

David George Kamper
Los Angeles, CA
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EDUCATION

University of California Los Angeles, CA
College of Letters and Sciences Current
Department of Psychology
Brain Research Institute
Doctoral Student
Cognitive Neuroscience
Minor – Computational Cognitive Science

Dissertation Committee: Keith J. Holyoak (Chair); Hongjing Lu, Jaime Castellon, Chris Buccafusco (Duke University School of Law)

University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI
School of Literature, Science, and the Arts May 2020
University of Michigan Honors College
Bachelor of Science
Majors: 1) Biopsychology, Cognition, and Neuroscience
 2) Philosophy
 3) Cognitive Science
Minor: Linguistics

School of Music, Theater & Dance
Bachelor of Music
Major: Trombone Performance

Graduated Highest Honors (Summa cum Laude, First Class Honours)

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 National Science Foundation – Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF – GRFP) (Law and Science)
- 2024 UCLA Graduate Research Summer Research Fellowship
- 2023 UCLA First-Year Doctoral Fellowship
- 2023 Humility in Inquiry (John Templeton Foundation)
 \$150,000

Collaborators: Cory Clark, Philip Tetlock, Shauna Bowes, Alex Landry, Hrishikesh Joshi, John A. Keller, Michael Vazquez, Paul Seli

2016 Little Brown Jug Scholarship, University of Michigan
(Best Minnesotan Undergraduate Student at the University of Michigan)

2016 Robert B. and Sophia Whiteside Scholarship, University of Michigan

HONORS AND AWARDS

2026 Perfect 180 Law School Admissions Test
2020 Bachelor of Science Honors Thesis – High Honors, University of Michigan
2019 Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society, University of Michigan
2018 National Truman Scholarship Finalist
2018 Junior of the Year, University of Michigan
2018 James B. Angell Scholar, University of Michigan
(achieve an “A” record for five consecutive terms)
2016-2020 Dean’s List, University of Michigan
2017 Bicentennial Celebration 200 Best Students Today, University of Michigan
2016-2020 Collegiate Water Polo Association’s Men’s Scholar Athlete Team, Outstanding

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

* Undergraduate Mentored

10) **Kamper, D. G.**, Schneider, N., Waldon, B. (*Cornell Law Review*, 2026). Bayesian Models and the Rational Speech Act Framework: Rethinking Legal Interpretation Beyond Serial Textualism.

9) **Kamper, D. G.**, Mukwana, M.B., Song, J., Sobel, D.M. (2025). Distinct inhibitory control systems underlie individual differences in dynamic responses to an ultimatum game: A preliminary investigation. In A. Ruggeri, D. Barner, C. Walker, & N. Bramley (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society.

8) **Kamper, D. G.**, Lin, A.*, & Holyoak, K. J. (2025). Is AI-assisted creativity an “original sin”? Lay judgments of qualities justifying copyright protection for artworks derived from AI- vs. human-generated sources. In A. Ruggeri, D. Barner, C. Walker, & N. Bramley (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Cognitive Science Society.

7) Tobia, K., Hannikainen, I., **Kamper, D.G.**, et al. (Spring 2025). Nature of Reasonableness. *Stanford Journal of International Law*

- 6) Sobel D., **Kamper, D.G.**, Taylor, Y., Song, J. (2025). Distinct Inhibitory Control Mechanisms Underlie Selective Social Inferences. *Journal of Cognition and Development*.
- 5) Sobel, D. M., **Kamper, D. G.**, & Song, J. (2024). Reach Tracking Reveals Distinct Inhibitory Control Processes in Adults' False Belief Inferences. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- 4) Schoenegger, P., Salvi, F., Liu, ... **Kamper, D. G.**, et al. (2025). Large Language Models Are More Persuasive Than Incentivized Human Persuaders. *Nature Communications*.
- 3) Benton, D., **Kamper, D.G.**, Beaton, R.*, Sobel, D. (2023). Don't throw the (associative-learning) baby out with the bathwater just yet: Revisiting backwards-blocking reasoning in children. *Developmental Science*.
- 2) Sobel, D., **Kamper, D.G.**, Song, J. (2023). Distinct inhibitory control processes underlie children's judgments of fairness. *Psychological Science*.
- 1) Sobel, D., Blankenship, J., Yockel, M., **Kamper, D.G.** (2022). Rectifying inequities in resource collection and resource distribution in young children. *Developmental Science*.

