

# Misha O’Keeffe

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## EDUCATION

### The University of Wisconsin-Madison

Madison, WI

*B.Sc. – Psychology; Economics*

2022 – 2024

- Psychology GPA 4.0; Overall GPA 3.9
- Psi Chi, Psychology club, Economics Student Association, Chadbourn Residential College (CRC)

### The University of Alabama

Tuscaloosa, AL

*B.Sc. – Physics; Minor in English*

2021 – 2022

- Overall GPA 3.79
- Honors College, Society of Physics Students (SPS), Astronomical Society

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Social Learning Lab at Stanford University (PI: Hyowon Gweon)

07/24 - Present

*Predoctoral Fellow*

- Collaborating on a VR experiment investigating how people assess their abilities through physical sensations and task outcomes, with responsibilities in Python programming and participant recruitment (graduate student: Peter Zhu).
- Contributing to manuscript preparation through data cleaning/wrangling (R, MATLAB), data visualizations, and manuscript editing for a project investigating how children and adults estimate difficulty (graduate student: Peter Zhu).
- Working with Dr. Gweon and Dr. Velez to develop a computational model explaining how people leverage sparse statistical information to infer group preferences and affiliations.
- Leading online study implementation on the Lookit platform (CHS) for three concurrent developmental studies (graduate student: Adani Abutto; postdoctoral fellow: Antonia Langenhoff).

### Social Interaction Lab at Stanford University (PI: Robert Hawkins)

08/23 – Present

*Research Assistant*

- Led a multi-classroom study collecting 100+ hours of child-child interactions; currently conducting video redaction and transcript diarization for analysis (postdoctoral fellow: Claire Bergey).
- Developing coding schemes for analyzing child-adult and child-child communication patterns using NLP, statistical analysis, and manual validation (postdoctoral fellow: Claire Bergey).
- Published findings (CogSci 2024) demonstrating that children’s communicative repertoire diversifies between 14-58 months and shows stable individual differences matching parental patterns (postdoctoral fellow: Claire Bergey).

### Computational Cognitive Development Lab at Harvard University (PI: Elizabeth Bonawitz)

01/23 – 05/2024

*Research Assistant*

- Analyzing data from study investigating children’s belief updating given unexpected evidence, using R for data cleaning and statistical analysis (postdoctoral fellow: Junyi Chu).
- Implemented a large-scale Theory of Mind development study on Lookit platform for 3-6 year olds (postdoctoral fellow: Rosie Aboody).
- Designed stimuli and helped implement a Lookit study examining how 4-6 year olds interpret questioning behavior as signaling doubt (postdoctoral fellow: Rosie Aboody).

### Social Cognitive Development Lab at Yale University (PI: Yarrow Dunham)

05/23 – 08/23

*Summer Intern*

- Developed and validated a Bayesian computational model (WebPPL) to predict how people infer others’ motivations from their social roles and actions, finding close alignment with empirical judgments (graduate student: Aaron Baker).
- Conducted statistical analyses and cleaning on an 800+ participant dataset examining relationships between Just World Beliefs, demographics, and social ideologies.

### National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

*L’SPACE Scholar*

01/22 – 05/22

- Led physics analysis for a 129-page lunar rover mission proposal focused on assessing potential for sustained lunar human presence. Project recognized among top teams nationally. Utilized JMARS, CAD, and MATLAB for modeling.

### The University of Alabama (PI: William C. Keel)

08/21 – 05/22

*Research Assistant*

- Discovered nine rare spiral galaxies (SDRAGNs) through analysis of sky survey data (HST, VLASS), adding to only four previously known. Manuscript in review. Presented findings at URCA conference.

**The University of Alabama (PI: Matthias Kaminski)**

08/21 – 01/22

*Research Assistant*

- Investigated object behavior in curved spacetime using Einstein's Special Relativity theorem through mathematical modeling in MATLAB and Mathematica.

**PUBLICATIONS**

- Bergey, C. A, **O'Keeffe, M. E.**, & Hawkins, R. (2024). A longitudinal analysis of children's communicative acts. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 46. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/85t9s85w>
- J. Tate, W. C. Keel, **M. O'Keeffe**, O. Ivy Wong, H. Andernach, J. K. Banfield, A. Moiseev, E. Shablovickaya, S. Shabala, I. Terentiev, C. Molloy, V. Linares. "Here Be SDRAGNs - Hubble Space Telescope Observations of Spiral-Galaxy Hosts of Large Double Radio Sources." *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society (MNRAS)*, [Preprint].

