

DEBORAH CESARINI

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EDUCATION

DUKE UNIVERSITY, Durham, NC Expected 2028
Ph.D., Cognitive Neuroscience
Advisor: Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, 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 – 2028
Diversity Undergraduate Travel Award, SPSP	2023
Futuras Cientificas 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

PUBLICATIONS

*Indicates equal contribution

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

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

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

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

Cesarini, D., Nakkawita, E., & Higgins, E. T. (in prep). 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]. 2022 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'Aquila, 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, NC	2022
Ethics Bowl Judge	

Edison Regional Gifted Center, Chicago, IL
History Fair Judge

2016

Decatur Classical School, Chicago, IL
Science Fair Judge

2015