Under Review

Kamper, D.G., Song, J., Sobel, D. (n.d.). Reach Tracking and Theory of Mind – A Dual Process? *Cognition*

Kamper, D.G., Mukwana, M., Song, J., Sobel, D. (n.d.). Distinct cognitive control systems underlie dynamic responses to an ultimatum game. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*.

Kamper, D.G., Lu, H., Holyoak, K. (n.d.). Copyright Transformativeness as St Based Feature Analysis.

Kamper, D. G., Lin, A.*, Holyoak, K. J. (*Nature Communications*, 2026). Beyond the Original Sin: How Humans Evaluate Creative Contribution in AI-Assisted Artworks.

In Progress

Kamper, D. G., Beebe, B., Nyarko, J., Brantingham, J. (in preparation). Agent-Based Modeling and Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning to Understand Law as Pre-Litigative Norm Emergence.

Kamper, D. G., Berman, M. (in preparation). Computational Jurisprudence: Testing Berman's Principled Positivism.

Kamper, D. G., Wallburger, A.*, Blank, I. (in preparation). An Empirical Analysis of Interpretation of Second Amendment Syntax.

Kamper, D. G., Simon, D. (in preparation). Beyond the Prosocial Justifications of Punishment.

Kamper, D.G., Lu, H., Holyoak, K., Webb, T. (2024). Zero-shot musical reasoning through probabilistic analogical mapping.

Kamper, D.G., Bistras, A. *, Meixner, J., Jaeger, C., Castrellon, J. (2025). Decaying Intentionality Judgments in Moral Paradigms in Counterfactual Production.

Kamper, D.G., Seli, P., Smilek, D. (2025). Critical Reflection and Signal Detection in Conspiratorial Thinking and Epistemic Humility.

Bowes, S., **Kamper, D.G.,** Clark, C., Tetlock, P., Vasquez, M., Landry, A., Seli, P. (n.d.). Middle People - Are There Two Types of Political Moralists?

McKee, P., Cesarini, D., **Kamper, D.G.,** Sinnott-Armstrong, W., Huettel, S. (n.d.). FOMO and Moral Conformity.

INVITED TALKS

Kamper, D. G. (January 2026). *Computational Approaches to Identifying Scènes à Faire: Measuring Narrative Stockiness Across Genres*. Psychology and Law Symposium, University of Chicago School of Law.

Kamper, D.G., Bedell, B. *, Holyoak, K. (November 2025). *Authority in Copyright Infringement: How Fame Shapes Moral Judgments of Fair Use*. Moral Psychology Research Group. Duke University.

Kamper, D.G. (May 2025). *Transformativeness As a Cognitive Process*. Empirical Intellectual Property Law Conference hosted at Northwestern University School of Law.

Kamper, D.G. (May 2025). *An Empirical Analysis of Laypersons' Interpretation of Second Amendment Structure*. Firearm Law Conference hosted at University of Wyoming School of Law and sponsored by Duke University School of Law.

Bowes, S., **Kamper, D.G.** (February 2025). *Latent Class Analysis Predicts Characteristics of Intellectual Humility*. Talk Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Intellectual Humility Workshop, Denver, CO, February 2025.

Kamper, D. G. (February 2024). *Cognitive Infrastructure in Copyright Law: A Study on the Fair Use Doctrine*. Talk Given at the Harvard Law School and Massachusetts General Hospital Neuroscience and Law Works in Progress Workshop.

Kamper, D.G. (March 2023). *Decaying Intentionality Judgments from Counterfactual Production in Causal and Legal Domains*. Talk Given at Dr. David Lagnado's Causal Cognition Laboratory – University College London.

