

David Menendez

1202 West Johnson Street, Madison, WI, 53706
University of Wisconsin- Madison
Email: dmenendez@wisc.edu

Website: dmenendez.com
Pronouns: He/ Him/ Él

EDUCATION

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| Ph.D. in Psychology, Graduate minor in Quantitative Methods in Education Sciences University of Wisconsin- Madison | 2022 expected |
| M.S. in Psychology, University of Wisconsin- Madison | 2017 |
| B.A. in Psychology, Honors in Psychology, Graduated with distinction University of Wisconsin- Madison | 2016 |
| A.A. in Psychology, Highest honors Miami Dade College, Miami, Florida | 2014 |

FELLOWSHIPS

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| 2021- 2022 | <i>University Fellowship</i> |
| 2016- 2017 | A competitive fellowship award from the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Graduate School for incoming PhD. students and dissertators; fellows receive a 9-month stipend and tuition remission. |
| 2021 | <i>Marian Schwartz Fellowship</i> (\$5000) A research fellowship from the Department of Psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison to support graduate student research in cognitive and experimental psychology. |
| 2017- 2021 | <i>IES Interdisciplinary Training Program in Education Sciences Entry Fellowship</i> A competitive fellowship as part of the interdisciplinary training program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This program aims to train social scientists to conduct experimental research on topics in education; fellows receive a yearly stipend, tuition remission, and research and travel support. |

HONORS AND AWARDS

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| 2021 | UW-Madison Graduate School Graduate Student Service Scholarship (\$1000) |
| 2020 | Supplementary Research Award (\$950) |
| 2019 | Psychology Department Distinguished Service Award (\$1000) |
| 2019 | Student Research Travel Grant (\$1200) |
| 2019 | Hertz Travel Award (\$850) |
| 2018 | Peter Pufall Travel Award for Emerging Scholars (\$400) |
| 2018 | Hertz Travel Award (\$1000) |
| 2017 | APS Travel Assistance Award (\$200) |

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| 2017 | Hertz Travel Award (\$750) |
| 2017 | Menzies and Royalty Research Award (\$500) |
| 2016 | Undergraduate Research Scholar Award (\$1,000) |
| 2015 | Undergraduate Thesis Award (\$1,000) |
| 2014 | Peter Masiko Jr. Scholarship (\$1,000) |

RESEARCH FOCUS

I study children's and adults' learning of STEM concepts in both formal and informal learning environments. I do so by adopting a mixed methodology, which allows me to examine how children are able to learn through different lenses; for example, by conversing with knowledgeable others, consuming cultural products, and participating in cultural rituals. Additionally, I am interested in how adults and children make appropriate generalizations after learning STEM concepts, and how these generalizations can be scaffolded by the language or visuals in a lesson.

PUBLICATIONS

* *Authors contributed equally to the work*
underline *Undergraduate student co-author*

Menendez, D., Klapper, R. E., *Mandel, A. R., *Nicholas, K. A., *Schapfel, M. H., *Silsby, O. O., *Sowers, K. A., *Sumanthiran, D., *Welch, V. E., & Rosengren, K. S. (in press). "When will it be over?" U.S. children's questions and parents' responses about the COVID-19 pandemic. *PlosOne* [Pre-print](#)

Menendez, D., Rosengren, K. S., & Alibali, M. W. (2022). Detailed bugs or bugging details? Influence of perceptual richness on biological reasoning across elementary school. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 213, 105269. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jecp.2021.105269>

Bridgewater, E., **Menendez, D.**, & Rosengren, K. S. (2021). Capturing death in animated films: Can films stimulate parent-child conversations about death? *Cognitive Development*, 59, 101063. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cogdev.2021.101063> [Pre-print](#)

Menendez, D., Mathiapparanam, O. N., Liu, D., Seitz, V. C., Alibali, M. W., & Rosengren, K. S. (2020). Representing variability: The case of life cycle diagrams. *CBE-Life Science Education*, 19, ar49. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1187/cbe.19-11-0251>

