# **Amar Ojha**

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# **EDUCATION**

2019-Present Ph.D. Student

University of Pittsburgh Center for Neuroscience

2019-Present Ph.D. Graduate Trainee

University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University

Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition

2013-2017 Bachelor of Arts

**Bates College** 

Neuroscience & Philosophy

# **AWARDS & HONORS**

2021	Behavioral Brain (B2) Research Training Grant	
	T32GM081760 (\$25,836)	
2019	AAAS/Science Program for Excellence in Science	
2017	Bates College Honors Program	
2017	Dean's List	

# RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2019-Present	Neuroscience Ph.D. Student, Center for Neuroscience at the University of Pittsburgh Advisors: Dr. Beatriz Luna, Dr. Cecile Ladouceur
2017-2019	Research Coordinator, Stanford Neurodevelopment, Affect, and Psychopathology Lab Mentor: Dr. Ian H. Gotlib, Ph.D.
2016-2017	<b>Thesis Student</b> , Department of Neuroscience, Bates College Mentor: Dr. Jason B. Castro, Ph.D.
2016	Research Assistant, Relational Cognition Lab, Georgetown University Mentor: Dr. Adam Green, Ph.D.
2015-2016	Research Assistant. Mandell Center for Multiple Sclerosis

Mentor: Dr. Elizabeth Triche, Ph.D.

- 1. Ho, T.C., Teresi, G.I., Segarra, J.R., **Ojha, A.**, Walker, J.C., Gu, M., Spielman, D.M., Sacchet, M.D., Jiang, F., Rosenberg-Hasson, Y., Maecker, H.T., Singh, M.K., Gotlib, I.H. (2021). "Higher Levels of Pro-Inflammatory Cytokines are Associated with Higher Levels of Glutamate in the Anterior Cinqulate Cortex in Depressed Adolescents." *Frontiers in Psychiatry*.
- 2. Ho, T.C., Teresi, G.I., **Ojha, A.**, Walker, J.C., Kirshenbaum, J.S., Singh, M.K., Gotlib, I.H. (2020). "Smaller Caudate Gray Matter Volume is Associated with Greater Implicit Suicidal Ideation in Depressed Adolescents." *Journal of Affective Disorders*.
- 3. Walker, J.C., Teresi, G.I., Weisenburger, R.L., Segarra, J.R., **Ojha, A.**, Kulla, A., Sisk, L., Gu, M., Spielman, D.M., Rosenberg-Hasson, Y., Maecker, H.T., Singh, M.K., Gotlib, I.H., Ho, T.C. (2020). "Study Protocol for Teen Inflammation Glutamate Emotion Research (TIGER)." *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*.
- 4. Camacho, M.C., King, L.S., **Ojha, A.**, Garcia, C.M., Sisk, L.M., Cichocki, A.C., Humphreys, K.L., Gotlib, I.H. (2019). "Cerebral Blood Flow in 5- To 8-Month-Olds: Regional Tissue Maturity is Associated with Infant Affect." *Developmental Science*.

#### MANUSCRIPTS IN PREP

- 1. **Ojha, A.**, Parr, A., Foran, W., Calabro, F., Luna, B. (in prep) "Characterizing Puberty-Related Changes in Fronto-Striatal Resting-State Functional Connectivity in Adolescence."
- 2. **Ojha, A.**, Teresi, G.I., et al. (in prep) "Social Stress Severity is Associated with Cortical and Subcortical Morphology in Depressed Adolescents."
- 3. **Ojha, A.**, Miller, J.G., King, L.S., Davis, E.G., Humphreys, K.L., Gotlib, I.H. (in prep) "Dispositional and Parental Empathy are Differentially Associated with Mothers' Brain Activation and Toddlers' Social Behavior."
- 4. Ojha, A., Jones, N.P., Versace, A., Lindstrom, R., Wilson, T.K., Gnagy, E.M., Pelham, W.E., Molina, B.S.G., Ladouceur, C.D. (in prep) "Altered Functioning of Cortico-Amygdala Circuitry During Emotional Interference Resistance is Associated with Emotion Dysregulation in Adults with a Childhood Diagnosis of ADHD."
- 5. van Velzen, L.S., Dauvermann, M.R., Colic, L., Villa., L.M., Savage, H.S., Toenders, Y.J., Zhu, A.H., Bright, J.K., Campos, A.I., Salminen, L., Ambrogi,

