

EDUCATION

Northeastern University, Boston, MA
PhD in progress

Expected 2027

Macalester College, St. Paul, MN
B.A., *summa cum laude*
Majors: Psychology (with honors), Asian Studies, and Chinese

May 2020
GPA: 3.92

Peking University, Beijing, China

Semester abroad in Fall 2018

EXPERIENCE

PhilLab, Dartmouth College, Hanover

Lab Manager
Research Assistant

October 2020 - present
July - September 2020

Supervisor: Dr. Jonathan Phillips

- Programmed a study in Javascript and configured the database using MySQL for a study on moral decision making.
- Programmed a study on representations of possibility and morality using Testable, and analyzed data using R.
- Wrote and modified lab IRB protocols.

Promoting Teen Attachment and Development Lab, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Clinical Research Coordinator

August 2020 - June 2022

Supervisor: Dr. Meredith Gunlicks-Stoessel

- Coordinated the running of an NIMH-funded clinical trial on the effectiveness of personalized interventions for adolescent depression.
- Trained and managed a team of 9 RAs and 10 clinical evaluators, and consented and managed 20 therapists.
- Wrote IRB protocol modifications.
- Programed and administered questionnaires using REDCap.
- Screened, consented, and coordinated care for over 100 families.

iLab, Macalester College, Saint Paul

Lab Manager
Research Assistant

August 2019 - May 2020
September 2017 - July 2019

Supervisor: Dr. Brooke Lea

- Designed a study and wrote a literature review on parafoveal preview and foveal load effects in Chinese reading.
- Coordinated the running of 8 ongoing research projects in an NSF-funded lab.
- Managed a team of 10 RAs and trained 4 RAs.
- Prepared and led multiple Introduction to Eye-Tracking labs for statistics classes with 50 students.
- Ran participants on EyeLink 1000 eye-tracker, cleaned data using Data Viewer, analyzed data using SPSS, and built experiments using Experiment Builder and Qualtrics for a variety of psycholinguistic research projects.

Morality and Social Cognition Lab, Macalester College, Saint Paul

Research Assistant

September 2019 - May 2020

Supervisor: Dr. Steve Guglielmo

- Designed 3 studies on Qualtrics and deployed using MTurk for a project on political ingroup moral licensing.
- Wrote an extensive literature review and APA paper.
- Analyzed 3 sets of survey data using R, SPSS, and Excel.

Macalester College, Saint Paul

Writing Assistant, Cognitive Psychology First Year Course

September - December 2019

Supervisor: Dr. Brooke Lea

- Held weekly office hours for students to discuss confusion on course topics, essay prompts, writing skills, and the transition to college.
- Provided written feedback on papers, and wrote discussion questions and essay prompts.
- Helped the professor restructure the course over the summer.

Social Interaction Lab, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Research Assistant

June - December 2019

Supervisor: Dr. Jeff Simpson

- Recruited and ran families weekly in a 3-hour study on attachment styles.

Social and Moral Cognition Lab, Columbia University, New York

Research Assistant

June - August 2018

Supervisor: Dr. Larisa Heiphetz

- Ran child participants ages 6-8 years old in a study on prisoners and morality.
- Recruited families, entered data, and designed signs and greeting cards for the lab.

Social Neuroscience Lab, New York University, New York

Research Assistant

May - August 2018

Supervisor: Dr. David Amodio

- Prepared EEG data for analysis using Neuroscan.
- Helped write scripts to clean and sort data using Java.
- Prepared a brief literature review on N170 waveforms.

Social Cognitive and Neural Sciences Lab, New York University, New York

Research Assistant

June - August 2018

Supervisor: Dr. Jon Freeman

- Created a rating task study using Java and prepared context stimuli for fMRI study on gendered stereotypes and emotion perception.
- Led a team of interns reviewing and collecting literature for a meta-analysis.

Fortune Times Group, New York

Paid Summer Intern

June - August 2016

Supervisor: Dr. Rachel Yager

- Collected and analyzed company data using Excel, and presented results.
 - Researched uses of psychometric testing in China and wrote a report on the topic.
 - Spoke Mandarin and English at work.
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PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Acierno, J. & Phillips, J. (2022). Moral judgments rely on default representations of possibility, *Philosophical Transactions B*.

Srinivasan, G., **Acierno, J.**, & Phillips, J. (2022). The shape of option generation in open-ended decision problems. *Proceedings of the Forty-Fourth Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Acierno, J. (2020). Can Good Groups Create Immoral Individuals? Examining Vicarious Moral Licensing in Political Ingroups, *Digital Commons*,
https://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/psychology_honors/48

Sanford, E., Shaffer, O., **Acierno, J.**, Harmon, E., & Lea, R.B. (July 2019). *Interpretation on the Fence: Do Idioms Activate Figurative and Literal Meanings Equally?* 2019 Annual Meeting of the Society for Text & Discourse, New York City, NY.

Sanford, E., Harmon, E., **Acierno, J.**, Spanos, N., Shaffer, O., & Lea, R.B. (2018). *When You Kick the Bucket, Do You Pick Up the Pail?* 59th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New Orleans, LA.

HONORS

Honors recognition from the Macalester Psychology Department.

Member of the Psi Chi Honor Society.

Dean's List all semesters (2016 - 2020).

My essay was one of only eight published, out of hundreds submitted, by NYU in 2015 in their literary magazine *West Fourth*.

SKILLS

Languages: English and Mandarin.

Programming: Python; Javascript; Java; Experiment Builder; Qualtrics; REDCap; MySQL; Testable; Prolific; Mechanical Turk; Cloud Research.

Data processing/analysis: R; SPSS; Excel; Data Viewer; EEGLAB; Neuroscan; EyeLink 1000; statistical analysis skills.

Computer: OnCore; strong research and writing skills.

Trainings: CITI certified at New York University, Columbia University, the University of Minnesota, and Dartmouth College; fMRI level one certified; HIPPA and research ethics trained.