Kamper, D.G. (March 2023). *Decaying Intentionality Judgments from Counterfactual Production in Causal and Legal Domains*. Talk Given at Dr. David Lagnado's Causal Cognition Laboratory – University College London.

McKee, P. C., Cesarini, D., **Kamper, D.G.**, Budnick, C., Bind, M. A., Huettel, S., & Sinnott-Armstrong, W. (2022, June). *The Role of Fear of Missing Out (FoMO) on Moral Awareness, Judgments, and Conformity*. Talk Given at the Moral Psychology Research Group.

PRESENTATIONS

Kamper, D.G., Lin, A., Holyoak, K. (2025). Lay Judgments of Copyrightability Protection in AI and Human Derived Art. Poster Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Denver, CO, February 2025.

Kamper, D.G., Song, J., Sobel, D. (2024). Distinct inhibitory control processes underlie children's judgments of fairness. Poster Presented at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Pasadena, CA, March 2024.

Kamper, D.G., Bowes, S., Clark, C.J., Landry, A., Seli, P. (2024) A Person-Centered Analysis of Politically Biased Reasoning: Identifying Political Zealots, Sages, and Apaths. Poster Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA, February 2024.

Sobel, D. **Kamper, D.G.** (2023). *Distinct cognitive control systems differ in cognitive development in an ultimatum game with five- to eight-year-olds*. Talk given at annual American Psychological Association Conference, Washington, DC, August, 2023.

Sobel, D., **Kamper, D.G.** (2023). *Distinct cognitive control systems differ in cognitive development in an ultimatum game with five- to eight-year-olds*. Talk given at annual Jean Piaget Conference, Madrid, Spain, June, 2023.

McKee, P. C., Cesarini, D., **Kamper, D.G.**, Huettel, S., & Sinnott-Armstrong, W. (2023). *Fear of Missing Out (FoMO) and Moral Conformity in Online Interactions*. Poster Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA, February 2023.

Kamper, D.G., Brennan, J. (2020). *The N400 Latency Effect in Lexical Access – A Meta-analysis*. Poster Presented at University of Michigan Department of Psychology Research Symposium, Ann Arbor, April 2020.

Hollman, N.,* **Kamper, D.G.**, Brennan, J. (2018). *Investigating the Latency Component of the N400*. Poster Presented at Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Spring Research Symposium, Ann Arbor, April, 2018.

Anderson, S. P., **Kamper, D.G.**, (2018). College admissions: making the most of high school. Presented at the 3rd Refugees to College Seminar Series at Central Academy. Ann Arbor, Michigan. April, 2018.

Kamper, D.G., Anderson, S. P. (2018). College admissions: an overview for parents. Presented at the 1st Refugees to College Seminar Series at Central Academy. Ann Arbor, Michigan. February, 2018.

Kamper, D.G., Kitayama, S., Salvador, C., Vargas, P., Dong, S. *The Effects of Subliminal Independence Priming and Norm Violation Detection* (2016). Poster Presented at Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Spring Research Symposium, Ann Arbor, April, 2016. (**Awarded Outstanding Research Presentation**)

* Undergraduate

CHAIRS AND COMMITTEES

Kamper, D.G. (March 2024). Analogy and Law – Analogical Minds Symposium. Chair and Discussant. Speakers: Professor. Fred Schauer, University of Virginia School of Law; Dr. An Hertogen, University of Auckland; Dr. Joe Blass, Northwestern University

UNDERGRADUATE MENTORSHIP

Alice Lin (Honors Student)
Andrew Bistras (Honors Student)
Rachel Julien
Anna Walburger
Rebecca Bedell
Sara Faraj
Reece Jordahl
Mira Patel

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Reasoning Laboratory, September 2023 - Present
Computational Vision Laboratory,
Castrellon Lab,
Fox Uncertainty Laboratory
PIs: Dr. Keith Holyoak, Dr. Hongjing Lu, Dr. Jaime Castrellon, Dr. Craig Fox
University of California, Los Angeles
Doctoral Student

Causality and Mind Laboratory, August 2021 - Present
Perception, Action and Cognition Laboratory
PIs: Dr. David Sobel, Dr. Joo-Hyun Song
Brown University