S., Ayesa-Arriola, R., Banaj, N., Başgöze, Z., Bauer, J., Blair, K., Blair, R.J., Brosch, K., Cheng, Y., Colle, R., Connolly, C.G., Corruble, E., Couvy-Duchesne, B., Crespo-Facorro, B., Cullen, K.R., Dannlowski, U., Davey, C.G., Dohm, K., Fullerton, J.M., Gonul, A.S., Gotlib, I.H., Grotegerd, D., Hahn, T., Harrison, B.J., He, M., Hickie, I.B., Ho, T.C., Iorfino, F., Jansen, A., Jollant, F., Kircher, T., Klimes-Dougan, B., Klug, M., Leehr, E.J., Lippard, E.T.C., McLaughlin, K.A., Meinert, S., Miller, A.B., Mitchell, P.B., Mwangi, B., Nenadić, I., Ojha, A., Overs, B.J., Pfarr, J., Piras, F., Ringwald, K.G., Roberts, G., Romer, G., Sanches, M., Sheridan, M.A., Soares, J.C., Spalletta, G., Stein, F., Teresi, G.I., Tordesillas-Gutiérrez, D., Uyar-Demir, A., van der Wee, N.J.A., van der Werff, S.J., Vermeiren R.R.J.M., Winter, A., Wu, M., Yang, T.T., Thompson, P.M., Renteria, M.E., Jahanshad, N., Blumberg, H.P., van Harmelen, A., Schmaal, L. (in prep). "Structural Brain Alterations Associated with Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors in Young People: Results Across 21 International Studies from the ENIGMA Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors Consortium."

#### **POSTERS**

- Ladouceur, C.D., Brosseau, P., Henry, T., Ojha, A., Diler, R. (2021, December). Alterations in the functioning of striatal subregions are associated with anhedonia as a function of striatal dopamine concentrations in adolescents with depression. American College of Neuropsychopharmacology Annual Meeting.
- 2. **Ojha, A.,** Parr, A.C., Foran, W., Calabro, F., Ladouceur, C.D., Luna, B. (2021, October). Characterizing puberty-related changes in fronto-striatal resting-state functional connectivity in adolescence. University of Pittsburgh Psychiatry Research (Half) Day 2021.
- Brosseau, P., Henry, T.R., Ojha, A., Diler, R., Ladouceur, C.D. (2021, October). Alterations in the Functioning of Striatal Subregions are Associated with Anhedonia as a Function of Striatal Dopamine Concentrations in Adolescents with Depression. University of Pittsburgh Research (Half) Day 2021.
- Ojha, A., Parr, A.C., Foran, W., Calabro, F., Ladouceur, C.D., Luna, B. (2021, September). Characterizing puberty-related changes in fronto-striatal restingstate functional connectivity in adolescence. Flux Society of Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience.

- 5. **Ojha, A.**, Miller, J.G., King, L.S., Davis, E.G., Humphreys, K.L., Gotlib, I.H. (2021, April). Dispositional and Parental Empathy are Differentially Associated with Mothers' Brain Activation and Toddlers' Social Behavior. Society for Research in Child Development.
- 6. Segarra, J.R., **Ojha, A.**, Rosenberg-Hasson, Y., Maecker, H.T., Gotlib, I.H., Ho, T.C. (2020, May). Elevated Concentrations of Inflammatory Cytokines Are Associated with Cortical Thickness of the Rostral Anterior Cingulate Cortex in Adolescents. Society of Biological Psychiatry.
- 7. Teresi, G., **Ojha, A.**, Walker, J.C., Singh, M.K., Gotlib, I.H., Ho, T.C. (2020, May). Dorsal Striatal Gray Matter Volume is Associated with Implicit Suicidal Ideation in Depressed Adolescents. Society of Biological Psychiatry.
- 8. **Ojha, A.,** Rosenberg-Hasson, Y., Maecker, H.T., Gotlib, I.H., Ho, T.C. (2019, September). Higher Concentrations of Interleukin-6 are Associated with Smaller Nucleus Accumbens Gray Matter Volume and More Severe Symptoms in Depressed Adolescents. Center for Neuroscience at the University of Pittsburgh Annual Retreat.
- Ojha, A., Walker, J.C., Ho, T.C., Gotlib, I.H. (2019, September). Experiences
  of Abuse and not Neglect are Associated with Decreased Amygdala Gray
  Matter Volumes in Depressed Adolescents. Flux Society of Developmental
  Cognitive Neuroscience.
- 10. Ojha, A., Rosenberg-Hasson, Y., Maecker, H.T., Gotlib, I.H., Ho, T.C. (2019, May). Higher Concentrations of Interleukin-6 are Associated with Smaller Nucleus Accumbens Gray Matter Volume and More Severe Symptoms in Depressed Adolescents. Society of Biological Psychiatry.
- 11. **Ojha, A.,** Camacho, C.M., King, L.S., Humphreys, K.L., Gotlib, I.H. (2018, May). Infant Regional Cerebral Blood Flow is Associated with Maternal Sensitivity During Social Stress. Social and Affective Neuroscience Society.
- 12. Santos, S., Ojha, A., Tuttle, L., Olson, K.M., Ruiz, J.A., Lo, A.C., Triche, E.W. (2015, September). Plan for the Development and Validation of Patient Centered Electronic Symptom Diary for Persons with MS. Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center Annual Research Day 2015.