Peters, D., **Menendez, D.** & Rosengren, K. S. (2020). Reframing mental illness: The role of essentialism on stigmatization and perceived treatment efficacy. *Memory & Cognition*, 48(8), 1317-1333. doi: <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13421-020-01061-1>

Menendez, D., Rosengren, K. S., & Alibali, M. W. (2020). Do details bug you? Effects of perceptual richness in biological reasoning. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 34, 1101–1117. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1002/acp.3698>

***Menendez, D.**, *Jiang, M. J., Edwards, K. M., Rosengren, K. S., & Alibali, M. W. (2020). Evaluating and communicating about the healthiness of foods: Predictors of parents'

- judgments and parent-child conversations. *Cognitive Development*, 55, 100913. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cogdev.2020.100913>
- Menendez, D.**, Hernandez, I. G., & Rosengren, K. S. (2020). Children's emerging understanding of death. *Child Development Perspectives*, 14, 55-60. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/cdep.12357>
- Gutiérrez, I. T., **Menendez, D.**, Jiang, M. J., Hernandez, I. G., Miller, P., & Rosengren, K. S. (2020). Embracing death: Mexican parent and child perspectives on death. *Child Development*, 91, e491-e511. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.13263>
- Martinčėková, L., Jiang, M. J., Adams, J., **Menendez, D.**, Hernandez, I. G., Barber, G., & Rosengren, K. S. (2020). Do you remember being told what happened to grandma? The role of early socialization on coping and bereavement. *Death Studies*, 44, 78-88. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1080/07481187.2018.1522386>
- Brown, S. A., **Menendez, D.**, & Alibali, M. W. (2019). Strategy adoption depends on characteristics of the instruction, learner, and strategy. *Cognitive Research: Principles and Implications*, 4, 1-18. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41235-019-0158-3>
- Alibali, M. W., Brown, S. A., & **Menendez, D.** (2019). Understanding strategy change: Contextual, individual, and metacognitive factors. *Advances in Child Development and Behavior*, 56, 227-256. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/bs.acdb.2018.11.004>
- French, J. A., **Menendez, D.**, Herrmann, P. A., Evans, E. M., & Rosengren, K. S. (2018). Cognitive constraints on understanding lifespan changes. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 173, 205-221. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jecp.2018.03.018>
- Rosengren, K. S., Jiang, M. J., Kalish, C. W., **Menendez, D.**, & Hernandez, I. G. (2018). Commentary: What heals and why? Children's understanding of medical treatments. *Monographs of the Society for Research in Child Development*, 83, 175-183. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/mono.12370>
- Benjet, C., **Menendez, D.**, Albor, Y., Borges, G., Orozco, R., & Medina-Mora, M. E. (2018). Adolescent predictors of incidence and persistence of suicide related outcomes in young adulthood: A longitudinal study of Mexican youth. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 48, 755-766. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/sltb.12397>
- Borges, G., Benjet, C., Orozco, R., Medina-Mora, M. E., & **Menendez, D.** (2017). Alcohol, cannabis and other drugs and subsequent suicide ideation and attempt among young Mexicans. *Journal of Psychiatric Research*, 91, 74-82. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpsychires.2017.02.025>

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- Menendez, D.**, Alibali, M. W., & Rosengren, K. S. (2018). Effects of priming variability on adults learning about metamorphosis. In C. Kalish, M. Rau, T. Rogers, and J. Zhu (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp.2102-2107). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

Brown, S. A., **Menendez, D.**, & Alibali, M. W. (2018). How do people evaluate problem-solving strategies? Efficiency and intuitiveness matter. In C. Kalish, M. Rau, T. Rogers, and J. Zhu (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 1414-1419). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Menendez, D., Mathiaparanam, O. N., Seitz, V., Liu, D., Donovan, A. M., Kalish, C. W., Rosengren, K. S., & Alibali, M. W. (revise and resubmit). Like mother, like daughter: Adults' judgments about genetic inheritance. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*.

