Mia Radovanovic

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Psychology June 2025

University of Toronto

Adviser - Jessica Sommerville

Dissertation - Mixed messages: Understanding gender differences in people-pleasing socialization and reactions to ineffective teaching

M.A. Psychology November 2020

University of Toronto

Adviser - Jessica Sommerville

Thesis – Try smarter, not harder: The role of exploration in infant persistence

B.A. Psychology (Minor Statistics)

June 2019

The University of Chicago

Adviser - Amanda Woodward

Thesis – Exploration and abstraction: effects of learning context and executive function on children's abstract rule-learning

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

FUNDED	
2023	Principal Investigator (\$2,000 USD) Exploring the influence of people-pleasing socialization and problem-solving context
	on gender differences in children's adaptations to ineffective teaching • Society for
	Research in Child Development SECC Dissertation Research Funding
2023	Principal Investigator (\$6,250 USD)
	Quantifying and understanding gender disadvantages in reactions to incorrect teaching • Graduate Women in Science National Fellowship
	teaching • Graduate Women in Science National Fellowship
2023	Co-Investigator (\$3,820 CAD)
	Quantifying and understanding gender disadvantages in reactions to incorrect teaching • Rotman Gender and the Economy Research Grant
	teaching • Notifian delider and the Economy Research draft
2018	Fellow (\$3,000 USD)
	Unstructured learning and executive function • Earl R. Franklin Research Fellowship

NOT FUNDED

2021 **Finalist**

> Quantifying and understanding gender disadvantages in reactions to incorrect teaching • Humane Studies Fellowship

- Radovanovic, M., & Sommerville, J.A. (under revision). Embodied cognition in childhood. Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Psychology.
- Radovanovic, M., Chao, T.W.T.†, Curtosi, N.†, Westerhoff, S.†, Soler, E.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (under review). Psychological processes reflect and sustain gender inequities in emotional and cognitive labor. *Science Advances*.
- Radovanovic, M., Brezack, N., Shneidman, L., & Woodward, A. (under review). Unlocking learning: Exploration before instruction supports children's problem-solving. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*.
- **Radovanovic, M.***, Hwang, J.†*, Sobel, D.M., & Sommerville, J.A. (under review). Origins of fair resource collection. *Child Development*.
- Radovanovic, M., Yucer, E.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2024). Girls use exploration to assess ineffective teaching but compensate less than boys. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General.* 153(10), 2487-2509. [Link]
- Radovanovic, M., Solby, H.†, Rose, K., Hwang, J.†, Yucer, E.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2024). Toddlers' helping behavior is affected by the effortful costs associated with helping others.

 Developmental Science, e13569. [Link]
- Wang, E., **Radovanovic**, **M**, Sommerville, J.A., & Leonard, J.A. (2024). Practice what you preach: Consistent messages about the value of effort foster children's persistence. *Proceedings of the 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 4091-4098. [Link]
- Radovanovic, M.*, Soldovieri, A.†*, & Sommerville, J.A. (2023). It takes two: Process praise linking trying and success is associated with greater infant persistence. *Developmental Psychology*, 59(9), 1668–1675. [Link]
- Radovanovic, M., Chao, T.W.T.[†], Onyshko, E.[†], Huynh, Q.D.T.[†], Liu, Y.L.[†], & Sommerville, J.A. (2023). Not just if, but how much: Children and adults use cost and need to make evaluations about generosity across contexts. *Cognition*, *238*, 105533. [Link]
- Radovanovic, M., Yucer, E.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2022). There must be another way! Girls are disadvantaged when divesting from inaccurate teaching is required. *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 882-889. [Link]
- Solby, H.†*, Radovanovic, M.*, & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). A new look at infant problem-solving: Using DeepLabCut to investigate exploratory problem-solving approaches. *Frontiers in Psychology, 12,* 705108. [Link]

[†] Mentored student

- Brezack, N., Radovanovic, M., & Woodward, A. (2021). Everyday interactions support toddlers' learning of conventional actions on artifacts. Journal of Experimental Child Psychology, 210, 105201. [Link]
- Radovanovic, M., Solby, H.†, Soldovieri, A.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). Try smarter, not harder: Exploration and strategy diversity predict infant persistence. Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 1656-1662. [Link]

OTHER PUBLICATIONS (DATA COLLECTED)

- Radovanovic, M., Dakli, A.†, & Starmans, C. (in prep). Money talks, but not nicely: Adults and children's associations between wealth and conformity.
- Radovanovic, M.*, Yucer, E.†*, & Sommerville, J.A. (in prep). Children consider the costs associated with actions and the need of recipients when engaging in generous behavior.
- Radovanovic, M.*, Sun, W.†*, & Sommerville, J.A. (in prep). Try smarter, not harder: Exploration and strategy diversity predict infant persistence.
- Radovanovic, M., & Sommerville, J.A. (in prep). Differences in adults' and children's sensitivity to utility information when evaluating others' persistence.

