

Joseph Outa

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EDUCATION

Cornell University

Ithaca NY

B.A. *Biology and Society* (2020)

Summary: Individualized and interdisciplinary program combining training in biology with perspectives from the social sciences and humanities on the social, political and ethical aspects of modern biology.

Relevant Coursework: Introduction to Psychology, Introduction to Behavior, Introduction to Neuroscience, Introductory Statistics, Affective and Social Neuroscience, Adult Psychopathology, Behavioral Ecology Evolution and Genomics, Human Bonding

Audited (while Research Assistant, Stanford University, 2020-2022): Experimental Methods in Psychology, Introduction to Developmental Psychology, Statistical Methods for the Behavioral and Social Sciences, Mathematical Tools for Neuroscience

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Coordinator (*full time*)

Stanford University

Social Learning Lab

Jun 2021-present

PI: Hyowon Gweon

- Maintain online testing system used by developmental labs at Stanford for recruiting participants
- Activities: supervise data collection for over 25 studies, train and supervise over 45 undergraduate and graduate students to run studies and interact with families, manage lab finances, suggest changes to study designs, write and manage scripts in R and Python to automate workflows

Research Assistant (*part time: 20hrs/week*)

Stanford University

Causality in Cognition Lab, Social Learning Lab, and Language and Cognition Lab

Aug 2020-Jun 2021

PIs: Tobi Gerstenberg, Hyowon Gweon, Michael Frank

- Selected stimuli and drafted manuscript for study on causal inference with multi-modal evidence

- Did literature review, selected stimuli and used jsPsych to help build study investigating cross-cultural differences in relational reasoning

Research Assistant (*part time: 15hrs/week*)

Cornell University

Applied Moral Psychology Lab

Aug 2020-Jun 2021

PI: Laura Niemi

- Designed and ran studies on effect of moral agency on ethical behavior and the meaning of grudge-holding
- Wrote R scripts and used text-mining software LIWC to do exploratory and confirmatory data analyses

Research Assistant

Cornell University

Pizarro Emotion and Judgement Lab

Jan 2019-May 2020

PI: David Pizarro

- Developed and administered a snack taste-test and a tongue-dyeing procedure to quantify taste bud density
- Performed literature review on emotional influences of moral decision-making

Research Assistant

Cornell University

Raguso Animal Behavior Lab

June 2016-Dec 2016

PI: Robert A. Raguso

- Reared, fed, and maintained populations of *Drosophila* fruit flies and *M. Sexta* and *H. Lineata* moth species
- Isolated floral scents using gas chromatography for a study with caterpillars; flew moths in a wind tunnel

Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings

Outa, J.*, Zhou, X. J.*, Gweon, H., & Gerstenberg, T. (2022). Stop, children what's that sound? Multi-modal inference through mental simulation. *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society. *Joint first authors. [[Paper](#)] [[Repository](#)]

Talk presented at Cognitive Science Society Conference in Toronto, Canada, 2022

Poster presented at Social Curiosity Workshop in Gottingen, Germany, 2022

SKILLS

Technical: R, Python (basic), HTML, jsPsych, Google Script, Git (<https://github.com/josephouta>)

Other: SPSS, LIWC, Qualtrics, Keynote, REDCap, Adobe Suite, MS Office Suite

HONORS/AWARDS

2022	Diversity & Inclusion Conference Award, Cognitive Science Society
2020	Extraordinary journeys feature on university website, Cornell University
2019	SEG Summer Research Grant: For Taste Sensitivity Study at Pizarro Lab, Dept. of Psychology (\$1250, Role: Research Assistant)
2018	Dean's List

OUTREACH AND SERVICE

Co-Host	<i>Stanford University</i>
Stanford Psychology Podcast (~300k downloads, 196 countries)	<i>Oct 2021-present</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The podcast invites leading psychologists to talk about their recent work and life in academia• I have interviewed Chaz Firestone, Anne Scheel, Fiery Cushman, Anuj Shah, Ashley Thomas, Marlone Henderson, Lasana Harris, Jay Van Bavel, Brian Nosek, Jordan Starck and Kurt Gray	
Volunteer Contributor	<i>Stanford University</i>
ChildrenHelpingScience.com	<i>Oct 2020-Jan 2022</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CHS is a website that hosts online research studies for infants and children to participate• Drafted, posted and maintained listings of studies; corresponded with researchers via email	
Mentor	<i>Stanford University</i>
Paths to PhD program	<i>Oct 2021, Oct 2022</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paired with 5 prospective PhD students in psychology and scheduled one-on-one zoom sessions to give feedback on their resumes, personal statements, and queries about getting research jobs	
Volunteer	<i>Stanford University</i>
Developmental Diversity Working Group	<i>Oct 2021-present</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engage in regular discussions about increasing diversity of online sample of participants in the department; Presented a demographics analysis and recommended ways to improve diversity	
First round reviewer	<i>Stanford University</i>
Stanford's CSLI Summer Internship	<i>Apr 2021-Apr 2021</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewed 70 applications to Stanford's Center for Study of Language & Info (CSLI) Summer Internship	

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Peer Advisor*Cornell University*

Office of Off-campus Living

Jan 2020-May 2020

- Advise students, staff and faculty on finding rental housing, lease interpretation and disputes

Student Representative*Cornell University*

Biology and Society major

Aug 2020- May 2020

- Successfully lobbied for a weekly peer advising program and evaluated new courses in the major

Summer Manager and Social Chair*Cornell University*

Triphammer Cooperative

May 2018-May 2020

- Collected summer rents and coordinated construction of the coop's first accessibility ramp

Co-President*Cornell University*

International Student Admissions Ambassadors

Sep 2015-Apr 2018

- Advised prospective international students on college applications and shared my experiences

AFFILIATIONS

Cognitive Science Society

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

Society for the Improvement of Psychological Science (SIPS)