

# ORI ZAFF

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1508 Green St  
Philadelphia, PA 19130

## EDUCATION

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**MA** University of Delaware, Linguistics & Cognitive Science      Grad: *June 2019*  
GPA: 3.93  
Advisor: Dr. Irene Vogel

**BS** University of Delaware, Cognitive Science      Grad: *May 2018*  
GPA: 3.67  
Psychology concentration, Honors Award, Dean's List 2014-2018

**Study Abroad** DIS Copenhagen, University of Copenhagen      *Spring 2017*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Neuroeconomics Lab**, Temple University      *Aug 2021 - Present*  
*Project Coordinator*, PI: Dr. David V. Smith

- Project: Social Reward Processing Across the Lifespan
- Coordinating longitudinal R01 research project
- Collecting and processing fMRI data as experimenter
- Administering clinical assessments and surveys to adults with cognitive decline
- Data analysis in Python, MATLAB, R, and SPSS, as well as BASH scripting
- Creating project materials ranging from IRB documents to experimental tasks
- Training and managing 10 research assistants in data collection, scoring, and analysis

**IBM**, Computational Psychiatry and Neuroimaging Department      *Jun - Aug 2018*  
*Summer Student*, PIs: Dr. Guillermo Cecchi, Dr. Mary Pietrowicz

- Project: Predicting mental health outcomes through sentiment analysis
- Feature selection for Watson NLU AI pipeline

**Shohamy Learning Lab**, Columbia University      *May - Aug 2016*  
*Research Assistant*, PI: Dr. Daphna Shohamy

- Project: Experiments studying effects of reward salience on graded and retroactive prioritization of memory
- Collected human subjects data and constructed experimental materials

**Child's Play Lab**, University of Delaware      *Aug - Dec 2015*  
*Research Assistant*, PI: Dr. Roberta Golinkoff

- Project: Effects of Geometric Toy Design on Parent-Child Interactions and Spatial Language
- Collected and analyzed observational data from child participants
- Constructed experimental materials

- Zaff, O., Dennison, J., Sazhin, D., Wyngaarden, J., McCloskey, M., Alloy, L., Jarcho, J., Fareri, D., & Smith, D. V. (in prep). *Enhancing effects of social closeness on reward-related neural activity are moderated by self-reported substance use.*
- Smith, D. V., Zaff, O., Dowdle, L., Jarcho, J., Olson, I., Rorden, C., & Fareri, D. (in prep). *Characterizing the effects of multiecho and multiband imaging on corticostriatal responses to reward.*
- Sazhin, D., Dennison, J., Wyngaarden, Zaff, O., McCloskey, M., Alloy, L., Jarcho, J. & Smith, D. V. (in prep). *When do we choose to be fair? Strategic Choices in Bargaining Situations are associated with elevated corticostriatal connectivity.*
- Wyngaarden, J., Johnston, C., Sazhin, D., Dennison, J., Zaff, O., McCloskey, M., Alloy, L., Smith, D. V. & Jarcho, J. (in prep). *Substance use is related to differential activation and connectivity for social relative to monetary rewards.*

## POSTERS

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- Ori Zaff**, Jeffrey Dennison, Daniel Sazhin, James Wyngaarden, Athena Vafiadis, Makayla Collins, Amanda Nguyen, Jason Chein, Lauren Alloy, Johanna Jarcho, Dominic Fareri, David V. Smith. *Individual differences in substance use are associated with elevated temporoparietal junction responses to rewards shared with friends.* Society For Neuroscience Conference; November 2022 (San Diego, CA, USA)
- Daniel Sazhin, Jeffrey Dennison, James Wyngaarden, **Ori Zaff**, Athena Vafiadis, Neriah Kahn, Makayla Collins, Amanda Nguyen, Ishika Kohli, Dominic Fareri, Michael McCloskey, Lauren Alloy, Johanna Jarcho, David V. Smith. *When Do We Choose to Be Fair? Strategic Choices in Bargaining Situations Are Associated with Elevated Corticostriatal Connectivity.* Society For Neuroscience Conference; November 2022 (San Diego, CA, USA)
- James B. Wyngaarden, Camille R. Johnston, Daniel Sazhin, Jeff B. Dennison, Athena Vafiadis, **Ori Zaff**, Neriah A. Kahn, Makayla Collins, Amanda Nguyen, Dominic Fareri, Michael McCloskey, Lauren Alloy, David V. Smith & Johanna M. Jarcho. *Alcohol use is associated with enhanced corticostriatal connectivity with precuneus during social reward.* Social Affective Neuroscience Society Conference; May 2022 (held remotely).
- Daniel Sazhin, Jeffrey Dennison, James B. Wyngaarden, **Ori Zaff**, Athena Vafiadis, Neriah A. Kahn, Makayla Collins, Amanda Nguyen, Ishika Kohli, Dominic Fareri, Michael McCloskey, David V. Smith. *Perceived fairness is associated with enhanced effective connectivity between the executive control network and temporoparietal junction.* Social Affective Neuroscience Society Conference; May 2022 (held remotely).

## TEACHING/LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

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### **Trauma Literature Discussion Group**

*Sept 2021 - Present*

Presents on emerging research at a monthly discussion group for literature surrounding trauma and adverse childhood experiences

### **Congregations Kol Ami & Emanu-el, White Plains, NY**

*Sept 2019 - June 2022*

*Hebrew Language Teacher, 4th - 6th grade, High School Leadership Program*

### **University of Delaware, Newark, DE**

*Feb - May 2019*

*Teaching Assistant, Dr. Mende-Siedlecki, Research Methods*

Led classes on interaction effects, factorial design, and interpreting popular press

### **University of Delaware, Newark, DE**

*Sept - Dec 2015*

*Workshop Instructor, Dr. Graves, General Chemistry*

## OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

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### **ExposeBox, Tel Aviv**

*Jun 2017 - Jan 2018*

*Quality Assurance Engineer, UI design and troubleshooting*

## SKILLS

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**Programming Experience:** Python, BASH Scripting (and Command Line Interfacing), MATLAB, R, Visual Basic, HTML, C++

**Software:** FSL and FEAT, Microsoft Word/Excel/PowerPoint, GingerALE, Adobe Creative Suite, Final Cut Pro, Logic Pro X, Sketch-Up & Makerware 3D Design/Printing

**Hardware:** Siemens 3T fMRI operation, Blood Pressure Monitor, Digital SLR camera, Professional Digital Video Camera, Audio Recording and Computer Interfacing Equipment

## CERTIFICATIONS

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**CITI Training** - Social & Behavioral, Good Clinical Practices, Responsible Conduct of Research)

**Temple University Brain Imaging Research & Imaging Center** - Level 3 Scanner Access

**Suicide Prevention Resource Center** - Strategic Planning Approach to Suicide Prevention, & Locating and Understanding Data for Suicide Prevention

## LANGUAGES

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**English** (native)

**Hebrew** (near native)

## **AFFILIATIONS**

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**Society for Neuroscience**  
**American Psychological Association**

*Active Member, 2022*  
*Active Member, 2022*