#### **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

Neuroimaging data collection

- SPGR, DWI, qT1, BOLD fMRI, ASL, MRS sequences
- clinical and nonclinical populations from infants to adults

Data processing and analysis

- FreeSurfer, AFNI, R, bash, Python, Matlab, SPSS

#### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Research in Child Development
Flux Society for Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience
Social and Affective Neuroscience Society
Society of Biological Psychiatry

American Association for the Advancement of Science (Awarded Full Membership) Association for Psychological Science (Awarded Full Membership)

## **SERVICE**

#### Reviewer

2021 Association for Psychological Science (APS) Student Grant Competition Reviewer 2020 Association for Psychological Science (APS) Student Research Award Reviewer

#### **MENTORING**

2018-2019 2017-2019 2017-2018 2017-2018 2017-2018 2018 2018	Julia Gillette, B.A. candidate (Psychology) Stanford University Artenisa Kulla, B.A. candidate (Human Biology) Stanford University Victoria Franco, B.A. candidate (Psychology) Stanford University Tammie Hsu, post-baccalaureate research assistant Johanna Walker, post-baccalaureate research assistant Melanie Ngan, post-baccalaureate research assistant Serena Wu, B.A. candidate (Psychology) Columbia University Symona Stans, B.A. candidate (Psychology) Cornell University
2018 2017-2018	Symona Stans, B.A. candidate (Psychology) Cornell University Neel Rao, B.A. candidate (Human Biology) Stanford University

#### **TEACHING**

2020	Brain & Behavior Graduate TA, University of Pittsburgh
	Guest lecturer: "Stress, Emotions, and Neurodevelopment"
2017-2019	Verbal Tutor, Compass Prep Education
2017	Redesigned Intro to Neuroscience Course, Bates College
2017	Philosophy Writing & Teaching Assistant, Bates College
2015	Neuroscience Tutor, Bates College
2012-2015	Science Summer Camp Counselor, New Children's Museum
2013-2015	SAT Verbal Coach, Let's Get Ready!

## **VOLUNTEER**

2015 **Student Volunteer**, Yale-New Haven Hospital, Neurology Unit

2014-2015 **Student Volunteer**, St. Mary's Hospital, In-Patient Adult

Psychiatric Unit, Lewiston, ME

2015 Emergency Medical Technician, New Britain, CT EMS

# **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

 Ojha, Amar, "Virtuous Particularism: The Case for Contextual Value and Moral Sensitivity" (2017). Honors Theses. 205. https://scarab.bates.edu/honorstheses/205

2. **Ojha, Amar.** "Pacifism in the Age of Terror." *Perspectives on Argument, 9e.* Eds. James Miller, Nancy Wood. Pearson, 2017. Print.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

2014-2017 **Editor-in-Chief**, *The Bates Student*, Bates College

2015-2017 Founder and Editor-in-Chief, Dusk Magazine, duskmagazine.co

#### **REFERENCES**

# Dr. Beatriz Luna, Ph.D.

Staunton Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics

Professor of Psychology

University of Pittsburgh lunab@upmc.edu

# Dr. Cecile Ladouceur, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Departments of Psychiatry and Psychology

University of Pittsburgh ladouceurcd@upmc.edu

#### Dr. lan Gotlib, Ph.D.

David Starr Jordan Professor and Chair

Department of Psychology

Stanford University ian.gotlib@stanford.edu

# Dr. Tiffany Ho, Ph.D.

**Assistant Professor** 

Department of Psychiatry

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