**DEBORAH CESARINI**

deborah.cesarini@duke.edu

**EDUCATION**

**Duke University**, Durham, NC Expected 2028

Ph.D., Cognitive Neuroscience

**Advisors:** Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, Ph.D., and Scott Huettel, Ph.D.

**Columbia University**, New York, NY 2021

B.A., Neuroscience and Behavior, *Cum Laude*

**Honors Thesis:** Motivated Morality: How Distinct Motivational Concerns Influence the Moral Judgment of Broken Promises

**Advisor:** E. Tory Higgins, Ph.D.

**Oakton Community College**, Des Plaines, IL 2019

A.S., High Honors

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation 2023 – 2029

Diversity Undergraduate Travel Award, SPSP 2023

Futuras Científicas Prize, Columbia University 2021 – 2022

General Studies Senior Thesis Stipend, Columbia University 2020

General Studies Summer Scholarship, Columbia University 2020

Psychology Department Honors Program, Columbia University 2019 – 2021

Osher Reentry Scholarship, Columbia University 2019 – 2020

Dean’s List, Columbia University Three semesters, 2019 – 2021

Transfer Scholar Semifinalist, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation 2019

Psi Chi, The International Honor Society in Psychology 2019

Poster Contest Award, Nano-Link Conference 2016

STEM Research & Design Internship, Oakton Community College 2016

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society 2016

President’s Scholar, Oakton Community College Four semesters, 2015 – 2018

**RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS**

**Moral Attitudes and Decisions Lab**  2021 - present

Duke University

**PIs:** Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, Ph.D., and Jana Schaich Borg, Ph.D.

Graduate Student

**Huettel Lab**  2021 - present

Duke University

**PI:** Scott Huettel, Ph.D.

Graduate Student, Research Associate

**Duke Culture Lab**  2023 - present

Duke University

**PI:** Cristina Salvador, Ph.D.

Collaborating Graduate Student, Graduate Rotation Student

**Higgins Lab**  2019 - 2021

Columbia University

**PI:** E. Tory Higgins, Ph.D.

**Mentor:** Emily Nakkawita

Undergraduate Honors Research Assistant

**Columbia Space Initiative**  2020 - 2021

Columbia University

**PI:** Mike Massimino, D.M.E., Ph.D.

Undergraduate Space Medicine Researcher

**Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Research Lab**  2016

Oakton Community College

**Instructors:** Suzanne Ziegenhorn, Ph.D., Gary Mines, Ph.D., and Zoran Miodragovic, Ph.D.

Undergraduate Research Student

**PUBLICATIONS**

\*Indicates equal contribution

**Cesarini, D.\***, Brown, D. F.\*, Rehren, P., Simmons, C., Ariturk, D., Colombatto, C., Crockett, M. J., Sinnott-Armstrong, W. (manuscript in preparation). Real-life Moral Narratives Corpus.

McKee, P.\*, **Cesarini, D.\***, Todd, M., Huettel, S. A., Sinnott-Armstrong, W. (manuscript in preparation). Asymmetries in Self-Other Action Choice Probability and Praise/Blame Assignment During Moral Decision Making.

McKee, P.\*, **Cesarini, D.\***, Kamper, D. G., Huettel, S. A., Sinnott-Armstrong, W. (manuscript in preparation). Fear of Missing Out (FOMO) and Moral Conformity in Online Interactions.

Bachman, M. D., **Cesarini, D.**, Sullivan, N., Huettel, S. A. (manuscript in preparation). Influence of Attentional Distractors on the Consistency of Value-Based Decisions.

**Cesarini, D.**, Nakkawita, E., & Higgins, E. T. (manuscript in preparation). Motivated Morality: How Distinct Motivational Concerns Influence the Moral Judgment of Broken Promises.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Cesarini, D.**, McKee, P., Todd, M., Huettel, S. A., Sinnott-Armstrong, W. (2023, March). *Asymmetries in Self-Other Action Choice Probability and Praise/Blame Assignment During Moral Decision Making* [Poster session]. 30th Anniversary Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, CA.

