

Daniel J. Horschler

Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information

Yale University
Department of Psychology
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Academic Employment

Yale University (Starting June 2021)
Department of Psychology
Postdoctoral Associate



Education

The University of Arizona
Ph.D., Anthropology (2021)
M.A., Anthropology (2018)
Foci: Biological Anthropology & Cognitive Science



The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
B.S., Psychology (2016)
Foci: Cognitive Psychology & Anthropology
Highest Distinction & Highest Honors



Areas of Interest

Cognitive Evolution | Development | Social Cognition | Social Play | Cooperative-Communication |
Theory of Mind | Shared Intentionality | Executive Function | Domestication | Neuroanatomy

Research Experience

Cayo Santiago Biological Field Station, Punta Santiago, Puerto Rico (2016 – Present)
Canine Companions for Independence, Santa Rosa, CA & Oceanside, CA (2016 – Present)
Humane Society of Southern Arizona, Tucson, AZ (2018 – 2021)
Arizona Canine Cognition Center, Tucson, AZ (2016 – 2021)
Wildlife Science Center, Stacy, MN (2018)
Human Memory Lab, Chapel Hill, NC (2015 – 2016)
Canine Cognition Center at Yale, New Haven, CT (2015)
Lenovo User Experience Research Team, Morrisville, NC (2014 – 2016)
Somatosensory Research Lab, Chapel Hill, NC (2013 – 2014)

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Bray, E.E., Gnanadesikan, G.E., **Horschler, D.J.**, Levy, K.M., Kennedy, B.S., Famula, T.R., & MacLean, E.L. (2021). Early-emerging and highly-heritable sensitivity to human communication in dogs. *Current Biology*.

Horschler, D.J., Santos, L.R., & MacLean, E.L. (2021). How do non-human primates represent others' awareness of where objects are hidden? *Cognition*.

Arre, A.M.* & **Horschler, D.J.*** (2021). Swimming and diving as social play in juvenile rhesus macaques (*Macaca mulatta*). *Behaviour*. [*Denotes equal contribution]

Bray, E.E., Gruen, M.E., Gnanadesikan, G.E., **Horschler, D.J.**, Levy, K.M., Kennedy, B.S., Hare, B.A., & MacLean, E.L. (2020). Dog cognitive development: A longitudinal study across the first two years of life. *Animal Cognition*, 24(2), 311-328.

Horschler, D.J., MacLean, E.L., & Santos, L.R. (2020). Advancing gaze-based research on primate theory of mind. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 24(10), 778-779.

Bray, E.E., Gruen, M.E., Gnanadesikan, G.E., **Horschler, D.J.**, Levy, K.M., Kennedy, B.S., Hare, B.A., & MacLean, E.L. (2020). Cognitive characteristics of 8-to-10-week-old assistance dog puppies. *Animal Behaviour*, 66, 193-206.

Horschler, D.J., MacLean, E.L., & Santos, L.R. (2020). Do non-human primates really represent others' beliefs? *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 24(8), 594-605.

Horschler, D.J. & MacLean, E.L. (2019). Leveraging brain-body scaling relationships for comparative studies. *Animal Cognition*, 22(6), 1197-1202.

Horschler, D.J., Santos, L.R., & MacLean, E.L. (2019). Do non-human primates really represent others' ignorance? A test of the awareness relations hypothesis. *Cognition*, 190, 72-80.

Horschler, D.J., Hare, B., Call, J., Kaminski, J., Miklósi, Á., & MacLean, E.L. (2019). Absolute brain size predicts dog breed differences in executive function. *Animal Cognition*, 22(2), 187-198.

† Selected as the issue's highlight article

Manuscripts

Salomons, H., Smith, K., Callahan-Beckel, M., Callahan, M., Levy, K., Kennedy, B.S., Bray, E., Gnanadesikan, G.E., **Horschler, D.J.**, Gruen, M., Tan, J., White, P., MacLean, E., & Hare, B. (In revision). Cooperative communication with humans evolved to emerge early in dogs. *Current Biology*.

Horschler, D.J., Bray, E.E., Gnanadesikan, G.E., Byrne, M., Levy, K.M., Kennedy, B.S., & MacLean, E.L. (Under review). Dogs re-engage human partners when joint social play is interrupted: A behavioral signature of shared intentionality?