Laboratory Manager, Post-Baccalaureate Fellow, **Research Affiliate Status**

Study adult and child neurological and cognitive control mechanisms, causal inference, rational and moral decision making, and how they understand their own and others' mental states. I use reach tracking technology (RTT) to study inhibition and intuitions on fairness, specifically in behavioral economics, theory of mind, risk taking, and selective learning.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Computational Neurolinguistics Laboratory

May 2016 - July 2021

PI: Dr. Jonathan R. Brennan

University of Michigan – Ann Arbor

Honors Student, Research Assistant

Honors Thesis: “N400 Latency Effect in Lexical Access – A Meta-Analysis”

(Conferred Department High Honors)

Studied the mental structures and computations used to understand words and sentences, and how these processes are implemented in the brain using electroencephalography (EEG) technology.

Shen Neurolaw Laboratory

April 2018 - Sep. 2018

PI: Dr. Francis Shen

University of Minnesota Law School, Harvard Law School

Research Assistant

Studied advances in brain science with law and policy to try and understand what neuroscience can (and cannot) offer the law; researched the intersection between concussion and youth sports law, cognitive enhancement, and EEG recording techniques in witness testimony.

Culture and Cognition Laboratory

Sep. 2015 - May 2016

PIs: Dr. Shinobu Kitayama, Dr. Christina Salvador

University of Michigan – Ann Arbor

Research Assistant

Investigated neurological differences between Asian (data collected at the University of Tokyo) and European individuals and how it creates differences in culture and social norms using EEG.

RESEARCH AFFILIATE POSITIONS/COLLABORATIONS

University of Oxford

Dec. 2022 - Present

PIs: Dr. Joanna Demaree-Cotton, Dr. Brian Earp

Oxford BioXPhi Lab

Duke University PIs: Dr. Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, Dr. Jana Borg <i>Moral Attitudes and Decision-Making Lab</i>	March 2022 - Present
Duke University PI: Dr. Paul Seli <i>Mind at Large Lab</i>	March 2022 - Present
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill PI: Dr. Kurt Gray <i>The Center for the Science of Moral Understanding</i>	Feb. 2022 - Present
Georgetown University Law Center PI: Dr. Kevin Tobia <i>Georgetown Lab for the Empirical Study of Law and Language</i>	August 2021 - Present
University of Chicago/University of Michigan, Ann Arbor PI: Dr. Rosseana Sommers, Dr. Hajin Kim <i>PALS Lab (Psychology and Law Studies Group)</i>	Nov. 2021 - Present
University of Michigan PI: Dr. Somangshu Mukherji <i>Michigan Institute for Data Science - Generative Linguistics and Music Project</i>	Sep. 2019 - May 2020

MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Philosophy and Psychology	2025 - Present
Society for Judgement and Decision Making	2024 - Present
Cognitive Development Society	2024 - Present
Society for the Neuroscience of Creativity	2023 - Present
Society of Personality and Social Psychology	2023 - Present
Cognitive Science Society	2019 - Present
International Neuroethics Society	2018 - Present
American Association for the Advancement of Science	2018 - 2023

TEACHING

Quarter Winter 2024

Psychology 10: Introduction to Psychology
Professor Melissa Paquette Smith
Teaching Assistant
No Rating Assessed

Quarter Winter 2025

Management 223: Choice Architecture
Professor Craig Fox

Teaching Assistant
Rating: 98/100

Quarter Spring 2025

Psychology 120B: Sensation and Perception
Professor Ladan Shams
Teaching Assistant
Rating: 99/100
Recommended for Teaching Assistant of the Year

Quarter Fall 2025

Management 223: Choice Architecture
Professor Craig Fox
Teaching Assistant
Rating: 97.5/100

Quarter Winter 2026

Management 223: Choice Architecture
Professor Craig Fox
Teaching Assistant
Rating: Ongoing

SERVICE

Undergraduate Research Psychology Journal
Los Angeles, CA
Doctoral Mentor

January 2024 - Present

Mentor undergraduate students in the publication and review of submitted papers for publication