Brown, S. A., **Menendez, D.**, Rajan, N. D., & Alibali, M. W. (under review). Says who? Learners are more likely to adopt a new strategy when it is demonstrated by an expert.

Hernandez, I. G., **Menendez, D.**, Seitz, V., Pinto-Pro, I., Zeitler, M. H., & Rosengren, K. S. (under review). Parent-child conversations of germ and cold weather theories of the common cold in two cultures. [Pre-print](#)

Li, Z., **Menendez, D.**, Klapper, R. E., Sturge-Apple, M. L., & Rosengren, K. S. (under review). COVID-19 and child adjustment: The role of coparenting conflict and child temperament.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Drafts of these manuscripts will be made available upon request.

Menendez, D., Alibali, M. W., & Rosengren, K. S. (in preparation). Effects of priming variability on children's biological reasoning.

Menendez, D., Brown, S. A., & Alibali, M. W. (in preparation). Some correct strategies are better than others: Individual differences in strategy evaluations influence strategy adoption.

Menendez, D., Mathiaparanam, O. N., Seitz, V., Sabbagh, N., Donovan, A. M., Klapper, R. E., Kalish, C. W., Rosengren, K. S., & Alibali, M. W. (in preparation). Deterministic or probabilistic: Children's beliefs about genetic inheritance.

Menendez, D., Halama, S. R., Hernandez, I. G., Hassett, R., Johnson, T. M., Koshevatskiy, N. J., Haugstad, N., & Rosengren, K. S. (in preparation). Cognition in action: The relation between physical and mental paper folding in young children.

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

Invited talks

- 2021 *Showing the forest or the trees: The role of visualizations in learning and generalization*
Developmental Psychology Brownbag, Stanford University
- 2021 *Children's and adults' beliefs about genetic inheritance*
Developmental Psychology Brownbag, University of Chicago
- 2021 *Children's beliefs about genetic inheritance*
Child Cognition Laboratory, Boston University

- 2020 *Let's talk about death: Socio-cultural influences on children's understanding of death*
Department of Psychology, Northeastern Illinois University
- 2020 *Translating educational research into assessments*
Interdisciplinary Training Program, Wisconsin Center for Education Research
- 2019 *Developmental changes in learning with visual representations*
Department of Psychology, University of Rochester

Organized symposia

Menendez, D. (March, 2021). The role of experience and beliefs in children's biological reasoning. Symposium presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for the Research in Child Development, Virtual Meeting.

Conference talks

- Menendez, D.**, Mathiaparanam, O. N., Donovan, A. M., Seitz, V., Liu, D., Rosengren, K. S., Alibali, M. W., & Kalish, C. W. (March, 2021). *Not Exactly like your Mother: Children's Understanding of Genetic Inheritance for Familiar and Unfamiliar Animals*. In D. Menendez (Chair) "The role of experience and beliefs in children's biological reasoning." Talk presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for the Research in Child Development, Virtual Meeting.
- Menendez, D.**, Bridgewater, E., & Rosengren, K. S. (June, 2020). *Death in Films: Parents' attitudes and children's questions*. In G. Panagiotaki (Chair) "Children's understanding of death: Parental, media and cultural influences." Talk presented at the 26th Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Rhodes, Greece. [Cancelled due to COVID-19]
- Menendez, D.**, & Rosengren, K. S. (April, 2019). *Visual Representations in Children and Adults' Understanding of Metamorphosis*. In A. N. Bartel (Chair) "Probing Students' Understanding with Differing External Representations." Talk presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Education Research Association, Toronto, Canada.
- Menendez, D.**, Rosengren, K. S., & Alibali, M. W. (April, 2019). *Effects of Priming Variability on Children's Endorsement of Metamorphosis and Evolution*. In S. Ronfard (Chair) "The Essence of Biological Categories: Factors Influencing Children's Sensitivity to Variability and Change." Talk presented at the Biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Rosengren, K. S., **Menendez, D.**, & Alibali, M. W. (May, 2018). *Effects of variability primes on learning about biological change*. In C. W. Kalish (Chair) "Learning with Variability." Talk presented at the Annual meeting of the Jean Piaget Society in Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Rosengren, K. S., & **Menendez, D.** (January, 2017). *Looking for Essences: The Influence of Essentialist Beliefs on Real World Reasoning*. Invited symposium discussion at the 12th Biennial conference of Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition, Sydney, Australia.