ManyDogs Project, Espinosa, J., Bray, E.E., Buchsbaum, D., Byosiore, S.E., Byrne, M., Freeman, M.S., Gnanadesikan, G.E., Alexandrina Guran, C.-N., **Horschler, D.J.**, Huber, L., Johnston, A.M., MacLean, E.L., Pelgrim, M.H., Santos, L., Silver, Z.A., Stevens, J.R., Völter, C.J., & Zipperling, L. (In prep). ManyDogs 1: A multi-lab replication study of dogs' pointing comprehension.

Conference Presentations

Horschler, D.J., Bray, E.E., & MacLean, E.L. (2021). Interpreting dogs' re-engagement behaviors after disrupted joint activities. Talk presented at the Yale University East Coast Canine Cognition Workshop (Virtual meeting).

Horschler, D.J., Bray, E.E., & MacLean, E.L. (2021). Do dogs form joint intentions with humans in social play? Talk presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology's Origins of the Social Mind Preconference (Virtual meeting).

Bray, E.E., Gnanadesikan, G.E., **Horschler, D.J.**, & MacLean, E.L. (2021). Heritable variation in dog social cognition. Thread presented at the Animal Behavior Society and Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour Twitter Conference (Virtual meeting).

Gnanadesikan, G.E., Espinosa, J.H., & **ManyDogs**. (2021). ManyDogs 1: An international collaborative approach to pointing comprehension in domestic dogs. Thread presented at the Animal Behavior Society and Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour Twitter Conference (Virtual meeting).

Horschler, D.J., Bray, E.E., & MacLean, E.L. (2020). Do dogs re-engage humans when joint experiences end? Talk presented at the Yale University East Coast Canine Cognition Workshop, New Haven, CT.

Bray, E.E., Gnanadesikan, G.E., **Horschler, D.J.**, & MacLean, E.L. (2020). Early development and longitudinal stability of cognitive traits in working dogs. Talk presented at the Yale University East Coast Canine Cognition Workshop, New Haven, CT.

MacLean, E.L., Bray, E.E., Gnanadesikan, G.E., & **Horschler, D.J.** (2020). Associations between individual differences in cognition and training outcomes in assistance dogs. Talk presented at the Yale University East Coast Canine Cognition Workshop, New Haven, CT.

Horschler, D.J., Santos, L.R., & MacLean, E.L. (2019). Awareness relations underpin knowledge representation in rhesus monkeys. Talk presented at the UA-ASU Cognitive Science Conclave, Tucson, AZ.

Horschler, D.J., Santos, L.R., & MacLean, E.L. (2019). How do non-human primates represent what others know? Talk presented at the 7th Annual Conference of the Southwestern Association of Biological Anthropologists, Tempe, AZ.

† *Awarded prize for best student podium presentation*

MacLean, E.L., Bray, E.E., Gnanadesikan, G.E., & **Horschler, D.J.** (2019). Ontogeny and heritability of cognitive and temperamental traits in an assistance dog population. Talk presented at the International Canine Science Conference, Tempe, AZ.

Horschler, D.J., Santos, L.R., & MacLean, E.L. (2019). Do non-human primates really represent others' ignorance? Talk presented at the 26th International Conference on Comparative Cognition, Melbourne Beach, FL.

† *Selected as a finalist for the Ron Weisman Outstanding Student Presentation Award*

Bray, E.E., Gnanadesikan, G.E., **Horschler, D.J.**, & MacLean, E.L. (2019). Early emerging cognition in 9-week-old puppies. Talk presented at the 26th International Conference on Comparative Cognition, Melbourne Beach, FL.

MacLean, E.L., Bray, E.E., Gnanadesikan, G.E., & **Horschler, D.J.** (2019). Heritability of cognitive traits in a pedigreed dog population. Talk presented at the 26th International Conference on Comparative Cognition, Melbourne Beach, FL.

Gnanadesikan, G.E., **Horschler, D.J.**, & MacLean, E.L. (2019). Social cues and hormonal profiles over development in wolf puppies. Poster presented at the GPSC Student Showcase, Tucson, AZ.

Horschler, D.J. & MacLean, E.L. (2018). Absolute brain size predicts dog breed differences in executive function and social cognition. Poster presented at the GPSC Student Showcase, Tucson, AZ.

