Jeesung Ahn

PSYCHOLOGIST | NEUROSCIENTIST | RESEARCHER

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate in Psychology, University of Pennsylvania *Aug. 2019 - Present*

COMMUNICATION NEUROSCIENCE LAB (ADVISOR: EMILY FALK, PH.D.), DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY *Philadelphia, PA*

M.A. in Psychology, University of Pennsylvania *Aug. 2019 - Aug. 2021*

COMMUNICATION NEUROSCIENCE LABORATORY (ADVISOR: EMILY FALK, PH.D.), DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY *Philadelphia, PA*

- Thesis: Effects of message framing on neural responses to persuasive message and health behavior change

M.S. in Cognitive Science and Engineering, Yonsei University *Mar. 2016 - Feb. 2018*

APPLIED BRAIN COGNITION LAB (ADVISOR: SANGHOON HAN, PH.D.), INTERDEPARTMENTAL COGNITIVE SCIENCE PROGRAM *Seoul, South Korea*

- Thesis: Voxel-wise mapping of functional magnetic resonance imaging in impression formation (best thesis award)

B.A. in Psychology & B.S. in Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Korea University *Mar. 2011 - Aug. 2015*

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, COLLEGE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS *Seoul, South Korea*

Exchange Student Program, Macquarie University *July, 2013 - Dec. 2013*

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY *Sydney, Australia*

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Teaching Assistant *Jan. 2021 – Dec. 2021*

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA *Phildelphia,PA*

- Introduction to Experimental Psychology; Spring, 2021, Rebecca Waller, Ph.D.; Fall 2021, Anna Jenkins, Ph.D.
- Worked one-on-one with 50+ students to provide mentorship for their study plans
- Created student evaluation tools
- Graded and provided qualitative feedback on student essays

Research Associate *April. 2015 – Mar. 2019*

APPLIED BRAIN COGNITION LAB, YONSEI UNIVERSITY (P.I.: SANGHOON HAN, PH.D.) & INTEGRATED NEUROCOGNITIVE
Seoul, South Korea
FUNCTIONAL IMAGING CENTER, YONSEI UNIVERSITY SEVERANCE HOSPITAL (P.I.: SEUNG-KOO LEE, M.D., PH.D.)

- Designed and directed 7+ end-to-end behavioral and neuroimaging projects, resulting in 3 first-author publications, an award- winning Master's thesis, and 6 international conference presentation
- Provided extensive technical support and mentorship to other researchers in the lab on research project management, neuroimaging analyses, data quality control, and MATLAB scripting

Research Consultant *Mar. 2016 – Feb. 2018*

TEAM QUANTUMLABS *Seoul, South Korea*

- A start-up company developing a novel neurostimulation device
- Conducted A/B tests (psychological/behavioral experiments, neuroimaging experiments, in-depth interviews) to evaluate the usability and efficacy of the product
- Presented findings to cross-functional stakeholders (venture capital funders, designers, engineers), leading to an award at Yonsei Start-up Competition and the successful acquisition of 100K USD in funding

Research Coordinator *Mar 2016 – Aug 2016*

INSTITUTE OF HUMAN BEHAVIOR, YONSEI UNIVERSITY *Seoul, South Korea*

- Managed research funding for all Psychology labs in Yonsei University
- Coordinated Psychology departmental events

Research Coordinator *Jun 2017 – Feb 2018*

BRAIN KOREA 21+, NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF KOREA *Seoul, South Korea*

- Managed research funding for Yonsei Applied Brain Cognition Lab

Research Assistant *Nov 2014 – April 2015*

LABORATORY OF SOCIAL DECISION NEUROSCIENCE, KOREA UNIVERSITY (ADVISOR: HACKJIN KIM, PH.D.) *Seoul, South Korea*

- Managed participants for an EEG hyperscanning experiment

SCHOLARSHIPS

Penn Full-Ride Doctoral Fellowship ($400K)   *2019 - Present*
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Kwanjeong Full-Tuition Scholarship for Master's Program ($22K)   *2016 - 2017*
KWANJEONG EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION (HTTP://EN.IKEF.OR.KR)

Brain Korea 21+ Graduate Scholarship   *2016 - 2017*
NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF KOREA

HONORS & AWARDS

Graduate Travel Award   *2022*
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2022

Best Poster Award   *2022*
SOCIAL AFFECTIVE NEUROSCIENCE SOCIETY 2022
- Presented findings at an invited talk, titled "Brain responses to gain- and loss-framed messages differ, and interact with baseline physical activity, to predict later behaviors"

Best Master's Thesis Award   *2018*
YONSEI UNIVERSITY GRADUATE GROUP
- For the thesis titled "Voxel-wise mapping of functional magnetic resonance imaging in impression formation"

Interdisciplinary Research Initiative Award, Grand Prize   *2017*
INSTITUTE OF CONVERGENCE SCIENCE (ICONS), YONSEI UNIVERSITY
- Collaborated with electrical engineers to enhance brain image resolution using deep learning; awarded $5K research funding;