CONFERENCE TALKS

- Radovanovic, M., Chao, T.W.T.†, Curtosi, N.†, Westerhoff, S.†, Soler, E.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2025). Gender inequities in expectations for invisible labor begin in childhood and persist into adulthood. Talk to be presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, MN.
- Radovanovic, M., Yucer, E., & Sommerville, J.A. (2024). Gender differences in children's response to ineffective teaching across contexts. Talk presented at the 9th Annual Roundtable on Gender and the Economy, Toronto, ON.
- Radovanovic, M., Chao, T.W.T.†, Tirunelveli Santhakumar, M.†, Curtosi, N.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2023). Gendered expectations for children's emotional, cognitive, and physical helping. Talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Radovanovic, M., Dakli, A.†, & Starmans, C. (2023). Money talks, but not nicely: Adults and children's associations between wealth and conformity. Talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Radovanovic, M., Yucer, E.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2022). There must be another way! Girls are disadvantaged when divesting from inaccurate teaching is required. Talk presented at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Toronto, ON.

- Radovanovic, M., Yucer, E.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2022). Girls are disadvantaged relative to boys when divestment from inaccurate teaching is required. Lighting talk presented at Development 2022, Calgary, AB.
- Radovanovic, M., Onyshko, E.†, Huynh, Q.T.†, Liu, Y.†, & Chao, T.W.T.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2022). *Children and adults utilize cost and need in generosity evaluations.* Talk presented at the Cognitive Development Society, Madison, WI.
- Radovanovic, M., Yucer, E.[†], Arefhaghi, D.[†], Lai, C.[†], & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). *Is that right? Active experience is applied to determine teaching quality.* Talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Online.
- Radovanovic, M., Soldovieri, A.[†], Solby, H.[†], Horton, R., Lucca, K., & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). *Reconceptualizing persistence: Exploratory behavior as rational adaptation.* Talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Online.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Radovanovic, M., Solby, H.†, Rose, K., Hwang, J.†, Yucer, E.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2024). *Toddlers' helping behavior is affected by the effortful costs associated with helping others*. Poster to be presented at the International Congress on Infant Studies, Glasgow, UK.
- Radovanovic, M., Sun, G.W.†, Kim, D.H.†, Altun, L.†, Lee, C.M-Y.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2024).

 Relations between the timing of caregiver process praise and toddlers' persistence and effort-related expectations. Poster to be presented at the International Congress on Infant Studies, Glasgow, UK.
- Faragó, F., Osborne, K., Radovanovic, M., Moffitt, U., & Trentacosta, C. (2024). *Anti-racist reviewing practices*. Participated in a roundtable discussion (with Smith-Bynum M., A. Brenick, M. Caughy, and M. Larusso) at the Society for Research in Child Development Anti-Racist Developmental Science Summit, Panama City, Panama.
- Radovanovic, M., Somani, A.[†], Alzona, M.[†], Persaud, A.[†], & Sommerville, J.A. (2024). *Gender differences in children's response to ineffective teaching across contexts.* Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society, Pasadena, CA.
- Wang, E.†, Radovanovic, M., Sommerville, J.A., & Leonard, J. (2024). *Practice what you preach:* consistent messages about the value of effort boost children's persistence. Talk presented at the Cognitive Development Society, Pasadena, CA.
- Chao, T.W.T.[†], **Radovanovic, M.**, Soldovieri, A.[†], Bhatt, S.[†], Ciraci, I.[†], & Sommerville, J.A. (2023). *Too much of a good thing: Temporal alignment is critical to the efficacy of caregiver process praise*. Talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Salt Lake City, UT.

