

# TORI PEÑA

Department of Psychology — Stony Brook University

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## EDUCATION

Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY May 2023

*Advanced Graduate Certificate, Quantitative Methods*

*Doctor of Philosophy, Cognitive Science*

Dissertation: *Social Influences on Collective Future Thinking: Testing the Robustness of the Collective Negativity Bias*

Thesis Advisor: Suparna Rajaram, Ph.D.

Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY August 2020

*Master of Arts, Cognitive Science*

Masters Thesis: *How Social is Social Memory?: Isolating the Influences of Social versus Non-Social Cues on Recall*

Thesis Advisor: Suparna Rajaram, Ph.D.

SUNY Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY May 2018

*Bachelor of Science, Psychology and Biological Anthropology*

Undergraduate Honors Thesis: *Adaptive Memory: Parent Processing Effect*

Thesis Advisor: Ralph R. Miller, Ph.D.

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Lecturer, Department of Psychology, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, USA August 2025 - Present

Postdoctoral Associate, Psychology, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, USA June 2023 - August 2025

Advisors: Bonita London, Ph.D. & Suparna Rajaram, Ph.D.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Peña, T.,** Pepe, N.W., Rajaram, S. (2025). How social is social memory?: Isolating the influences of social versus nonsocial cues on recall. Manuscript accepted at *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, & Cognition*.

**Peña, T.** & Rajaram, S. (2025). Do emotional and social primers change the pessimism in collective future thinking?: Testing the robustness of the collective negativity bias. Manuscript accepted at *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*.

Burchett, C.O., **Peña, T.**, Monahan, C., Bermejo, R., Sarwana, M., London, B. (2025). The crucial role of campus representation and sense of belonging of undergraduates in science, technology, engineering, and math. *Journal for STEM Education Research*, 8, 477–499. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41979-025-00148-1>

Greeley, G.D., **Peña, T.**, Pepe, N.W., Choi, H.-Y., Rajaram, S. (2025). Fluency tasks and collective memory: Leveraging network analysis for a richer understanding of collective cognition. *Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology / Revue Canadienne de Psychologie Expérimentale*, 79(1), 61–73. <https://doi.org/10.1037/cep0000353>

Thorpe, D., Mirhashem, R., **Peña, T.**, Smokoski, J., Bernard, K. (2024). Exposure to community violence and parenting behaviors: A meta-analytic review. *Psychological Bulletin*, 150(6), 666–693. <https://doi.org/10.1037/bul0000435>

Burnett, L.K.\*, **Peña, T.\***, Rajaram, S., Richmond, L.L. (2023). Personal and national mental time travel across the adult lifespan during COVID-19. *Psychology & Aging*, 38(5), 374–388. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1037/pag0000758>

\* *joint first authors*

**Peña, T.\***, Maswood, R.\*, Chen, M., Rajaram, S. (2023). Memory for tweets versus headlines: Does message consistency matter? *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 37(4), 768–784. <https://doi.org/10.1002/acp.4068>

\* *joint first authors*

Pepe, N.W., Moyer, A., **Peña, T.**, Rajaram, S. (2023). Deceitful hints: A meta-analytic review of the part-list cuing impairment in recall. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 30(4), 1243–1272. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13423-023-02263-9>

Greeley, G.D.\*, **Peña, T.\***, Rajaram, S. (2022). Social remembering in the digital age: Implications for virtual study, work, and social engagement. *Memory, Mind & Media*, 1–24. <https://doi.org/10.1017/mem.2022.3>

\* *joint first authors*

Jozefowicz, J., Berruti, A.S., Moshchenko, Y., **Peña, T.**, Polack, C.W., Miller, R.R. (2020). Retroactive interference: Counter-conditioning and extinction with and without biologically significant outcomes. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Learning & Cognition*, 46(4), 443. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xan0000272>

## BOOK CHAPTERS

Rajaram, S., Greeley, G.D., **Peña, T.** (2024). Collaborative memory: A selective review. In: John H. Byrne (Ed.), *Learning and Memory: A Comprehensive Reference (3rd edition)*. Oxford: Academic Press.