Horschler, D.J. & MacLean, E.L. (2018). Dogs as a model for the cognitive implications of neuroanatomical variation. Talk presented at the Yale University East Coast Canine Cognition Workshop, New Haven, CT.

MacLean, E.L. & **Horschler, D.J.** (2018). Breed differences in dog cognition are predicted by absolute brain volume. Talk presented at the 126th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.

Horschler, D.J. & MacLean, E.L. (2017). Absolute brain size predicts dog breed differences in executive function and social cognition. Poster presented at the UA-ASU Cognitive Science Conclave, Tucson, AZ.

Horschler, D.J. & MacLean, E.L. (2017). Absolute brain size predicts dog breed differences in working memory and social cognition. Poster presented at the North American Canine Science Forum, Tempe, AZ.

Horschler, D.J., Susser, J.A., & Mulligan, N.W. (2016). Metamemory for performed and observed actions: Within-subjects. Poster presented at the UNC Psychology and Neuroscience Honors Poster Symposium, Chapel Hill, NC.

Horschler, D.J., Susser, J.A., & Mulligan, N.W. (2016). Metamemory for performed and observed actions: Within-subjects. Poster presented at the UNC Celebration of Undergraduate Research, Chapel Hill, NC.

Horschler, D.J. (2014). Insights into user experience at Lenovo. Poster presented at the Karen M. Gil Internship Program Poster Symposium, Chapel Hill, NC.

Invited Talks

University of Arizona, HNRS 395H: Spiritual and Scientific Approaches to Consciousness (2021)

Yale University, PHIL 271: Philosophy of Language (2020)

Boston College, Canine Cognition Center and Social Learning Laboratory (2020)

University of Arizona, AGUA Student Lecture Series (2019)

University of Arizona, Grad Slam Competition (2019)

Yale University, Comparative Cognition Laboratory (2019)

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, PSYC 67: The Senses of Animals (2015)

Grants and Fellowships

Current Funding

NSF SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (2022 – 2024)

Proposal: *Understanding the Evolutionary Origins of Theory of Mind: Computational Modeling of Conserved Cognitive Mechanisms Across Primates*

Role: Principal Investigator

Co-PIs: Laurie Santos and Julian Jara-Ettinger

Amount: \$138,000

Past Fellowships

UA Haury Dissertation Fellowship (2020 – 2021)

UA Graduate College Fellowship (2016 – 2018)

UA Graduate Access Fellowship (2016 – 2017)

UA School of Anthropology Emil W. Haury Fellowship (2016 – 2017)

Past Grants

SPSP Origins of the Social Mind Registration Award (2021)

UA School of Anthropology Traditions, Transitions, & Treasures Research Grant – Fall (2020)

UA Raphael and Jolene Gruener Research Travel Award (2020)

UA School of Anthropology Traditions, Transitions, & Treasures Research Grant – Spring (2020)

UA School of Anthropology Traditions, Transitions, & Treasures Research Grant (2019)

UA School of Anthropology Riecker Research Grant (2019)

UA Graduate & Professional Student Council Travel Grant (2019)

UA Graduate Interdisciplinary Programs Herbert E. Carter Travel Award (2019)

UA School of Anthropology Traditions, Transitions, & Treasures Travel Grant (2018)

UA Graduate & Professional Student Council Travel Grant (2018)

UNC-CH Psychology and Neuroscience Gillian T. Cell Senior Thesis Award (2015)

Teaching Experience

NSCS 200: Fundamentals of Neuroscience and Cognitive Science (Spring 2020)

University of Arizona | Department of Neuroscience | School of Mind, Brain & Behavior
Graduate Teaching Associate | ~160 students

ANTH 170C2: Animal Minds (Fall 2019)

University of Arizona | School of Anthropology | College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Graduate Teaching Associate | Two sections (~30 students each)

ANTH 327: Dog Thought (Spring 2019)

University of Arizona | School of Anthropology | College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Graduate Teaching Associate | ~150 students

NSCS 321: Research Methods in Cognitive Science (Fall 2018)

University of Arizona | Department of Neuroscience | School of Mind, Brain & Behavior
Graduate Teaching Assistant | ~110 students

ANTH 170: Human Variation in the Modern World (Fall 2017 & Spring 2018)

University of Arizona | School of Anthropology | College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Graduate Teaching Assistant | Two sections per semester (~30 students each)