Yonsei Start-up Challenge Award   *2016*
YONSEI ENTERPRISE SUPPORT FOUNDATION
- Presented A/B test findings for a novel neurostimulation device developed by a start-up company, Team Quantumlabs; Led to $100K in funding

Dean's Honors   *2011, 2013, 2014*
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, KOREA UNIVERSITY
- For 5 semesters in total; 2014, Fall Semester (GPA 4.25/4.5); 2014, Spring Semester (GPA 4.25/4.5); 2013, Spring Semester (GPA 4.0/4.5) 2011, Fall Semester (GPA 4.11/4.5); 2011, Spring Semester (GPA 4.37/4.5)

PUBLICATIONS

Ahn, J., Nah, Y., Ko, I., & Han, S. (n.d.). *Voxel-wise Mapping of Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging in Impression Formation*.

Kang, Y., Cosme, D., Lydon-Staley, D., **Ahn, J.**, Jovanova, M., Corbani, F., Lomax, S., Stanoi, O., Strecher, V., Mucha, P. J., Ochsner, K., Bassett, D. S., & Falk, E. B. (2022). Purpose in life, neural alcohol cue reactivity and daily alcohol use in social drinkers. *Addiction*, *117*(12), 3049–3057. `https://doi.org/10.1111/add.16012`

Cosme, D., Kang, Y., Tartak, J. C., **Ahn, J.**, Corbani, F. E., Cooper, N., Doré, B., He, X., Helion, C., Jovanova, M., Lomax, S., Mahadevan, A., McGowan, A. L., Paul, A., Pei, R., Resnick, A., Stanoi, O., Zhang, T., Zhang, Y., … Falk, E. B. (2022). *Study protocol: Social Health Impact of Network Effects (SHINE) Study* [Preprint]. PsyArXiv. `https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/cj2nx`

Ahn, J., Lee, J., Han, J. H., Kang, M. S., & Han, S. (2018). Group analysis data representing the effects of frontopolar transcranial direct current stimulation on the default mode network. *Data in Brief*, *20*, 1309–1313. `https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2018.08.164`

Ahn, J., Kim, H., Park, J., & Han, S. (2018). Interactivity of Neural Representations for Perceiving Shared Social Memory. *Korean Society for Emotion and Sensibility*, *21*(3), 29–48. `https://doi.org/10.14695/KJSOS.2018.21.3.29`

PRESENTATIONS

Ahn, J., Cooper, N., Kang, Y., O'Donnell, M., Green, M., Samanez-Larkin, G., & Falk, E. B. (2022, May). *Brain responses to gain- and loss-framed messages differ, and interact with baseline physical activity, to predict later behaviors*.

Zhang, H., Miyake, A., Shah, P., & Jonides, J. (2021, November). *Uncovering the structure of individual differences in distractibility*.

Zhang, H., Anderson, N. C., & Miller, K. F. (2020, November). *Mind-wandering during Scene Perception: On the Role of Meaning and Salience*.

Zhang, H., Anderson, N. C., & Miller, K. F. (2020, April). *Scan-paths of Mind-wandering during Real-world Scene Perception*.

Zhang, H., Qu, C., Miller, K. F., & Cortina, K. S. (2019, November). *Reduced Re-reading of Garden-path Jokes during Mindless Reading*.

Sun, X., Shah, P., & Zhang, H. (2019). *When Do Students Suffer from Mind Wandering? The Role of Individual Difference and Learning Context*.

Sun, X., Shah, P., & Zhang, H. (2019, June). *When Do Students Suffer from Mind Wandering? The Role of Individual Difference and Learning Context*.

Zhang, H., Miller, K. F., Cortina, K. S., & Jiang, T. (2019, June). *Mind-wandering in College Classrooms: A Mobile Eye-tracking Study*.

Fischer, A., & Zhang, H. (2019, May). *Examining the Effect of Word Predictability during Mindless Reading*.

Zhang, H., & Shah, P. (2019, May). *What Can iPhone's Screen Time Tell about Your Cognitive Functioning?*

Zhang, H. (2019, April). *Mind-wandering: What Can We Learn from Eye-movements?*

Zhang, H., Miller, K. F., & Sun, X. (2019, March). *Scan-Paths of Mind-Wandering during Video Lectures*.

Zhang, H., & Miller, K. F. (2018, November). *How Irrelevant Speech Affects Reading: The Role of Word Predictability*.

Qu, C., & Zhang, H. (2018, May). *All Joking Aside: Mind-wandering Impairs Processing of Garden-path Jokes*.

Zhang, H., Miller, K. F., & Sun, X. (2018, May). *The Wandering Eyes: Mind-wandering during Video Lectures is Associated with Oculomotor Behaviors*.

Zhang, H., Miller, K. F., Cleveland, R., & Cortina, K. S. (2016, May). *How Listening to Music Affects Reading: Evidence from Eye Tracking*.

Zhang, H., & Cleveland, R. (2016, March). *How does listening to music affect reading? An eye tracking study*.