

# Joshua Satya Cetron | *Curriculum Vitae*

PDF version

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**Research interests:** *computational and multivariate analysis of cognitive neuroimaging data (e.g., RSA, MVPA), neural basis of cognition and learning, applying neuroscience and psychology research to improve social, educational, and public health outcomes.*

## Education

**Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA

*September 2018 - Present*

Doctoral Student, Department of Psychology

Advisor: Mina Cikara, Ph.D.

**Dartmouth College**, Hanover, NH

*September 2012 - June 2016*

B.A., Neuroscience, High Honors, *summa cum laude*

GPA: 3.92, Phi Beta Kappa

Minors in Education and Spanish

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

**Cetron, J. S.**, Connolly, A. C., Diamond, S. G., May, V. V., Haxby, J. V., Kraemer, D. J. M. (2019, accepted pending minor revisions). A neural score for engineering concepts: predicting STEM learning with multivariate pattern analysis of functional neuroimaging data. *Nature Communications*. Preprint available at <https://psyarxiv.com/6ac7f/>. Preprint DOI: 10.31234/osf.io/6ac7f.

## Submitted Manuscripts

**Cetron, J. S.**, Connolly, A. C., Diamond, S. G., May, V. V., Haxby, J. V., Kraemer, D. J. M. (2019). Using the force: prior knowledge and experience shape neural representations of engineering concepts. *Submitted*. Preprint available at <https://psyarxiv.com/ue5fa>. Preprint DOI: 10.17605/OSF.IO/UE5FA.

Alfred, K. L., Hayes, J. H., **Cetron, J. S.**, Pizzie, R. G., Kraemer, D. J. M. (2019). Individual differences in encoded neural representations within cortical speech production network. *Submitted*. Preprint available at <https://psyarxiv.com/8wcpv/>. Preprint DOI: 10.31234/osf.io/8wcpv.

## Current projects

**Cetron, J. S.** & Cikara, M. (2019). Understanding how opinions become represented as facts (and how to intervene). *In progress*.

Alfred, K. L., Connolly, A. C., **Cetron, J. S.**, Kraemer, D. J. M. (2019). Does the brain have a domain-general mechanism for representing mental models? *Manuscript in preparation*.

Hayes, J. C., Alfred, K. L., **Cetron, J. S.**, Pizzie, R. G., Kraemer, D. J. M. (2019). Individual differences in information processing predict distinct structural connectivity patterns. *Manuscript in preparation*.

**Cetron, J. S.**, Hayes, J.C., Connolly, A. C., Diamond, S. G., May, V. V., Haxby, J. V., Kraemer, D. J. M. (2019). Comparing neural and behavioral representations of engineering concept learning for lab-based and computer-based instructional methods. *In progress*.

Peterson, E. M., Kolvoord, R. A., Kraemer, D. J. M., Weinberger, A. B., Uttal, D. H., Goldman, D., **Cetron, J. S.**, Green, A. E. (2019). A neural test of concept mastery in geoscience through evaluation of neural representations. *In progress*.

Nastase, S. A., Hayes, J. H., **Cetron, J. S.**, Green, A. E., Cross, E. S., Haxby, J. V., Kraemer, D. J. M. (2017). Decoding perceptual retrieval: the influence of retrieval modality and task difficulty. *Manuscript in preparation*.

## Other Publications

**Cetron, J. S.**, & Dartmouth College. (2016). *The role of motor regions in representing engineering concepts*. (Senior Honors Thesis). Retrieved from Dartmouth College Library. (Control No. ocn953695823).

Kean, L., Sen, S., Felder, M. A., Tangpricha, V., Adisa, O., JAMES-Herry, A., Buchanan, I., Ziegler, T., Alvarez, J., Beus, J., Worthington-White, D., Robertson, J., George, J., **Cetron, J.**, Ofori-Acquah, S. F., & Osunkwo, I. (2011). Evidence for Quantitative and Functional Immune Deviation in Pediatric Patients with Sickle Cell Disease. *Blood*, 118(21), 1054. Retrieved from <http://www.bloodjournal.org/content/118/21/1054>.

## Conference Presentations

**Cetron, J. S.**, Hayes, J.C., Connolly, A. C., Diamond, S. G., May, V. V., Haxby, J. V., Kraemer, D. J. M. (2019, March). Comparing neural and behavioral representations of engineering concept learning for lab-based and computer-based instructional methods. Poster presented at the 2019 annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, CA.