- Wang, Y.L.E.†, Radovanovic, M., & Sommerville, J.A. (2023). Practice what you preach: Children persist less when values and reward structures are inconsistent. Flash talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Radovanovic, M., Onyshko, E.†, Huynh, Q.T.†, Liu, Y.†, & Chao, T.W.T.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2022). Not just if, but how much: Children and adults use cost and need to make evaluations about generosity across contexts. Poster presented at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Toronto, ON.
- Sharma, N.[†], Radovanovic, M., & Sommerville, J.A. (2022). Emotionally conveyed information and infants' interactions with novel toys over videoconferencing. Poster presented at the International Congress on Infant Studies, Ottawa, ON.
- Brezack, N., Radovanovic, M., Shneidman, L., & Woodward, A. (2022). Adapting a problem-solving experiment from in-person to online testing during covid-19. Talk presented at the 2022 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Soldovieri, A.[†], Radovanovic, M., Bhatt, S.[†], Liu, M.[†], Su, Z.[†], & Sommerville, J.A. (2022). *It takes two:* Process praise during trying and success is associated with greater infant persistence. Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society, Madison, WI.
- Yucer, E.[†], Radovanovic, M., & Sommerville, J.A. (2022). How self-directed executive functioning influences children's exploration & task performance. Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society, Madison, WI.
- Radovanovic, M., Solby, H.[†], Soldovieri, A.[†], & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). Try smarter, not harder: Exploration and strategy diversity predict infant persistence. Poster presented at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Online.
- Radovanovic, M., Yucer, E.†, Arefhaghi, D.†, Lai, C.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). Adults explore more broadly than children when pedagogy is emphasized. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Online.
- Solby, H.[†], Radovanovic, M., Horton, R., Lucca, K., & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). *Motion data* transformed: Markerless motion capture brings new insights into old data. Flash talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Online.
- Soldovieri, A.[†], Radovanovic, M., Buchanan, J.[†], Horton, R., Lucca, K., & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). The influence of timing in praise and persistence during challenging tasks. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Online.
- Huynh, Q.T.^{†*}, Onyshko, E.^{†*}, Radovanovic, M., & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). Children and adults use cost and need to make evaluations about generosity. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Online.

- Radovanovic, M., Yucer, E.†, Arefhaghi, D.†, Lai, C.†, & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). Adults explore more broadly than children when pedagogy is emphasized. Virtual presentation at the Budapest CEU Conference in Cognitive Development.
- Solby, H.[†], Radovanovic, M., Horton, R., Lucca, K., & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). How automated markerless motion capture is making a mark on developmental psychology. Virtual presentation at the Budapest CEU Conference in Cognitive Development.
- Soldovieri, A.[†], Radovanovic, M., Horton, R., Lucca, K., & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). The influence of timing in praise and persistence during challenging tasks. Virtual presentation at the Budapest CEU Conference in Cognitive Development.
- Yucer, E.[†], Radovanovic, M., & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). Self-structured activities' impact on children's task performance and learning. Virtual presentation at the Budapest CEU Conference in Cognitive Development.
- Onyshko, E.†*, Huynh, Q.T.†*, Radovanovic, M., & Sommerville, J.A. (2021). Children and adults use cost and need to make evaluations about generosity. Virtual presentation at the Budapest CEU Conference in Cognitive Development.
- Radovanovic, M., Brezack, N., Shneidman, L., & Woodward, A. (2020). Better together: Exploration prior to instruction modifies attention to demonstration and facilitates rule-learning. Poster presented at the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Online.
- Radovanovic, M., Solby, H.†, Soldovieri, A.†, Horton, R., Lucca, K., & Sommerville, J.A. (2020). Factors influencing persistence through the integration of active and social learning. Poster presented at the International Congress on Infant Studies, Online.
- Radovanovic, M., Rosencrance, A.†, Boggs, K.†, Wixted, R.†, Brezack, N., Shneidman, L., & Woodward, A. (2019). Exploration promotes rule-learning: examining exploratory strategies and self-direction in young children. Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.
- Radovanovic, M., Brezack, N., Shneidman, L., & Woodward, A. (2019). Instructional styles promote rule-learning in school-aged children. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Brezack, N., Radovanovic, M., Keigher, T., Basargekar, A., & Woodward, A. (2018). Structure of natural parent teaching related to toddlers' learning. Poster presented at the International Congress on Infant Studies, Philadelphia, PA.
- Brezack, N., Radovanovic, M., Xu, E., Keigher, T., & Woodward, A. (2017). Features of natural parent teaching that benefit toddlers' learning. Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society, Portland, OR.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

