

# BRENDAN CULLEN

I am a PhD student and [National Science Foundation GRFP Fellow](#) in the Department of Psychology at the University of Oregon, where my research focuses on applied predictive modeling of real-world health behaviors and outcomes in an effort to advance a precision medicine framework for behavioral health. As an aspiring data scientist, my long-term goal is to contribute to open-source software and to apply my computational skills as a researcher within an industry setting focused on enhancing health across the lifespan.

## EDUCATION

- 2022 | 2017** **PhD Student, Psychology**  
University of Oregon Eugene, OR
  - My research takes a translational (neuro)science approach toward predictive modeling of real-world health behaviors and health outcomes within a precision medicine framework.
  - I am currently pursuing a 5-course [Data Science Specialization](#) taught entirely in R, focused on data visualization, functional programming, and machine learning.
- 2019 | 2017** **MS, Psychology**  
University of Oregon Eugene, OR
  - Thesis: Comparing cognitive and affective predictors of craving
- 2015 | 2011** **BA, Neuroscience**  
Middlebury College Middlebury, VT
  - Thesis: Neurophysiological correlates of self-referential activity in meditators and non-meditators

## SELECTED POSITIONS

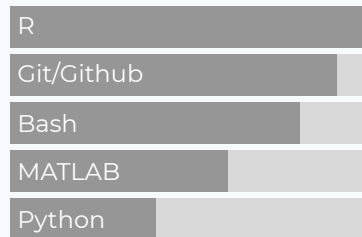
- 2020** **Lab Instructor**  
[PSY 612: Data Analysis II](#) University of Oregon
  - Designed and taught lab sections on [Correlations](#), [Univariate Regression and the General Linear Model](#), [Regression with Categorical Predictors](#), [Interactions](#), and [Factorial ANOVA](#).
- 2019** **Lab Instructor**  
[PSY 611: Data Analysis I](#) University of Oregon
  - Designed and taught lab sections on [R Basics and Descriptive Statistics](#), [Matrix Algebra](#), [Data Transformation with dplyr](#), [Pre-registration](#), and [Paired samples t-tests](#).
- 2018 | 2017** **Graduate Employee**  
Social and Affective Neuroscience Lab University of Oregon
  - Selected self-report measures and co-designed interventions for NCI-funded RCT comparing behavioral response and cognitive reappraisal interventions for de-valuing unhealthy food
  - Created automated workflow for daily backup of fMRI backup via a high performance computing cluster
- 2017 | 2015** **Research Assistant**  
Clinical and Affective Neuroscience Lab Brown University
  - Cleaned and scored self-report data (20+ measures) from an NIH-funded 3-armed RCT comparing focused awareness meditation, open-monitoring meditation, and Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy on clinical efficacy for depression
  - Led a project investigating the effects of meditation training on EEG and behavioral measures of self-referential processing



## CONTACT

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[@\\_bcullen](https://twitter.com/_bcullen)  
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## PROGRAMMING SKILLS



## MORE INFO

See full CV at [bcullen.rbind.io/cv](https://bcullen.rbind.io/cv) for more complete list of positions and publications.

2017  
|  
2015

## Research Assistant

Embodied Neuroscience Lab

📍 Brown University

- Collected EEG data for pilot RCT testing a neuro-muscular-immune model of chronic fatigue in female cancer survivors
- Designed custom software in MATLAB to implement novel EEG/EMG paradigm for measuring neural correlates of tactile acuity and precision grip strength



## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

2018

### [Dismantling Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy: Creation and validation of 8-week Focused Attention and Open Monitoring interventions within a 3-armed randomized controlled trial](#)

*Behaviour and Research Therapy*, 101, 92-107.

- Britton, W.B., Davis, J., Loucks, E.B., Peterson, B., Cullen, B., Reuter, L., Rando, A., Rahrig, H., Lipsky, J. & Lindahl, J. (2018).

2018

### [Comparing embodiment experiences in expert meditators and non-meditators](#)

*Consciousness and Cognition*, 65, 325-333.

- Xu, A., Cullen, B., Penner, C., Zimmerman, C., Kerr, C.E., & Schmalzl, L. (2018)

2018

### [Dose-dependent effects of testosterone on spatial memory in adult male rats](#)

*Psychoneuroendocrinology*, 89, 120-130.

- Wagner, B., Braddick, V. Batson, C., Cullen, B., Miller, E. & Spritzer, M. (2018).



## WORKSHOPS TAUGHT

2020

### Introduction to Git and Github

Psychology First Year Research Seminar

📍 University of Oregon

- Introductory workshop for first-year psychology PhD and Masters students on basics of using Git and Github for version control

2019

### Intermediate Git and Github

UO Data Science Club

📍 University of Oregon

- Intermediate Git/Github workshop for University of Oregon's Data Science Club, including discussion of merge conflicts, branching, pull requests, and best practices for collaborative Github projects



## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

2020

### [Introduction to Machine Learning with the Tidyverse](#)

rstudio::conf(2020)

📍 San Francisco, CA

- Two-day workshop on machine learning with tidymodels taught by Alison Hill



## SELECTED SERVICE

2020

### Co-organizer

[Cascadia R Conf 2020](#)

📍 Eugene, OR

- Updated website for 2020 conference, designed new hex sticker, secured additional sponsors

2018

### Co-organizer

[Eugene Brainhack](#)

📍 Eugene, OR

- Co-organized a two-day Brainhack event hosted at the University of Oregon that involved collaborative software development projects related to computational neuroscience and psychology