Refugees to College
Ann Arbor, MI/Providence, RI/Los Angeles, CA
Founder, Director

June 2016 - Present

I founded a not-for-profit organization that works with refugees, often with significant previous career experience, in navigating the path to college and improving employment prospects. We work one-on-one through consultations to create path to universities, colleges, and better careers. We are recognized internationally by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva as a part of WithRefugees coalition alongside universities, NGOs, and businesses such as Michigan Law, Yale University, Columbia University, Oxford University, MIT, Barcelona Football Club, Ben and Jerry's, and the International Olympic Committee. We currently have shifted focus to helping refugees out of Afghanistan, Ukraine and Iran, specifically current college students (most especially women) who are hoping to pursue their goals in new countries. I have helped around 25 women leave Afghanistan with their families during the Afghanistan crisis in 2021. www.refugeestocollege.org

University of Michigan Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Ann Arbor, MI
Student Advisory Board

Sep. 2018 - May 2020

I was appointed as the ambassador to the University of Michigan Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Student Advisory Board from the School of Music, Theater and Dance to address systemic racial, economic, and social issues on campus. I worked with the director on issues regarding economic stability for students and student workers, freedom of expression issues on campus, and voter turnout.

Engaging Scientists in Policy and Advocacy (ESPA)
Ann Arbor, MI
Co-Founder, Board Member

April 2017- August 2019

I cofounded a non-profit with graduate students in the biomedical engineering department and medical school neuroscience program at Michigan that advocates for a pro-science agenda in local and state legislatures. I worked to improve scientific understanding in Michigan, advised political candidates in the state of Michigan and in neighboring states with science backgrounds, and made science more accessible to the public. <https://sites.google.com/umich.edu/espa-umich>

Arrived.US
Ann Arbor, MI
Director of Institutional Outreach, Immigration Policy Researcher

April 2017 - August 2018

I joined a Silicon Valley-based non-profit through Google that developed an android and iPhone application which looked to educate immigrants who have already arrived in the US. This was done through a newsfeed on the latest news and trends in immigration, and a knowledge bank of researched answers to the most important questions. I contacted, expanded and oversaw the knowledge bank in the app through formal partnerships with immigration law firms and organizations in need of Arrived.

EXTRACURRICULARS

Brown University Orchestra and Opera Productions
Principal Trombonist

2022 – 2023

Turn Up, Turnout (TUT)
Student Advisor (STEM, Athletics, and Arts)
(National Student Voter Turnout Program)

2017 – 2021

University of Michigan Men's Water Polo
Student Athlete (B1G Conference Champion 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)

2015 – 2020

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Margolis & Cross PLC
Ann Arbor, MI
Law Clerk

June 2020 - July 2021

I joined a criminal defense, civil rights, appellate law firm where I reviewed medical records, court filings, precedent, and contacted potential clients and maintained communication with current clients. I was involved in writing all filings – complaints, appellate briefs and other pleadings. I prepared attorneys for depositions and mediations. I completed legal research for discovery and trial. I helped write and file motions/briefs for a large exoneration defense case from 1994 murder trial currently in Michigan State Supreme Court.

Recreational Sports – University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI
Lifeguard

April 2016 - August 2021

Student worker for safety, enforcing facility rules and regulations and wellbeing of general swimmers at Michigan's pools. Red Cross CPR/AED/First Aid/Lifeguarding Skills Certified.

Hon. Timothy P. Connors:
Michigan State 22nd Circuit Court/Peacemaking Court, Wayne State Law School
Ann Arbor, MI
Court Legal Intern

May 2018 – Dec. 2018

I worked for a state judge on the family, civil, and child abuse and neglect dockets. I observed the judicial process, court procedure, and legal argumentation. I collected data which supported the scientific importance of the Native American Peacemaking Process for the Michigan State Court. I personally commiserated with the Michigan Supreme Court on the potential benefits of neuroscience/psychology in the courtroom, specifically on child abuse and neglect dockets. I also audited a class at Wayne State University Law School on litigation titled "Trial Advocacy."