2022 – 2024	Cognitive Development Society
	Student Board Member
2023	NYU Faculty First Look STEM Cohort Member
2022	International Congress on Infant Studies Student Committee Member
2020 – 2021	University of Toronto Psychology Graduate Students' Association Secretary
2020	University of Toronto Developmental Psychology Prospective PhD Event Co-organizer
2019 – 2020	University of Toronto Psychology Graduate Students' Association International Student Representative

POST HOC REVIEWER

Cognition, Cognitive Science Society, Budapest CEU Conference in Cognitive Development (BCCCD)

OUTREACH

OUTREACH	
2022 - Present	SRCD Anti-Racist Ally Working Group
	Collaborator responsible for providing feedback and revisions for an anti-
	racist scholarly reviewing practices fact sheet, working under Kimberly
	Osborne and Flóra Faragó.
2020 – Present	University of Toronto Psychology Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity
	Co-organizer of the Undergraduate Research Assistants Sub-Committee
	collaborating to assess departmental hiring and compensation practices,
	assess student representation across levels of research, and create
	resources to help undergraduates find research opportunities.
2021 – 2022	PSY312 Children's Book Project
	Student coordinator responsible for organizing undergraduates in writing
	and delivering custom children's books benefiting cognitive development to
	caregivers and community members.
UNIVERSITY OF TOP	RONTO PSYCHOLOGY UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH COMMUNITY [Link]
2023 - Present	Undergraduate Research Symposium Coordinator
	Co-coordinator responsible for designing an end-of-year conference for
	undergraduate researchers at the University of Toronto. The first meeting
	was held on April 8, 2024, and included more than 45 undergraduate
	presentations, 2 poster sessions, and 3 talk sessions. Responsible for
	overseeing grant funds, coordinating keynote, and managing judging.

2023 - Present Research Opportunity Program (ROP) Writing Workshops

Instructor and co-organizer responsible for designing/presenting curriculum for 3-week intensive writing workshops for applying to ROP and for collaborating to pair undergraduates with mentors and peers for feedback on materials. Priority given to applicants with marginalized identities.

2022 - Present **Graduate School Writing Workshops**

Instructor and co-organizer responsible for designing/presenting curriculum for 5-week intensive writing workshops for applying to research focused graduate programs and for collaborating to pair undergraduates with mentors and peers for feedback on materials. Priority given to applications with marginalized identities.

2020 - Present **Biweekly Meetings**

Founder and co-organizer responsible for creating a horizontal, accessible community outside of the laboratory for undergraduates to gain mentorship from graduate students and research skills. Meetings include panels with graduate students, faculty lectures, advice for building your CV, advice for publishing, talks for undergraduates.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

AWARDS	
2024	Ann Lang Award (\$1,000 CAD)
2024	University of Toronto Doctoral Completion Award (\$9,200 CAD)
2022	St. George Campus Psychology Department TA Excellence Award (\$50 CAD)

TRAVEL GRANTS

2023	School of Graduate Studies Conference Grant (\$280 CAD)
2020	School of Graduate Studies Conference Grant (\$280 CAD)
2019	University of Toronto PsyLinCS Travel Grant (\$300 CAD)
2019	Norman H. Anderson Travel Grant (\$800 USD)
2018	Norman H. Anderson Travel Grant (\$800 USD)
2018	International Congress on Infant Studies Undergraduate Travel Award (\$500 USD)
2017	Norman H. Anderson Travel Grant (\$800 USD)

SCHOLARSHIPS

2015 Questbridge National Match Scholarship

TEACHING

COURSE INSTRUCTOR		
2025 Winter	Introduction to Developmental Psychology (PSY 210)	
2024 Fall	Developmental Laboratory (PSY 319)	
2024 Summer	Introduction to Developmental Psychology (PSY 210)	
2024 Summer	Developmental Laboratory (PSY 319)	
2024 Winter	Developmental Laboratory (PSY 319)	

2023 Fall	Introduction to Developmental Psychology (PSY 210)
2023 Summer	Cognitive Development (PSY 312)
2023 Summer	Developmental Laboratory (PSY 319)
2022 Fall	Developmental Laboratory (PSY 319)
2022 Summer	Developmental Laboratory (PSY 319)