**POSTERS, TALKS, & PROJECTS**

- O'Keeffe, M.** (2024). *Modeling Question-Based Social Inferencing*. Presented to the Institute for Research in the Social Sciences at Stanford University.
- Liu, S., Chu, S., **O'Keeffe, M.**, Ullman, T., & Bonawitz, E. (2024). *Stumped! How well can 3-8-year-old children learn to think outside the box?* Submitted to Society for Research in Child Development.
- Bergey, C., Lyu, A., **O'Keeffe, M.**, Li, S., Zubak, Y., Plum, B., Yang, S., Patil, A., Zhou, I., & Hawkins, R. (2024). *Examining Social Interaction from a Preschooler's Point of View*. Submitted to Society for Research in Child Development.
- O'Keeffe, M.**, \*Liu, S., Chu, J., Bonawitz, E., & Ullman, T. (2024). *Learning to Think Outside the Box*. Presented at the Harvard Spring Symposium.
- O'Keeffe, M.**, Baker, A., Dunham, Y., & Jara-Ettinger, J. (2023). *Mental State Inferences and Social Roles*. Presented at the Social Interaction Lab.
- O'Keeffe, M.**, \*Wang, W., & Aboody, R. (2023). *Understanding Preschoolers' Source Considerations in Testimony*. Presented at the Computational Cognitive Development Lab at Harvard Fall Symposium.
- O'Keeffe, M.**, Baker, A., Dunham, Y., & Jara-Ettinger, J. (2023). *Formalizing Institutional [Role] Models*. Presented at the Social Cognitive Development Lab at Yale Summer Symposium.
- O'Keeffe, M.**, \*Shen, F., & Aboody, R. (2023). *Causal Counterfactual Reasoning*. Presented at the Computational Cognitive Development Lab at Harvard Spring Symposium.
- J. Tate, W. C. Keel, **M. O'Keeffe**, O. Ivy Wong, H. Andernach, J. K. Banfield, A. Moiseev, E. Shablovickaya, S. Shabala, I. Terentiev, C. Molloy, V. Linares. *Here Be SDRAGNs - Hubble Space Telescope Observations of Spiral-Galaxy Hosts of Large Double Radio Sources*. Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference (2021).
- Dumka, A., Hurst, L., \*Stingley, A., \*Dejo Lopez, J., \*Behlen, K., \*Solis, M., **\*O'Keeffe, M.**, \*Goenka, R., \*Vardanyan, S., \*Guerrero, V., & \*Pham, Y. (2021). Preliminary Design Review: Team 29. NASA L'Space Mission Concept Academy.

\* Indicates equal contribution.

**FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS**

- Dean's List - 2021; 2022; 2023; 2024
- UW Housing Scholar (\$15,219) – 2022; 2023; 2024
- Outstanding Undergraduate Research Scholar (OURS) Award (\$1,000) - 2023
- Global Gateways Initiative Scholar (\$8,350) - 2023
- SuccessWorks Internship Fund (\$3,000) - 2023
- Yale Internship Stipend (\$5,000) - 2023
- Economics Association Chicago Scholar (\$300) - 2023
- Presidential Merit Scholarship (\$28,000) – 2021; 2022
- Honors College – 2021; 2022
- Presidents List - 2021

## SERVICE

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- *Introduction to Data Analysis in Python*. Workshop led for the SLL and LangCog Lab Summer Interns. (2024)
- *Stanford Psychology Podcast*. Interviewer and podcast host. (2024)
- *Stanford Psychology Diversity Committee*. (2024)
- *Stanford Psychology Paths to PhD*. Volunteer (2024)
- *Tutoring*. Provided free tutoring for Economics and Psychology. (2023-2024)
- *Big Sibling Program*. Founded a mentorship program placing over 250 freshmen with upperclassmen tutors. (2022-2024)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**The University of Wisconsin-Madison**  
*Resident Advisor*

Madison, WI  
01/23 – 05/24

## SKILLS

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- Languages: English (native); Spanish and French (intermediate)
- Programming: Github, JavaScript, Python, R / RStudio, SPSS, Python, STATA, and MATLAB
- Running experiments: Lookit, Qualtrics, Prolific
- Manuscripts: LaTeX/Overleaf