Rajaram, S., **Peña, T.**, Greeley, G.D. (2022). How collective memories emerge: A cognitive psychological perspective. In H.L. Roediger & J. Wertsch (Eds.), *Constructing National Identity: Conflicting Memories and Narratives*. Oxford: Academic Press, pp. 409–433.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Rehbein, R., **Peña, T.**, Lobel, M. (2025). Vicarious coping: How we respond to others' suffering. Manuscript in preparation.

Burchett, C.O., Monahan, C., Bermejo, R., **Peña, T.**, London, B. (2025). Diversity does indeed matter: The comparative experiences and career intentions of historically underrepresented and white PhD students. Manuscript in preparation.

**Peña, T.**, Chen, M., Rajaram, S. (2025). Self-paced encoding and emojis: Online browsing styles and memory for tweets and news headlines. Manuscript in preparation.

**Peña, T.**, Meade, M.L., Wei, Y., Rajaram, S. (2025). What makes social memory unique?: Identifying the influences of social, perceived social, and nonsocial sources on memory. Manuscript in preparation.

Montañez, G.N., **Peña, T.**, London, B. (2025). A systematic and meta-analytic review of interventions to improve sense of belonging among STEMM undergraduate students. Manuscript in preparation.

## PENDING GRANTS

Co-PI, *Investigating how AI augments cognition from creativity to future thinking*. National Science Foundation (NSF): Science of Learning and Augmented Intelligence (\$277,301).

Co-PI, *"Socially"-shared retrieval induced forgetting in human versus AI partners*. Society of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition (SARMAC): Collaborative Grant (\$2,000).

## FELLOWSHIPS, FUNDING, AND AWARDS

Women in Cognitive Science Networking Award for Junior Scientists, \$1,000	Fall 2025
GSA Diversity Mentoring and Career Development Workshop Diversity Fellow Award, \$1,500	Fall 2023
Stony Brook's President's Award to Distinguished Doctoral Students, \$1,000	Spring 2023
Psychonomic Society's 2021 J. Frank Yates Award, \$1,000	Fall 2021
SUNY GREAT Award, \$5,000	Spring 2021
Endowed Award Fund for Cognitive Science, \$979.20	Spring 2021
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, \$138,000	Spring 2020
Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship - <i>Honorable Mention</i>	Spring 2020
SMEP Underrepresented Student Workshop Travel Award, \$1,000	Spring 2020
Professional Development Fund, \$300	Fall 2019
Undergraduate Travel Grant, \$300	Spring 2018
Harpur Edge Grant, \$300	Spring 2018

## TALKS &amp; CONFERENCE SYMPOSIA

**Peña, T.,** Pepe, N.W., Rajaram, S. (2025, November). How social is social memory?: Isolating the influences of social and nonsocial cues on recall. Talk accepted at the 66th Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting in Denver, CO.

**Peña, T.** (2025, October). Investigating how AI augments cognition from creativity to future thinking. Invited talk presented at Stony Brook's BIAS-NRT Weekly Seminar.

**Peña, T.** (2025, October). Social influences on remembering and future thinking. Invited talk presented virtually New Mexico State's Weekly Speaker Series.

Soares, J. & **Peña, T.** (2025, June). Googling information may induce non-analytical thinking. Talk presented at the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition Conference in Kildare, Ireland.

**Peña, T.** (2025, February). Social influences on remembering and future thinking. Invited talk presented virtually Mississippi State University's Weekly Speaker Series.

**Peña, T.** & Rajaram, S. (2024, November). Do emotional and social primers change the pessimism in collective future thinking?: Testing the robustness of the collective negativity bias. Talk presented at the 65th Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting in New York, NY.

**Peña, T.,** & Rajaram, S. (2023, September). Social influences on collective future thinking: Testing the robustness of the collective negativity bias. Invited talk presented at Stony Brook University Psychology Department's Brown Bag.