**Cetron, J. S.**, Connolly, A. C., Diamond, S. G., May, V. V., Haxby, J. V., Kraemer, D. J. M. (2018, March). A neural score for engineering concepts: predicting STEM learning with multivariate pattern analysis of functional neuroimaging data. Poster presented at the 2018 annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Boston, MA.

Hayes, J. C., Alfred, K. L., **Cetron, J. S.**, Pizzie, R. G., Kraemer, D. J. M. (2018, March). Individual differences in information processing predict distinct structural connectivity patterns. Poster presented at the 2018 annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Boston, MA.

Alfred, K. L., Connolly, A. C., **Cetron, J. S.**, Kraemer, D. J. M. (2017, March). Does the brain have a domain-general mechanism for representing mental models? Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, CA.

**Cetron, J. S.**, Connolly, A. C., Diamond, S. G., May, V. V., Kraemer, D. J. M. (2016, May). The role of motor regions in representing engineering concepts. Poster presented at the inaugural meeting of the Psychonomics Society International, Granada, Spain.

**Cetron, J. S.**, Connolly, A. C., Diamond, S. G., May, V. V., Kraemer, D. J. M. (2016, April). The role of motor regions in representing engineering concepts. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, New York, NY.

## Selected Honors, Awards, & Research Funding

**National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow**  
*National Science Foundation, 2019 - Present*

2019 recipient of the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship award for research program in progress under the title: Understanding how opinions become represented as facts (and how to intervene).

### **Presidential Scholar, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences**

*Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, September 2018 - Present*

Selected by the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences to receive the Presidential Scholarship Award in special recognition of a commitment to public service and intellectual excellence. Nominated by the Harvard Department of Psychology.

### **High Honors Award, Neuroscience Honors Thesis**

*Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, June 2016*

Senior Neuroscience Honors Thesis awarded High Honors by the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences.

### **Department Nominee, Gazzaniga Family Science Award**

*Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, June 2016*

Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences exclusive nominee for the college-wide Gazzaniga Family Science Award for the most outstanding senior honors thesis student in the sciences.

### **Citations for Meritorious Performance**

*Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, 2014 - 2016*

On four unique occasions, received formal personal commendations from faculty for exceptional contributions to an academic course, each in a distinct department. Faculty remarks are recorded on students' official undergraduate transcripts.

### **James O. Freeman Presidential Scholar**

*Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, January 2015 - June 2015*

Funded undergraduate research assistantship for two academic terms of research with a faculty mentor. Awarded to third-year student applicants in the top 40% of their class.

### **Kaminsky Family Fund Award Grant Researcher** *Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, Fall 2014, Summer 2015*

Dartmouth College Dean of the Faculty Undergraduate Research Grant recipient, sponsored for two separate academic terms.

### **Rufus Choate Scholar** *Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, 2012 - 2013, 2013 - 2014*

Annual award recognizing students in the top 5% of their class each academic year.

### **Sophomore Science Scholar** *Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, September 2013 - March 2014*

Undergraduate research assistantship for two academic terms with a faculty mentor. Awarded to second-year student applicants conducting research in the sciences.

## **Skills & Abilities**

### **Computational Skills**

*Programming Languages:* R, Python (including SciPy and NumPy), Unix (bash), slurm cluster computing, some JavaScript (jspsych).

*Computational Tools & Software:* RStudio, iPython, Jupyter, PsychoPy, Git, Atom, slurm, Qualtrics, jspsych.

**Statistical Skills** *Analyses:* standard and generalized linear fixed-effects, mixed-effects, and additive modeling, multivariate cluster analysis (standard and bootstrapped hierarchical clustering, density-based clustering), dimensionality reduction (multidimensional scaling, principal components analysis), support vector machine classification.

### **Neuroimaging Skills**

*Functional MRI Scanning:* Scanner operation and safety training (Philips 3.0 T Achieva Intera, Siemens PRISMA 3T).

*Neuroimaging Analysis Tools:* AFNI (AFNI bootcamp certified), SUMA, FSL, FreeSurfer, PyMVPA.

*Neuroimaging Analysis Procedures:* General linear modeling (subject- and group-level), whole-brain searchlight multivariate pattern analysis (MVPA), representational similarity analysis (RSA).

