

OMRAN SAFI

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EDUCATION

BA in Psychology

2015-2020

University of British Columbia

High School Diploma

2015

Point Grey Secondary School

- Graduated with honors

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Independent Undergraduate Research Project

Present

Motivated Cognition Lab – University of British Columbia

Behavioral Sustainability Lab- University of British Columbia

- Examining the affective responses produced by VR induced overview effect and its effect on climate change attitudes
- Conducted literature review
- Created study design
- Rendered stimulus (Earth) in Unity
- Collect, record, and analyze subject data
- Co-supervised by Dr. Jiaying Zhao and Dr. Rebecca Todd

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Present

UBC Work Learn Program

Behavioral Reward Affect + Impulsivity Neuroscience (BRAIN) Lab- University of British Columbia

- Conduct experiments at the Burnaby Center for Mental Health and Addiction
- Work on several different studies simultaneously
- Liaise between subjects, investigators, and lab staff
- Collect, record, and analyze subject data

Undergraduate Research Assistant

2018-Present

Motivated Cognition Lab – University of British Columbia

- Conducted experiment investigating influence of physiological arousal on reward
- Conducted experiment examining attentional biases
- Liaise between subjects, investigators, and lab staff
- Collect, record, and analyze subject data

Research Study in Psychology

2016

Undergraduate Research Course – University of British Columbia

- Designed and conducted experiment examining effects of music (Popular vs. Classical) on basic cognitive abilities
- Presented poster at undergraduate Psychology research night

PUBLICATIONS & POSTERS

Paper – Safi, O. K., Tommasi, M., Sun, B., Thornley, J., Dodani, A. (2020). Carbon Footprint Information Promotes Sustainable Food Choices. *UBC SEEDS*.
https://www.sustain.ubc.ca/sites/default/files/seedslibrary/PSYC_421_Carbon%20Footprint%20Information%20Promotes%20Sustainable%20Food%20Choices_Final%20Report.pdf

Poster Presentation – Safi, O. K., (2020). Climate Change, Affect, and The Overview Effect. UBC Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference*. (*Poster accepted but conference cancelled due to Covid-19).

Paper – Safi, O. K., Hughes, B. (2018). Evolutionary Plausibility of Connectionist Models of Cognition. *Cognitive Systems Program UBC*. Displayed on program website.

AWARDS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Publication: Evolutionary Plausibility of Connectionist Models of Cognition **2018**

Cognitive Systems Program – University of British Columbia

- Paper examining the empirical adequacy of a connectionist model of cognition through an evolutionary framework
- Co-authored with Bryce Hughes

Visiting Philosopher

2018

University of Pittsburgh, Department of Philosophy

University of Pittsburgh Summer Program in Philosophy

- Worked with other visiting philosophers on a wide range of issues in philosophy of science. Areas discussed were laws of nature, thought experiments, scientific controversies, confirmation theory, and ethical issues related to genetic technologies. Fellowship was funded by Pittsburgh University's Center for Philosophy of Science.
<http://www.pitt.edu/~pittcntr/Events/All/psp2/psp2.html>

Cognitive Systems Podcast (CogsCast)

2017-2020

Official Podcast of UBC CSS – University of British Columbia

- Cofounder and host
- Discuss and examine various topics of interest in Cognitive Systems
- Topics include but are not limited to consciousness, intelligence, and emerging technologies

Cognitive Systems Society (CSS)

2019-2020

Vice-President Media

- Responsible for the Cognitive System Podcast (CogsCast)
- Responsible for running the Cognitive Systems Society Website
- Responsible for creating and sending newsletters
- Planning and running academic and social events throughout the year

Cognitive Systems Society (CSS)

2018-2019

Vice-President Arts External

- Cognitive Systems Representative to the Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS)
- Establish a working relationship between the AUS and CSS
- Successfully secured AUS club grant
- Planning and running academic and social events throughout the year

SKILLS

Programming Languages: C, C#, Python, MATLAB, HTML/CSS

Web Frameworks: WordPress, Weebly, Squarespace

Visual/Audio Programs: Unity, Photoshop, Audacity

Natural Languages: English, Dari, Farsi, Hindi, Urdu, Spanish

MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

Cognitive Science Society: Member (2020)

Cognitive Systems Society: Member (2017-2020), Executive (2018-2020)

UBC Psychology Students Association: Member (2019/2020)

UBC Arts Undergraduate Society: Departmental Representative (2018/2019)

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Planning Committee Member**2018**

Undergraduate Research Opportunities- Life Sciences Research Night

- Participated in the planning and execution of UBC's Life Sciences Research Night.
- Life Sciences Research Night is an annual event held at The University of British Columbia that aims to educate and inspire undergraduate students about research.
- <https://www.researchnight.ca/>

Fitness Ambassador**2016-2019**

Sportchek

- Ensure customers receive service and support in regard to their fitness needs
- Constantly update knowledge in order to effectively advise customers

Customer Service Representative**2014-2016**

2014-2016

Staples

- Ensure customers receive exceptional customer service
- Trained new staff on service and cash

Imagine Day Orientation Leader**2017**

University of British Columbia

- Provided orientation to incoming students
- Provided ongoing support throughout the year

Peer Mentor**2011 & 2015**

Best Buddies Canada- Point Grey Secondary

- Paired with a buddy (student) with an intellectual disability
- Participate in activities such as coffee, dinner, movies, picnics etc. with buddy (student)