**Cesarini, D.**, McKee, P., Kamper, D. G., Huettel, S. A., Sinnott-Armstrong, W. (2023, February). *Investigating the Role of FOMO on Moral Conformity* [Poster session]. 24th Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

**Cesarini, D.**, Nakkawita, E., & Higgins, E. T. (2022, October). *Influence of Distinct Motives on the Moral Judgment of Broken Promises in the Workplace* [Poster session]. Society for Neuroeconomics 2022 Annual Conference, Arlington, VA.

**Cesarini, D.**, Bachman, M. D., Sullivan, N., & Huettel, S. A. (2022, September). *Investigating How Attentional Distractors Impact Value-Based Choices and Choice Processes* [Poster session]. Society for Neuroeconomics 2022 Annual Conference, Arlington, VA.

**Cesarini, D.**, Nakkawita, E., & Higgins, E. T. (2022, September). *Influence of Distinct Motives on the Moral Judgment of Broken Promises in the Workplace* [Poster session]. 9th Consumer Neuroscience Satellite Symposium, Arlington, VA.

McKee, P., **Cesarini, D.**, Kamper, D. G., Budnick, C., Bind, M. A., Huettel, S. A., Sinnott-Armstrong, W. (2022, June). *The Role of Fear of Missing Out (FoMO) on Moral Awareness, Judgments, and Conformity* [Presentation]. Moral Psychology Research Group, Durham, NC.

**Cesarini, D.** (2021, May). *Motivated Morality: How Distinct Motivational Concerns Influence the Moral Judgment of Broken Promises* [Presentation]. Columbia University Psychology Colloquium, online.

**Cesarini, D.**, Nakkawita, E., & Higgins, E. T. (2021, April). *Motivational Relevance and Moral Judgment: How Are They Related?* [Poster session]. 2nd Annual Columbia Psychology Symposium, online.

**Cesarini, D.**, Nakkawita, E., & Higgins, E. T. (2021, February). *How does motivational relevance relate to moral judgments?* [Poster session]. 22nd Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, online.

**Cesarini, D.**, Tariq, I., Sinfleur, N., D’Aqulia, K., Miodragovic, Z., Mines, G., & Ziegenhorn, S. (2016, November). *Effects of Ag nanoparticles on Pseudomonas aeruginosa biofilm surface attachment* [Poster session]. 8th Annual Nano-Link Conference, Minneapolis, MN.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

***Undergraduate Class Lecturer***

**Cognitive Neuroscience Research Internship, Duke University**  Spring 2023

How Social Learning Amplifies Moral Outrage Expression in Online Social Networks (Brady et al., 2021)

**Cognitive Neuroscience Research Internship, Duke University**  Spring 2022

Neural Signatures of Economic Preferences for Risk and Ambiguity (Huettel et al., 2006)

***Undergraduate Teaching Assistant***

**PSYC2430: Cognitive Neuroscience, Columbia University**  Spring 2021

**Instructor:** Dr. Mariam Aly

Graded student assignments, assisted with exam preparation, communicated with students to clarify class material and assignments, and monitored online discussion boards.

**PSYC2630: Social Psychology, Columbia University** Fall 2020

**Instructor:** Dr. E. Tory Higgins

Graded student assignments, assisted with exam preparation, led review sessions, communicated with students to clarify class material and assignments, and conducted in-class group exercises.

**MENTORSHIP**

**Cognitive Neuroscience Research Internship**

Research Mentor

**Duke University undergraduate students advised:**

Nicol Milev 2023 – present

Hibatoullah Mokhtari 2023 – present

Emily Robers 2022 – present

Maya Todd 2022 – present

**SERVICE**

**North Carolina High School**, Chapel Hill, NC2022

Ethics Bowl Judge

**Edison Regional Gifted Center**, Chicago, IL2016

History Fair Judge

**Decatur Classical School**, Chicago, IL2015

Science Fair Judge