**Peña, T.\*,** Maswood, R.\*, Chen, M., Rajaram, S. (2023, August). Memory in the digital age: Consumption of information from news versus social media sources. In E. Bilgin & Q. Wang (Co-Chairs), *Memory and Cognition in the Internet Era*. Symposium presented at the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition Conference in Nagoya, Japan.

Thorpe, D., Mirhashem, R., **Peña, T.,** Smokoski, J., Bernard, K. (2023, March). Exposure to community violence and parenting behaviors: A meta-analysis. Symposium talk presented at the 2023 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Richmond, L.L., **Peña, T.,** Burnett, L.K., Rajaram, S. (2022, November). Memories and future thinking under COVID-19: Durability of age-related patterns up to 10-year future projections. Symposium talk presented at the 63rd Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting in Boston, MA.

**Peña, T.,** Polack, C.W., Miller, R.R. (2018, March). Two-phase outcome interference by neutral and affective outcomes. Talk session presented at the Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

## CONFERENCE POSTER PRESENTATIONS

**Peña, T.** & Rajaram, S. (2025, November). Persistent pessimism for the collective future: Testing the influence of emotional primers on collective future thinking. Poster accepted at the 66th Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting in Denver, CO.

Melone, M., Mock, K.O., **Peña, T.,** Bernard, K. (2025, September). Associations between childhood maltreatment and rumination characteristics in adulthood: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Poster presented at the 2025 Annual Meeting of the Society for Research in Psychopathology in Los Angeles, CA.

Peters, D.\*\*, Anthonioz, A., Bermejo, R.M., **Peña, T.,** London, B. (2025, May). A new lens on impostorism: Identity, self-efficacy, and the role of enrichment programs on feelings of impostorism among STEM undergraduates. Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (URECA) Meeting in Stony Brook, NY.

\*\* *undergraduate student presentation*

Peters, D.\*\*, Anthonioz, A., Bermejo, R.M., **Peña, T.,** London, B. (2025, April). A new lens on impostorism: Identity, self-efficacy, and the role of enrichment programs on feelings of impostorism among STEM undergraduates. Poster presented at the SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC) Meeting in Binghamton, NY.

\*\* *undergraduate student presentation*

Soares, J. & **Peña, T.** (2024, November). Digital fixation and cognitive style: Googling information may induce less analytical thinking. Poster presented at the 65th Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting in New York, NY.

