

YINTONG (RITA) WANG

ritawangyt@uchicago.edu

EDUCATION

University of Chicago

Sep. 2024 – present

Doctor of Philosophy in Ecology & Evolution

Advisor: Dr. Sarah Cobey

Emory University

Aug. 2021 – May 2024

B.S. in Biology | Minor in Quantitative Science

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Aug. 2020 – Jun. 2021

Coursework toward B.S. in Biology

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Emory University

Mar. 2023 – May 2024

Advisor: Dr. Katia Koelle

- Characterizing within-host evolutionary patterns of SARS-CoV-2 chronic infections

Emory University

Nov. 2021 – May 2023

Advisor: Dr. Bo Liang

- Purification and expression of RSV small hydrophobic protein and EBOV VP35 protein

PUBLICATIONS

Coats, A., **Wang, Y. R.**, & Koelle, K. (2025). Immune pressure is key to understanding observed patterns of respiratory virus evolution in prolonged infections. *Virus Evolution*, 11(1), veaf054.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Wang, Y. R., Vieira, M. C., McGough, L., Martin, E. T., & Cobey, S. *Estimating vaccination- and infection-induced protection with mechanistic models fitted to cohort data*. Poster presented at:

- Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Disease Conference (EEID), Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA, USA (June 2026).
- 5th Annual CEIRR Network Meeting, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA (May 2026).
- Epidemics 10: International Conference on Infectious Disease Dynamics, San Diego, CA, USA (November 2025).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Chicago

Winter 2026

Teaching Assistant: Fundamentals of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (BIOS 20153)

University of Chicago

Autumn 2025

Teaching Assistant: Theoretical Ecology (ECEV 42900)

SKILLS

Programming: Python, R

Languages: Chinese (native), English (fluent)