TEACHING ASSISTANT

2023 Winter	Developmental Laboratory (PSY 319), Cl: Dr. Christina Starmans
2022 Fall	Statistics I (PSY 201), Cl: Dr. Molly Metz
2022 Winter	Intro to Developmental Psychology (PSY210), Cl: Dr. Mireille Babineau
2021 Fall	Developmental Laboratory (PSY 319), Cl: Dr. Christina Starmans
2021 Fall	Intro to Developmental Psychology (PSY210), Cl: Dr. Christina Starmans
2021 Winter	Cognitive Development (PSY 312), Cl: Dr. Jessica Sommerville
2020 Fall	Developmental Laboratory (PSY 319), Cl: Dr. Christina Starmans
2020 Fall	Intro to Developmental Psychology (PSY210), Cl: Dr. Christina Starmans
2020 Winter	Intro to Developmental Psychology (PSY210), Cl: Dr. Christina Starmans
2019 Fall	Intro to Developmental Psychology (PSY210), Cl: Dr. Christina Starmans

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ATTENDED

In-Class Observation
Microteaching
Critical Pedagogy Roundtable
Avoiding Crickets: Discussion Strategies and Activities
Identifying and Addressing Microaggressions in the University Classroom
Statement of Teaching Philosophy Clinic
Roundtable with Teaching-Stream Faculty
Introduction to Experiential and Community Engaged Learning
Identify, Assist, Refer Plus Training (IAR+)
Mock Academic Interview
Integrating Universal Design for Learning Principles in Online Teaching
Facilitating Effective Webinars: Strategies for Bb Collaborate Ultra
Preparing Your Teaching Dossier

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE SUPERVISION

Cynthia Lin, Research Opportunity Student	2024 – Present
Annabelle Persaud, Independent Study	2024 - Present
Rachel Kingstone, Independent Study Student	2024 - Present
Sophia Joulaei, Research Opportunity Student	2024
Youness Robert-Tahiri, Research Opportunity Student	2023 – 2024
Shenglan Shi, Independent Study Student	2023 – 2024
Emma Soler, Research Opportunity Student	2023 – 2024
El Smith, ICIS Founding Generation Summer Fellow	2024
Renée Wang, Research Opportunity Student	2023 – 2024
Charm Lee, Research Opportunity Student	2023 – 2024
Miguel Dominico Alzona, Research Opportunity Student	2022 – 2024

Jaemin Hwang, Independent Study Student Grace (Wujiamei) Sun, Thesis Student Sofia Westerhoff, Research Opportunity Student Lydia Altun, Independent Study Student	2022 - 2024 2022 - 2024 2022 - 2024 2022 - 2024
Nila Curtosi, Research Opportunity Student	2022 – 2024
Jaime Sit, Research Opportunity Student	2022 – 2023
Anicole Tan, Research Opportunity Student	2022 – 2023
Arla Dakli, Independent Study Student	2021 – 2023
Jasmine Shirvani, Independent Study Student	2021 – 2023
Aafiya Somani, Independent Study Student	2021 – 2023
Tim (Wei-Ting) Chao, Independent Study Student	2021 – 2022
Tiffany Tse, Research Opportunity Student	2021 – 2022
Neeti Sharma, Independent Study Student	2020 – 2022
Yi Lin (Elaine) Wang, Independent Study Student	2020 – 2023
Quang Tri Huynh, Mini-Thesis Student	2020 – 2021
Christie Lai, Research Opportunity Student	2020 – 2021
Emily Onyshko, Mini-Thesis Student	2020 – 2021
Justine Vorvis, Mini-Thesis Student	2020 – 2021
Josanne Buchanan, Research Opportunity Student	2020 – 2021
Hannah Solby, Independent Study Student	2019 – 2021
Antonia Soldovieri, Independent Study Student	2019 – 2021
Ece Yucer, Independent Study Student	2019 – 2021

INVITED TALKS

2024 Social Cognition and Learning (SoCal) Lab, University of California - San Diego

AFFILIATIONS

American Psychological Association, Cognitive Development Society, Cognitive Science Society, Graduate Women in Science, International Congress on Infant Studies, Society for Research in Child Development

REFERENCES

Jessica Sommerville, Ph.D. Full Professor in Psychology

University of Toronto

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University of Toronto

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Samuel Ronfard, Ph.D. Assistant Professor in Psychology

University of Toronto

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Amanda Woodward, Ph.D. William S. Gray Distinguished Service Professor of Psychology;

Dean, Division of the Social Sciences

University of Chicago

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William Ryan, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream

University of Toronto

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