

# Robert Contofalsky (He/Him)

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## EDUCATION

### New York University

*Master's of Arts, Psychology*

### Concordia University

*Graduate Diploma, Computer science*

### McGill University

*Bachelor of Arts, Psychology*

CGPA: 3.63/4.00

CGPA of most recent 60 credits: 3.83/4.00

### Champlain College Saint-Lambert

*Diploma of College Studies, Psychology*

**New York City, New York**

September 2024 - April 2026

**Montreal, Quebec**

September 2023 - September 2024

**Montreal, Quebec**

January 2019 - September 2022

**Saint-Lambert, Quebec**

August 2016 - December 2018

## PUBLICATIONS

- Skvortsova, A., **Contofalsky, R.**, Carrier, S., & Mogil, J. (2023). The Neurochemical Mediation of Conditioned Hyperalgesia in Mice. *In preparation*
- Koestner, R., & **Contofalsky, R.** (2021). The Psychological Effects of The COVID-19 Pandemic on Young Adults: A Self-Determination Theory Perspective. *McGill Journal of Human Behaviour*, 1(1), 89-103

## RESEARCH COURSES TAKEN

- **PSYC 395** (Psychology Research Project 1) - Thesis: The Psychological Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Young Adults: A Self-Determination Theory Perspective
- **PSYC 494 D1/D2** (Psychology Research Project) - Thesis: Supervised Learning of Auditory Categories: A Pilot Study
- **PSYC 495** (Psychology Research Project 2) - Thesis: Neurochemistry of Nocebo Conditioned Hyperalgesia in Mice

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Tomlinson Engagement Award for Mentoring

*Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology*

**McGill University**

September 2021 - December 2021

- Course: PSYC 332, Intro to Personality

- Mentored students, generated and evaluated exam material, and enhanced course delivery

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### MOGILab

*Research Assistant & Thesis Student*

**McGill University**

September 2021 - September 2022

- Principal investigator: Dr. Jeffrey Mogil

- Conducted research on mice regarding the novel "nocebo conditioned hyperalgesia effect"

### Communication and Consciousness Lab

*Research Assistant & Thesis Student*

**McGill University**

December 2020 - September 2021

- Principal investigator: Dr. Stevan Harnad

- Helped design and manage an experiment to test auditory categorical perception in humans as part of a pilot study

### **McGill University Health Centre**

*Research Assistant*

**McGill University**

August 2020 - September 2021

- Principal investigator: Dr. Marc O. Martel
- Aided a chronic back pain study; collected data, recruited patients, organized study materials, and provided compensation for participation

### **McGill Human Motivation Lab**

*Research Assistant & Thesis Student*

**McGill University**

May 2020 - October 2020

- Principal investigator: Dr. Richard Koestner
- Collected and analyzed data obtained through a longitudinal study, with a focus on how the COVID-19 pandemic affected students using a Self-Determination Theory perspective

## **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

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### **Private Neuropsychologist Clinic**

*Personal Assistant*

**Montreal, Quebec**

January 2020 - January 2021

- Supervisor: Dr. Geneviève Gagnon
- Helped with administrative tasks in a private clinic

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

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### **Intact Financial Corporation**

*Behavioural Science Intern*

**Montreal, Quebec**

January 2023 - May 2023

- Created a pilot project to increase employee retention for employees across Canada
- Analyzed qualitative and quantitative data to drive corporate-wide interventions
- Engaged in weekly solution presentations for various company stakeholders

### **Douglas Mental Health University Institute**

*Research Assistant - Eating Disorders Continuum*

**Montreal, Quebec**

June 2022 - September 2022

- Developed an online psychoeducation tool using LimeSurvey & Qualtrics
- Managed large databases and datasets with Excel & SPSS
- Organized weekly group therapy sessions for both clinicians and patients

### **Costco Wholesale Corporation**

*Meat Department Assistant*

**Saint-Bruno, Quebec**

June 2018 - May 2022

- Provided service to members in a professional manner
- Helped the department attain its weekly profit goals

### **McDonald's Corporation**

*Cashier, Drive-Thru, and Team Leader*

**Greenfield Park, Quebec**

September 2016 - June 2018

- Attended the needs of the clients
- Promoted the necessary work-ethic to my co-workers in order to meet the demands of the challenging and dynamic working environment

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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- **Harvard University (via EDx)** - CS50: Introduction to Computer Science April 2023 - May 2023
- **IBM (via EDx)** - Professional Certificate in C++ Programming Essentials May 2023 - August 2023

## **TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION**

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### **Human Methodology**

- TCPS 2: Tri-Council Policy Statement
- RI-MUHC: Standard Operating Procedures & Good Clinical Practice

### **Biomethodology**

- CMARC 1: Handling & restraint, humane intervention, and euthanasia
- CMARC 2: Substance administration and blood collection in the laboratory mouse

## **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

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- English (Native Speaker)
- French (High level reading, writing, and speaking)
- Slovak (Basic level reading and speaking)

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

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- Organizational Software: Microsoft Office Suite
- Statistical Software: SPSS & R
- Bibliographic Tools: Zotero
- Video Editing Software: Sony Vegas Pro
- Programming: Introductory Python & HTML

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

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### **Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu**

- Experience: Purple Belt
- Supervised Coaching: Bi-Weekly
- Active Competitor: Competing Bi-Yearly

### **Language Learning *Slovak***

- Re-mastering spoken abilities
- Augmenting written capabilities

### **Non-Fiction writing**

- Drafting a book on how to synthesize Cognitive Science and Pedagogy

## **REFERENCES**

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- **Dr. Richard Koestner**  
Professor, Department of Psychology; McGill University  
richard.koestner@mcgill.ca
- **Dr. Marc O. Martel**  
Assistant Professor, Faculty of Dentistry; McGill University  
marc.o.martel@mcgill.ca
- **Dr. Jeffrey Mogil**  
Professor, Department of Psychology; McGill University  
jeffrey.mogil@mcgill.ca
- **Dr. Stevan Harnad**  
Adjunct Professor, Department of Psychology; McGill University, UQAM, Soton  
harnad@uqam.ca