Selected Media Coverage

Absolute brain size predicts dog breed differences in executive function, *Animal Cognition*

[ScienceDaily](#) | [Sky News](#) | [Insider](#) | [Psychology Today](#) | [talkRADIO London](#) |
[The Naked Scientists Podcast](#) | [Arizona Public Media \(NPR/PBS\)](#) |
[ABC 15 \(Phoenix, AZ\)](#) | [KOLD News 13 \(Tucson, AZ\)](#) | [KVOI Radio \(Tucson, AZ\)](#)

Swimming and diving as social play in juvenile rhesus macaques (*Macaca mulatta*), *Behaviour*

[Psychology Today](#): What can we learn from a monkey water park?

Cooperative communication with humans evolved to emerge early in dogs, *Current Biology*

[Science](#): These adorable puppies may help explain why dogs understand our body language

Early-emerging and highly-heritable sensitivity to human communication in dogs, *bioRxiv*

[StarTribune](#): What separates dogs and wolves? Researchers journey to Anoka County to find out

Arizona Canine Cognition Center

[KOLD News 13 \(Tucson, AZ\)](#): UA studies potential for working pups, saving time and money
[KJZZ Radio \(Tucson, AZ\)](#): Arizona scientists study dog minds to better understand our own
[The Daily Wildcat \(Tucson, AZ\)](#): Canine cognition center explores dog smarts
[ABC 30 \(Fresno, CA\)](#): Schools across the country opening their doors to dogs

Commentary on Related Research

[National Geographic](#): Centuries of breeding have reshaped dog brains—here's how

[The Washington Post](#): As humans shaped dogs' bodies, we also altered their brains

[Science](#): Humans haven't just changed what dogs look like—we've altered the very structure of their brains

Relevant Coursework

Animal Behavior | Biopsychology | Child Development | Cognitive Neuroscience of Imagination |
Cognitive Psychology | Cognitive Science Colloquium | Evolutionary Psychology |
Fundamentals of Evolutionary Biology | History of Anthropological Theory | Human Cognitive Evolution |
Human Evolutionary Biology | Introduction to Programming | Philosophy of Mind | Primate Behavior |
R Programming: Applied Statistical Analysis | R Programming: Data Analysis/Visualization |
R Programming: Intro/Multivariate Statistics | Statistical Principles of Psychological Research

Undergraduate Mentoring

Honors Thesis Supervision

Amelia Bryony (Fall 2019 – Spring 2020): “Dog brain size and executive function”

Tegan Wambold (Fall 2017 – Spring 2018): “Shared intentionality between humans and canines”

Directed Research Supervision

Thomas Kile (Fall 2017 – Spring 2019)

Julia Kemper (Spring 2017)

Lindsey Lang (Spring 2017)

Science Outreach

Letters to a Pre-Scientist (2020 – 2021)

Participated in a STEM pen pal program with middle school students from underserved communities

Research Demonstration for AP/Honors High School Students, Tucson, AZ (2018 & 2019)

Dog cognition experiment demo organized by the Office of Admissions, University of Arizona

Dogtoberfest Dog Festival, Tucson, AZ (2017 & 2018)

Dog cognition experiment demo at a fundraiser for Handi-Dogs, Inc.

Dog Days with the Dean, Tucson, AZ (2017)

Dog cognition experiment demo organized by the Dean of Students Office, University of Arizona

Storm Phobia in Shelter Dogs, Tucson, AZ (2016)

Advised the First LEGO League Robotics team at Sunrise Drive Elementary School

Undergraduate Poster Symposium, Chapel Hill, NC (2015)

Poster judge for PSYC 67: The Senses of Animals

BarkFest Dog Festival, New York City, NY (2015)

Represented and recruited participants for the Canine Cognition Center at Yale

Professional Service

Ad-Hoc Reviewer

Animal Cognition | *Current Zoology* | *Frontiers in Veterinary Science* | *Journal of Comparative Psychology* | *PeerJ* | *Scientific Reports* | *The Federation of European Biochemical Societies Journal* | *Topics in Cognitive Science*

Research and Projects Grant Reviewer

Graduate & Professional Student Council, University of Arizona

Travel Grant Reviewer

Graduate & Professional Student Council, University of Arizona

Membership

American Association for the Advancement of Science | Comparative Cognition Society | Cognitive Science Society