Analytics

Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at San Antonio

San Antonio, TX 78249-1644

email: [marcus.hamilton@utsa.edu](mailto:marcus.hamilton@utsa.edu), phone: (210) 458-4075

Dr. Michael Gurven, Professor of Anthropology

Humanities and Social Sciences Building 2059

Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara CA 93106

email: Gurven@anth.ucsb.edu, phone: (805) 893-2202