- Peña, T.**, London, B., Rajaram, S. (2024, November). Negativity bias in collective mental time travel: Evidence from a racially diverse U.S. sample. Poster presented at the 65th Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting in New York, NY.
- Peña, T.**, Burchett, C.O., Anthonioz, A., Cabrera, E., McCombs, N., Brick, B., Scott, C., London, B. (2024, May). Sense of Belonging in STEM: Lessons from Stony Brook's Simons STEM Scholars Program. Poster presented at the 36th Annual National Conference on Race & Ethnicity in Higher Education in Honolulu, HI.
- Anthonioz, A., Burchett, C.O., **Peña, T.**, Cabrera, E., McCombs, N., Brick, B., Scott, C., London, B. (2024, February). Retention of underrepresented students in STEM: Lessons from Stony Brook's Simons STEM Scholars Program. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Meeting in San Diego, CA.
- Peña, T.**, Chen, M., Rajaram, S. (2023, November). Self-paced encoding and emojis: Online browsing styles and memory for tweets and news headlines. Poster presented at the 64th Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting in San Francisco, CA.
- Peña, T.**, Chen, M., Rajaram, S. (2023, August). Self-paced encoding and emojis: Online browsing styles and memory for tweets and news headlines. Poster presented at the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition XIV Conference, Nagoya, Japan.
- Greeley, G.D., **Peña, T.**, Pepe, N.W., Choi, H.-Y., Rajaram, S. (2023, August). Collective memory for U.S. cities across a decade: A striking stability across time and experimental contexts. Poster presented at the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition XIV Conference, Nagoya, Japan.
- Peña, T.\***, Maswood, R.\*, Chen, M., Rajaram, S. (2023, May). Memory for tweets versus headlines: Does message consistency matter? Poster presented at the 2023 APS Annual Convention in Washington D.C.
- Peña, T.\***, Maswood, R.\*, Chen, M., Rajaram, S. (2022, November). Memory for tweets versus headlines: Does message consistency matter? Poster presented to the 63rd Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting in Boston, MA.
- Peña, T.\***, Burnett, L.K.\*, Rajaram, S., Richmond, L.L. (2022, April). Personal and national mental time travel across the adult lifespan during COVID-19. Poster presented at the Biennial Cognitive Aging Conference Meeting.
- Peña, T.**, Pepe, N.W., Rajaram, S. (2021, November). How social is social memory?: Isolating the disruptive influences of social versus nonsocial cues on recall. Poster presented at the 62nd Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting.
- Burnett, L.K.\*, **Peña, T.\***, Rajaram, S., Richmond, L.L. (2021, November). Negativity bias for memories of national past and positivity for national future in 2020: Novel patterns of valence in middle-aged and older adults for recent periods. Poster presented at the 62nd Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting.
- Greeley, G.D.\*, **Peña, T.\***, Rajaram, S. (2021, November). Collaborative remembering in a fully online, chat-based environment: Implications for remote study and work. Poster presented at the 62nd Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting.
- Greeley, G.D., **Peña, T.**, Pepe, N.W., Choi, H.-Y., Rajaram, S. (2021, November). Collective memory for U.S. cities: A striking stability in recall through a period of upheaval. Poster presented at the 62nd Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting.
- Pepe, N.W., Moyer, A., **Peña, T.**, Rajaram, S. (2020, November). Deceitful hints: A meta-analytic review of the part-set cueing deficit in recall. Poster presented at the 61st Annual Psychonomic Society Meeting.
- Jozefowicz, J., Polack, C.W., Berruti, A., **Peña, T.**, Miller, R.R. (2019, January). Extinction and counterconditioning with and without biologically relevant outcomes. Talk session presented at the Annual East England Associative Learning Society Conference, York, UK.
- Casado, C., **Peña, T.**, Polack, C.W., Li, P., Molet, M., Miller, R.R. (2018, March). Mere exposure effect, but no post-peak decrement with added exposures. Poster session presented at the Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Peña, T.**, Berruti, A., Li, A., Polack, C.W., Villemin, Y., Jozefowicz, J., Miller, R.R. (2018, April). Counterconditioning as a crucible for associative interference. Poster session presented at the Annual Binghamton Research Days, Binghamton, NY.
- Peña, T.**, Berruti, A., Li, A., Polack, C.W., Villemin, Y., Jozefowicz, J., Miller, R.R. (2018, April). Counterconditioning as a crucible for associative interference. Poster session presented at the Annual Psi Chi Binghamton Research Days, Binghamton, NY.

**Peña, T.,** O'Connor, C., Sharif, M., Boyle, T. (2017, April). Gender differences among sexual regret in college students. Poster session presented at the Annual Binghamton Research Days, Binghamton, NY.

**Peña, T.,** O'Connor, C., Sharif, M., Boyle, T. (2017, April). Gender differences among sexual regret in college students. Poster session presented at the Annual Psi Chi Binghamton Research Day, Binghamton, NY.

Portnoy, R.M., **Peña, T.,** Polack, C.W., Miller, R.R. (2017, April). Two-phase outcome interference by neutral and affective outcomes. Poster session presented at the Annual Binghamton Research Days, Binghamton, NY.

Portnoy, R.M., **Peña, T.,** Polack, C.W., Miller, R.R. (2017, April). Two-phase outcome interference by neutral and affective outcomes. Poster session presented at the Annual Psi Chi Binghamton Research Day, Binghamton, NY.

Chiu, I., Chappidi, M., **Peña, T.** (2016, April). Male interpersonal violence: A review. Poster session presented at the Annual Psi Chi Binghamton Research Day, Binghamton, NY.