Poster presentations

Menendez, D., Johnson, T. M., Hassett, R., Haut, A., Mathiaparanam, O. N., Alibali, M. W., & Rosengren, K. S. (July, 2020). *Characteristics of visualizations and texts in elementary*

- school biology books*. Poster presented to the 42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Virtual Meeting.
- Menendez, D.,** Meredith, L., & Alibali, M. W. (June, 2020). *Needing some space: Perceptual support influences encoding of the equal sign*. Presentation presented to the annual meeting of the Mathematical Cognition and Learning Society in Dublin, Ireland. [Cancelled due to COVID-19]
- Menendez, D.,** Ou, L., Yudelson, M. V., & Simmering, V. R. (October, 2019). *Inter-relatedness of pre-algebraic knowledge among middle school children*. Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society Bi-Ennial Conference in Louisville, KY.
- Menendez, D.,** Ou, L., Yudelson, M. V., & Simmering, V. R. (October, 2019). *Inter-relatedness of pre-algebraic knowledge among middle school children*. Poster presented at ETCPS in Iowa City, IA.
- Bartel, A.N., Donovan A.M., **Menendez, D.,** Brown, S.B., Hogseth, T., & Alibali, M.W. (June, 2019). *Investigating the Influence of Textual and Graphical Framing on Problem Solving Accuracy and Strategy Use*. Poster presented at the Mathematical Cognition and Learning Society, Ottawa, Canada.
- Menendez, D.,** Alibali, M. W., & Rosengren, K. S. (July, 2018). Effects of priming variability on adults learning about metamorphosis. Poster presented at the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Madison, WI.
- Menendez, D.,** Brown, S. A., & Alibali, M. W. (May, 2018). *Effects of exposure, feedback and need for cognition on strategy change*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Jean Piaget Society in Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Menendez, D.,** Alibali, M. W., & Rosengren, K. S. (October, 2017). *Effects of priming variability on biological reasoning*. Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society Bi-Ennial Conference in Portland, OR.
- Menendez, D.,** Brown, S. A., & Alibali, M. W. (July, 2017). *I'll do what she is doing: Promoting the adoption of new problem-solving strategies in undergraduates*. Poster presented at the 5th Annual Midwest Meeting on Mathematical Thinking, Minneapolis, MN.
- Menendez, D.,** Benjet, C., Borges, G., Albor, Y., Orozco, R., Medina-Mora, M. E. (May, 2017). *Adolescent Predictors of the Incidence of Suicide Related Outcomes in Young Adulthood*. Poster presented at the 28th APS Annual Convention, Boston, MA.
- Menendez, D.,** Rosengren, K. S., & Alibali, M. W. (April, 2017). *Do details bug you? Effects of Perceptual Richness in Biological Reasoning*. Poster presented at the Biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.
- Menendez, D.,** Gutierrez, I. T., Jiang, M. J., & Rosengren, K. S. (May, 2016). *Embracing Death: Mexican Parent and Child Perspectives on Death*. Poster presented at the 28th APS Annual Convention, Chicago, IL.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

Professional experience:

2018- The role of visual representations in children's learning about biological variability
Present National Science Foundation grant, Role: Graduate student researcher

- Write up pilot data for grant proposal

- Design and conduct experiments with children and adults in museum, laboratory, and online settings
- Collect diagrams and images from biology educational materials
- Supervise and mentor undergraduate and post-baccalaureate researchers
- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data to assess learning
- Prepare manuscripts for publication

2019- Cultivating knowledge of mathematical equivalence

2020 National Science Foundation grant, Role: Graduate student researcher

- Recruit Latinx and Spanish-speaking families to participate in a longitudinal study on mathematics learning
- Create and translate recruitment and study materials in Spanish
- Translate between the parent and experimenter details about the study