### **Other Skills**

*Media Processing:* Audio editing, recording, and mastering (Logic Pro X), image manipulation (GIMP), video editing (DaVinci Resolve, Final Cut Express).

*Engineering:* Electronics soldering, basic circuit wiring, basic woodworking, amateur luthier.

*Language Skills:* Fluent in Spanish.

*Musical Training:* 15+ years of musical instrument, independent songwriting, and performance experience.

## **Research Positions**

### **Doctoral Student, Harvard Intergroup Neuroscience Lab**

*Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, September 2018 - Present*

Advisor: Mina Cikara, Ph.D.

- Doctoral student in the Department of Psychology conducting original behavioral and neuroimaging research in cognitive neuroscience with applications in social, educational, and public health domains.

### **Lab Manager and Research Assistant, Cognitive Neuroscience of Learning Lab**

*Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, September 2016 - September 2018*

Advisor: David J. M. Kraemer, Ph.D.

- Full-time research assistant. Conducted original research, oversaw and executed multiple task-based and fMRI research projects, and presented research at national and international conferences.
- Lab manager responsibilities included coordinating and managing lab logistics (e.g., participant scheduling, equipment reservations, website maintenance) and activities (e.g., writing workshops).

### **Undergraduate Research Assistant, Cognitive Neuroscience of Learning Lab**

*Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, July 2013 - June 2016*

Advisor: David J. M. Kraemer, Ph.D.

- Conceived, created, conducted, and analyzed behavioral and fMRI studies over three years of part- and full-time research, as a recipient of Dartmouth-sponsored research grants and as a Neuroscience Honors Thesis student.
- Neuroscience Senior Honors Thesis Student (2015-2016). Investigated the neural representations of physics concepts and the role of prior knowledge and experience in those representations. Awarded High Honors.
- Research presented at the 2016 Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting in New York City and at the 2016 International Meeting of the Psychonomics Society in Granada, Spain.

### **Laboratory and Research Assistant, Emory University Transplant Centers**

*Emory University, Atlanta, GA, Summers 2010, 2011, 2012*

Advisor: Leslie Kean, M.D./Ph.D.

- Assisted with laboratory logistics for an immunology research lab studying Graft Versus Host Disease in bone marrow transplant patients.
- Maintained serum sample databases, computed basic statistical analyses, managed the safe transportation of sensitive biomaterials to and from the Yerkes International Primate Research Center.

## **Additional Work & Leadership Experience**

### **Director, Dartmouth Outing Club (DOC) First-Year Trips Program**

*Hanover, NH, November 2015 - November 2016*

- Directed the 2016 First-Year Trips program for the Dartmouth Outing Club, the largest College outdoor orientation program in the country. The DOC First-Year Trips program is an annual, entirely student-run program that takes approximately 1000 incoming students each year on five-day outdoor trips as an introduction to college.
- As Director, I was responsible for building, implementing, and overseeing every aspect of the 2016 program over a one-year period. Interviewed and hired a 20-person Directorate staff, selected a volunteer staff of 350+ students from an applicant pool of 600+, and assigned appx. 1000 first-year students to 139 different 5-day trips across 10 sections.
- Managed 56 support crew members across 6 separate teams as well as 278 trip leaders (all student volunteers) over the 3-week duration of the program while trips took place across central and northern New Hampshire, including in the White Mountains and along sections of the Appalachian Trail.

#### **Program Facilitator, Pearson Seminar on Youth Leadership**

*Victoria, B.C., Canada, Summers 2010, 2011*

- Collaborated with a team of 16 facilitators and 8 program coordinators to design and implement a month-long summer leadership program at the Lester B. Pearson United World College.
- Critically engaged 100 high school student participants from 20+ different countries on topics in social justice, global citizenship, environmental sustainability, and community-building.

## **References**

### **Mina Cikara, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology  
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA  
(617) 495-3819, mcikara@fas.harvard.edu

### **David J. M. Kraemer, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor, Department of Education  
Advisor, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Graduate Program  
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH  
(603) 667-0472, david.j.m.kraemer@dartmouth.edu

### **James V. Haxby, Ph.D.**

Evans Family Distinguished Professor, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences Director, Center for Cognitive Neuroscience  
Director, Dartmouth Brain Imaging Center  
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH  
(603) 646-0038, james.v.haxby@dartmouth.edu