

Kaylee Miceli

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(502) 974-6032

EDUCATION

2030 (expected)

Duke University

Advisors: Dr. Cristina Salvador and Dr. Felipe De Brigard

2021

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

B.A. in Psychology and Interdisciplinary Studies: Neuroscience, Philosophy, and Religion

Honors Thesis: Neural Correlates of Multifeatural Encoding in Aging using fMRI

Advisor: Dr. Kelly Giovanello

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2025 – Present

[Duke Culture Lab: PhD Candidate](#)

Advisors: Dr. Cristina Salvador and Dr. Felipe De Brigard, Duke University, Durham, NC

2021 – 2024

[Imagination and Modal Cognition Laboratory: Lab Manager and Research Assistant](#)

Advisor: Dr. Felipe De Brigard, Duke University, Durham, NC

- **Hippocampal activity in counterfactual thinking:** conducted an fMRI parametric modulation analysis in FSL to test whether plausibility modulates hippocampal activity in counterfactual thinking; performed frequentist statistical analyses in R.
- **Phenomenology and memorability of counterfactual thoughts:** designed Qualtrics surveys to analyze whether plausibility, difficulty, or vividness affected if counterfactual thoughts were more likely to be remembered as well as if people defaulted to more plausible, vivid, or easier to simulate counterfactuals; performed frequentist statistical analyses in R.
- **Episodic memory in cases of forgiveness:** directed a team of 6 undergraduate students to examine whether episodic details were better remembered in unforgiven relative to forgiven transgressions; designed Qualtrics surveys and employed autobiographical interviews to examine phenomenology of memories; used AcqKnowledge to collect ECG, EDA, and EMG measures; utilized Adobe Premier to transcribe responses.
- **Normality effects on causal judgments with continuous variables:** performed simulation-based power analyses in R; designed a web-based survey using JavaScript to examine how causal judgments vary in relation to whether causes were continuous versus binary; conducted Bayesian statistical analyses in R.

2020 – 2021

[Cognitive Neuroscience of Memory Laboratory: Research Assistant](#)

Advisor: Dr. Kelly Giovanello, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

- **Neural correlates of multifeatural encoding in aging:** conducted fMRI functional connectivity analyses using MATLAB's CONN toolbox to contrast connectivity for young and old adults when encoding items with multiple features.

2017 – 2019

[Carolina Affective Science Laboratory: Research Assistant](#)

Advisor: Dr. Kristen Lindquist, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

- **Constructed emotion and the physiology of hangry;** collected ECG and EDA measures to investigate how emotional awareness and proprioception would affect one's likelihood to become "hangry."

2018

[Tan Tao School of Medicine: Independent Researcher](#)

Tan Tao University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

- **The treatment of depression in East Asian cultures:** conducted on-site behavioral interviews to assess different methodological approaches and general beliefs about mood disorders in Vietnam; collaborated with local students to translate study materials and communicate with regional psychiatric hospitals.

PUBLICATIONS

Miceli, K.† & Trakas, M.† (In press). Continuity between wakefulness and the dreaming mind. In: De Brigard F. & Sinnott-Armstrong W. (Eds.) *Neuroscience and Philosophy. Volume II*. MIT Press: Cambridge, MA.

Morales-Torres, R.†, **Miceli, K.†**, Huang, S., Szpunar, K., & De Brigard, F. (2025). Episodic details are better remembered in likely relative to unlikely counterfactual simulations. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*.

Miceli, K.†, Morales-Torres, R.†, Khoudary, A., Faul, L., Parikh, N., & De Brigard, F. (2024). Perceived plausibility modulates hippocampal activity in episodic counterfactual thinking. *Hippocampus*, 34(1): 2-6.

Miceli, K., Van Rooy, N., O'Neill, K., & De Brigard, F. (2024). Causation on a continuum: normality effects on causal judgments. *Proceedings of the 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 46(0): 6410.