2019 ACTNext

ACT Inc., Role: Summer intern

- Review and synthesize literature on motivation and science learning
- Prepare proposals for new assessments of scientific knowledge
- Compare international standards of science education

Ad hoc journal reviewer:

CBE-Life Science Education
Child Development Perspectives
Cognitive Science
Death Studies
Early Years
Eurasia Journal of Mathematics,
Science and Technology Education
Frontiers in Psychology
Human Behavior and Emergent
Technologies
Journal of Cognition and

Development
Journal of Experimental Child
Psychology
Journal of Experimental Psychology:
Human Perception and Performance
Journal of Genetic Psychology
Monographs for the Society of
Research in Child Development
PlosOne

Departmental service:

Psychology Colloquium Series Committee:

Member 2016- 2021
 Treasurer 2017-2018
 Chair 2018-2019

Departmental Climate and Diversity Committee:

Member 2017-2019

Graduate Student Representative for Faculty Meetings:

Representative 2020-2021

Service-related events:

2021 *Let's talk grad school* (group of students historically excluded from the academy),
 hosted by Margaret Echelbarger

2021 *Diverse graduate student panel,*

- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2020 *Career pathways in educational research for policy, practice and advocacy*,
University of Texas- San Antonio
- 2020 *Psi Chi student hour*,
Northeastern Illinois University
- 2020 *Let's talk grad school* (group of students historically excluded from the academy),
hosted by Margaret Echelbarger
- 2017 *"Why should I do undergraduate research" panel*,
University of Wisconsin-Madison

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching assistant

- Fall 2019: Graduate Course in Statistical Analysis of Psychological Experiments
- Spring 2020: Graduate Course in Design and Analysis of Psychological Experiments
- Spring 2021: Introduction to Psychology
- Fall 2021: Introduction to Psychology

Guest lectures

- Spring 2020: Introduction to Bayesian Statistics (Psych 710, graduate-level course)
- Spring 2020: Conceptual Development (Psych 502)
- Spring 2021: Introduction to Bayesian Statistics (Psych 710, graduate-level course)

MENTORSHIP

Students mentored in a research lab

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| Katryn Hartfield | Michael Sullivan | Ava Mandel |
| Taylor Johnson | Sonja Vaintrub | Katrina Nicholas |
| Ashley Haut | Olympia Mathiapparanam | Maria Schapfel |
| Erin Condon | Gill Schomaker | Olivia Silsby |
| Ryan Hassett | Vienne Seitz | Kailee Sowers |
| Nicholas Haugstad | Jaclyn Psenka | Dillanie Sumanthiran |
| Madeline Glawe | Kylie Robinson | Victoria Welch |
| Nicole Koshevatskiy | Xinyi Liu | Nour Sabbagh |
| Kaitlin Edwards | Jessa Snower | |

Students mentored who complete senior projects or honors theses

Danielle Peters
Samuel Halama

Students mentored as part of Psychology Research Experience Program

- Summer research program for underrepresented students in academia
- Gregory Barber Summer 2016 (co-mentored with Matthew Jiang)
- Enrica Bridgewater Summer 2017
- Pamela Santiago Summer 2018 (co-mentored with Iseli Hernandez)
- Danté Jackson Summer 2020 (as alumni mentor)

Students mentored as part of the McNair Scholars program

Jamal Adams

Students mentored as part of the PASOS program

Mentoring program for Latinx students at UW-Madison

Jonathan Godinez

Jacqueline Conception Cruz

MEDIA COVERAGE

Child and family blog (March, 2020). <https://www.childandfamilyblog.com/child-development/how-do-young-children-make-sense-of-death/>

Learning & the brain (October, 2020). <https://www.learningandthebrain.com/blog/rich-or-bland-which-diagrams-helps-students-learn-deeply/>

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for Research in Child Development

American Education Research Association

Cognitive Science Society

Cognitive Development Society

Spark Society