

Kira Breeden

1827 E Washington Ave, Apt 247, Madison, WI 53704

T: (505) 231-5068 E: kbreeden@wisc.edu Personal Website: <https://kira-breeden.github.io/>

Education

2023 - current	Ph.D. Psychology, University of Wisconsin - Madison Supervisor: Gary Lupyan
2019 - 2021	M.S. Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, Northwestern University <u>Capstone Project:</u> “Sentiment Analysis of Dutch Tweets to Identify Depressive and Negative Feelings During the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic” Mentor: Dr. Alianna J. Maren
2014 - 2018	B.S. Computational Cognitive Science, University of Michigan - Ann Arbor <u>Honor’s Thesis:</u> “What Factors Are Most Effective in Predicting Noun Learning in English-Learning Children?” Mentors: Twila Tardif, PhD; Susan Gelman, PhD

Non-Degree Programs

Summer 2016	Summer French Intermediate Studies Exchange Program, Université Grenoble Alpes
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Research Experience

Current	University of Wisconsin-Madison Lupyan Lab (Dr. Gary Lupyan) Role: PhD Student
2017 - 2018	University of Michigan – Ann Arbor Language and Culture Development Lab (Dr. Twila Tardif) Role: Lab Manager, Research Assistant
2017	University of Michigan – Ann Arbor Pathways to Literacy Lab (Dr. Fred Morrison) Role: Undergraduate Research Assistant

Professional Experience

(Selected)

2024 -	Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin - Madison
2023 -	Graduate Student, Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin - Madison
2023 - 2024	Research Assistant, Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin - Madison
2021 - 2023	Data Scientist, TTEC Digital
Summer 2021	Data Scientist, Auction Forecast, Santa Fe, NM
2018 - 2019	English Language Assistant, TAPIF, Clermont-Ferrand, France

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Grants, Honors, and Awards

- September 2025 UW-Madison Psychology Department Menzies Research Fund Award
- January 2024 UW-Madison Psychology Department Service to the Department Award
- May 2016 University of Michigan Undergraduate Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Introduction to Computer Science Project Symposium: 1st Place

Publications

Journal Publications

Breeden, K., & Lupyan, G. (In Prep) “Category repetition priming, rhyme identification, and category verification are predicted by inner speech.”

Conference Proceedings

Breeden, K., & Lupyan, G. (2025). Who notices object repeats? Individual differences in inner experience influence repetition priming. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 47. Retrieved from <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9gf9k64k>

Presentations and Posters

Invited Talks

- 31 October 2025 **Breeden, K.** “Reasoning in Humans and LLMs: Language as Compression and Pattern-Matching, But Not Logic” – Upgrade Science Insights Lunch Talk Series
- 18 September 2025 **Breeden, K.** “Power Analyses! What are they? Why are they tricky? How can we use them?” – Language Acquisition and Bilingualism Lab, UW-Madison
- 9 October 2024 **Breeden, K., & Lupyan, G.** “Inner Speech as a Predictor of Individual Differences in Cognition” – Cognitive Origins Lab, UW-Madison

Presentations

- 3 April 2024 **Breeden, K.** “Inner Speech and Phonological Activation During Silent Reading” – UW-Madison Perception, Cognition, and Cognitive Neuroscience Proseminar

Posters

- August 2025 **Breeden, K., & Lupyan, G.** “Who notices object repeats? Individual differences in inner experience influence repetition priming” – CogSci 2025
- Spring 2025 **Breeden, K., & Lupyan, G.** “Who notices object repeats? Individual differences in inner experience influence repetition priming” – UW Madison Psychology Research Fair

Teaching Experience

Guest Lectures

- 24 November 2025 **Breeden, K.** “Power Analyses! What are they? Why are they tricky? How can we estimate power in LMER?” – Guest Lecture for Statistics for Linguists, UW-Madison, Primary Instructor: Dr. Eric Raimy
- 12 November 2024 **Breeden, K.** “Language, Cognition, and Inner Speech” – Guest Lecture for Animal Cognition, UW-Madison, Primary Instructor: Dr. Stephen Ferrigno

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Teaching Assistantships

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| Spring 2026 | “Design and Analysis of Psychological Experiments II”, Primary Instructor: Dr. Marcus Brauer |
| Spring 2025 | “Basic Statistics for Psychology”, Primary Instructor: Dr. Rebecca Addington |
| Fall 2024 | “Animal Cognition”, Primary Instructor: Dr. Stephen Ferrigno |

Research Assistant Thesis Mentorships

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| In Progress | “Effects of Inner Speech on Phonological Activation”, Amelia Tang |
| In Progress | “Effects of Inner Speech on Inductive Inference”, Xiaoran Sun |

Mentoring

Undergraduate Research Assistants

- Xiaoran Sun (2025 - present), University of Wisconsin - Madison, LupyanLab
Amelia Tang (2025 - present), University of Wisconsin - Madison, LupyanLab
Kate Paape (2024 - 2025), University of Wisconsin - Madison, LupyanLab