

# Gabriel Riegner

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## CONTACT

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## EDUCATION

2015 - 2019  
3.83 GPA

**University of Southern California**, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences  
*Bachelor of Arts in **Neuroscience** ( with **departmental honors** ) and **Cognitive Science***

**Advisors:** Assal Habibi PhD, Sarah Bottjer PhD, Irving Biederman PhD

**Thesis:** [Recognition Memory for Melody](#)

**Selected coursework:** Neuroscience Seminar, Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience, Systems Neuroscience, Neurobiology, Research Methods and Statistics, Programming in Python

2016

**University of Otago**, Dunedin, New Zealand | international study

## RESEARCH

2019 -

**Senior Research Technician: University of California San Diego**, [Brain Mechanisms of Pain and Health Lab](#)

**Advisor:** Fadel Zeidan PhD

**Projects** ( ordered by level of involvement )

Clinical trial on the brain mechanisms supporting chronic pain relief by meditation ( MRI scanner operation )

Prefrontal cortico-thalamic regulation of pain by mindfulness meditation ( MRI data analysis )

Clinical trial on the role of endogenous opioids in mindfulness-based pain relief ( pain testing, drug infusion )

Brain mechanisms supporting empathy and compassion for pain ( MRI scanner operation )

The role of endogenous opioids in cannabis-induced analgesia ( MRI scanner operation )

The effects of mindfulness on awake craniotomy surgery ( IRB writing )

2015 - 2019

**Research Assistant: University of Southern California**, [Brain and Creativity Institute](#), [Brain and Music Lab](#)

**Advisor:** Assal Habibi PhD

**Projects** ( ordered by level of involvement )

Honors thesis research on modeling recognition memory for musical melodies using signal detection theory.

Longitudinal study of music training on brain (MRI, EEG), cognitive, and socioemotional development.

## PUBLICATIONS

2021

[Prefrontal cortico-thalamic regulation of pain by mindfulness meditation \(abstract\)](#)

G Riegner, J Baumgartner, G Posey, A Jinich, Y Jung, F Zeidan, N Gonzalez, J Birenbaum.

*The Journal of Pain*

2020

[Neurophysiological mechanisms supporting mindfulness meditation-based pain relief: an updated review](#)

A Jinich, E Garland, J Baumgartner, N Gonzalez, G Riegner, J Birenbaum, L Case, F Zeidan.

*Current Pain and Headache Reports*

## POSTERS

2021

Neurofunctional connections supporting mindfulness-based pain relief

G Riegner, G Posey, V Oliva, L Khatib, J Baumgartner, R Kraft, Y Jung, F Zeidan.

*Society for Neuroscience*

2020

Prefrontal cortico-thalamic regulation of pain by mindfulness meditation

G Riegner, J Baumgartner, G Posey, A Jinich, Y Jung, F Zeidan, N Gonzalez, J Birenbaum.

*US Association for the Study of Pain*

2020

Mindfulness meditation engages a novel neural pathway for pain relief

F Zeidan, G Posey, J Baumgartner, G Riegner, N Gonzales, J Birenbaum, B Vaughan, Y Jung, R Kraft

*International Association for the Study of Pain*

## AWARDS

2015 - 2019

**USC Tuition Exchange Scholarship** | 80% tuition

2017 - 2018

**USC Student Opportunities for Research Scholarship** | summer research stipend

2015 - 2020

**USC Dean's List** | GPA  $\geq$  3.5 per semester

## SKILLS

**Programming:** Python ( numpy, pandas, scipy, sklearn, psychopy ) | Shell ( unix, scripting ) | Git-Github

**fMRI:** scanner operation ( GE and Siemens ) | FSL ( preprocessing, linear modelling, ICA, parametric and non-parametric inference ) | Nilearn ( connectivity, linear modelling, multivariate prediction ) | ANTs ( brain extraction, segmentation ) | MATLAB ( mediation analysis ) | BIDs | Docker | fMRIPrep | ASLPrep

**Data:** Biopac ( physiology ) | BrainVision ( EEG ) | RedCap, NIH Toolbox ( behavioral )

**Design:** Adobe, Affinity ( [journal cover](#) ) | **Web Design** ( [chakravarthylab.com](#), [douleurtx.com](#), [griegner.github.io](#) )

**Clinical:** quantitative sensory testing, straight leg raise test of nerve pain

## TRAINING

2021 3Blue1Brown linear algebra ( [self-study](#) )

2020 Neurohackademy ( [online](#) ) | FSL course ( [self-study](#) ) | Pain Neuro journal club

2019 fMRI AFNI course ( UCSD )

## MEMBERSHIPS

2020 - Society for Neuroscience | Cognitive Science Society | US Association for the Study of Pain

## SERVICE

2018 - 2019 **USC Outfitters Student Organization** | Wilderness Guide

Organized and lead surfing, climbing, and hiking trips for groups of ~10 students.