Chiu, I., Chappidi, M., **Peña, T.** (2016, April). Male interpersonal violence: A review. Poster session presented at the Annual Binghamton Research Days. Binghamton, NY.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCES

### Instructor of Record

*PSY 380: Human Cognition Research Lab*, Fall 2025, Stony Brook University

*PSY 101: Introduction to Psychology*, Fall 2025, Suffolk Community College

*PSY 380: Human Cognition Research Lab*, Summer 2022, Stony Brook University

### Recitation Instructor

*PSY 310: Research and Writing in Psychology*, Spring 2020, Stony Brook University

*PSY 501/508: Graduate ANOVA and Experimental Design*, Fall 2019, Stony Brook University

*PSY 201: Introduction to Statistical Methods*, Spring 2019, Stony Brook University

### Teaching Assistant

*PSY 103: Introduction to Psychology*, Fall 2018, Stony Brook University

### Graduate Students Mentored

Gabriela Montañez, *Stony Brook Masters Student*

### Undergraduate Students Mentored

Ali Ahmad, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Arozo Azimi, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Annesta Batuwangala, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant and Project Coordinator*

Jacqueline Bohk, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Christine Chan, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant and Project Coordinator*

Vanessa Chan, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Jenny Chen, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Melissa Chen, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant and Project Coordinator*

Kylon Coombs, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Mingyue Deng, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Lobsang Dolma, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Parteek Dosanjh, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Shivani Jhavar, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Farhana Khatun, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Shrey Kukreja, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Jiajun Li, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Fiana Lin, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Chloe Maloy, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Jasmine Mui, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*  
 Priyanka Mukherjee, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*  
 Dillon Peters, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*  
 Julia Rinaldi, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*  
 Smita Roy, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*  
 Sara Samad, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant and Project Coordinator*  
 Mili Shah, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant and Project Coordinator*  
 Tony Siao, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*  
 Weiye Yuan, *Stony Brook Undergraduate Research Assistant*

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association of Psychological Science (APS)  
 Cognitive Science Society (CSS)  
 Eastern Psychological Association (EPA)  
 Psychonomic Society  
 Society of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition (SARMAC)  
 SPARK Society  
 Stony Brook University Aging Interest Group  
 Women in Cognitive Science (WiCS)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

SPARK Society's Executive Board, <i>Early Career Board Member</i>	Spring 2024 - Present
SPARK Society's Awards Committee, <i>Committee Member</i>	Spring 2023 - Present
Women in Cognitive Science Panel on Mentoring Relationships, <i>Panelist</i>	Summer 2025
SPARK Society Meeting on <i>Colonized Cognitive Psychology</i> , <i>Organizer</i>	Fall 2024
5th Annual Culture and Cognition Pre-conference of the Psychonomics Society, <i>Co-organizer</i>	Fall 2024
SPARK Society, <i>Executive Assistant</i>	Fall 2021 - Fall 2023
SPARK Society's Communications Committee, <i>Committee Member</i>	Spring 2021 - Fall 2023
SBU's Undergraduate Diversity Committee, <i>Committee Member</i>	Fall 2020 - Spring 2022
3rd Annual Culture and Cognition Pre-conference of the Psychonomics Society, <i>Student Co-organizer</i>	Fall 2021
SPARK Society Panel, <i>Moderator</i>	Fall 2020
SBU's Diversity Seminar Committee, <i>Committee Member</i>	Fall 2020 - Spring 2021
SBU's Faculty Meeting, <i>Student Representative</i>	Fall 2020 - Spring 2021
SBU's NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Orientation, <i>Panelist</i>	Summer 2020
Graduate Committee, <i>Student Representative</i>	Fall 2019 - Spring 2020
Teaching Assistant Orientation, <i>Panelist</i>	Fall 2019
Graduate Student Orientation, <i>Co-Organizer</i>	Fall 2019

## AD HOC REVIEWER

*Aging, Neuropsychology and Cognition*  
*Consciousness and Cognition*  
*Cognitive Processing*  
*Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*  
*Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*  
*Memory*  
*Memory & Cognition*  
*Memory Studies*  
*Psychology & Aging*  
*Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*

*National Science Foundation* (October 2025)