UNDER REVIEW/IN PREPARATION

Morales-Torres, R. †, **Miceli, K. †**, Khoudary, A., & De Brigard, F. (Under review). Disentangling plausibility, difficulty, and vividness in episodic counterfactual thinking. *Cognition*.

Miceli, K., Van Rooy, N., O'Neill, K., & De Brigard, F. (In preparation). Normality effects on causal judgments with continuous variables.

PRESENTATIONS

Fernandez-Miranda, G., Faul, L., Howard, C., Socia, A., **Miceli, K.**, Labar, K., & De Brigard, F. (2025). *Phenomenological and Psychophysiological Differences Between Forgiven and Not Forgiven Remembered Wrongdoings* [Poster session]. 66th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Denver, Colorado.

Miceli, K. & Trakas, M. (2024). *Continuity between wakefulness and the dreaming mind*. Invited talk for the Robert Stickgold Science of Sleep Series, Center for Sleep and Cognition (online).

Morales-Torres, R., **Miceli, K.**, & De Brigard, F. (2024). *Episodic details are better remembered in likely relative to unlikely counterfactual simulations* [Poster session]. 65th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New York City, New York.

Miceli, K., Van Rooy, N., O'Neill, K., & De Brigard, F. (2024). *Causation on a continuum: norm effects on causal judgments* [Poster session]. 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Rotterdam, Netherlands; 31st Annual Meeting of the European Society for Philosophy & Psychology, Grenoble, France.

Morales-Torres, R., **Miceli, K.**, Huang, S., & De Brigard, F. (2024). *Episodic counterfactual plausibility is negatively associated with ease of simulation: behavioral and neural evidence* [Poster session]. 31st Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Toronto, Canada.

Miceli, K., Morales-Torres, R., Khoudary, A., Faul, L., Parikh, N., & De Brigard, F. (2023). *Perceived plausibility modulates hippocampal activity in episodic counterfactual thinking* [Poster session]. 30th Annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, California; Annual North Carolina Cognition Conference, Greensboro, North Carolina.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| 2021- Present | Program Coordinator , Summer Seminars in Neuroscience and Philosophy Duke University, Durham, NC |
| 2022 | Co-organizer , Memory and Forgiveness Workshop Technological University of Bolivar, Cartagena, Colombia |
| 2022 | Conference Manager , Issues in Philosophy of Memory 3 (IPM3) Duke University, Durham, NC |

GRANTS AND AWARDS

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| 2025 | National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellowship (1,500 awarded; \$147,000) |
| 2020 | Alexandre Senior Thesis Research Award, \$500 |
| 2019 | Buckley Public Service Scholars Outward Bound Scholarship , \$7,600 |
| 2018 | Carolina Global Initiative Grant , \$6,000 |

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

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| 2024 | DIBS Methods Meetings Lecturer: Reference Management |
| 2024 | DIBS Methods Meetings Lecturer: Intro to Power Analyses |
| 2023 | DIBS Methods Meetings Lecturer: Intro to R's Tidyverse |

VOLUNTEER AND SERVICE

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| 2022 – Present | Contributor , DIBS Methods Meetings |
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2022 – 2024

Committee Member, [Duke University Neuroscience Experience](#)

2019

Assistant Editor, [Academic Undergraduate Journal IMPULSE](#)

2017 – 2021

Treasurer, She's the First

MENTORSHIP

2024

Daniel Robelo

The association of forgiveness with physiological responses to memories of past wrongdoings, Duke University

2024

Anthony Salgado

The relationship between memory and forgiveness as seen in autobiographical interviews, Duke University

SKILLS

Programming and Software

R, JavaScript, MATLAB, Python, Markdown, LaTeX, HTML, Git, FSL, CONN toolbox, SPM, AcqKnowledge

Data Collection

Behavioral (Qualtrics, Prolific); fMRI (8 coil 3T GE MR750); EDA, EMG, and ECG (BIOPAC MP160)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS)

Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)

European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (ESPP)

Philosophy of Memory Organization (PhOMO)

Psychonomic Society (PS)

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP)