# Scott Partington

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## Education

*University of Cambridge*, MPhil History and Philosophy of Science          starting Oct. 2021
Areas of focus: cognitive science, cultural evolution, probability and statistics

*Cornell University*, B.A. Psychology and College Scholar                              2016-2020
*Magna cum laude* with Distinction in all Subjects, Final GPA: 4.04

*University of Cambridge*, Visiting student in Psychological and Behavioural Sciences    2018-2019

## Academic positions

*Post-bac researcher*, Cornell University                                          2020-2021
Early Childhood Cognition Lab, PI: Prof. Tamar Kushnir
Experimental Philosophy Research Group, PI: Prof. Shaun Nichols

## Honors and awards

Arnold Gerstenberg Studentship, University of Cambridge                              2021
Charlton Studentship, Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge                   2021
Maintenance Award, Dept. of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge 2021

> Awarded £40,953 (~$56,700) for postgraduate study on the basis of academic merit.

T.A. Ryan Award for best honors thesis, Cornell Department of Psychology              2020

> Title: *The medium is not the message: A study of political message construal across media platforms.*
> Committee: Prof. Tom Gilovich (advisor), Prof. David Pizarro, Prof. Adam Seth Levine

Phi Beta Kappa, College of Arts & Sciences, Cornell University                       2020

> GPA within top 10% of students in the College of Arts & Sciences, Class of 2020

The Einhorn Discovery Grant, College of Arts & Sciences, Cornell University          2019
Undergraduate Research Award, College of Arts & Sciences, Cornell University         2019

> Awarded $1,100 in funding on the basis of research proposal for honors thesis in Psychology.

College Scholar, College of Arts & Sciences, Cornell University                    2017-2020

> Selected into the College of Arts & Sciences' program for interdisciplinary study.
> Designed a program of coursework and research in psychology and philosophy.
> Senior project: *Statistical learning and parochial norms*
> Advisors: Prof. Shaun Nichols (Philosophy), Prof. Tamar Kushnir (Human Development)

Dean's List, College of Arts & Sciences, Cornell University

> Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018 (all semesters eligible)

# Dissemination

Peer-reviewed publications

*Liu, J., *Partington, S., *Suh, Y., Finiasz, Z., Flanagan, T., Kocher, D., Kiely, R., Kortenaar, M., Kushnir, T. (2021). The Community-Engaged Lab: A Case-Study Introduction for Developmental Science. *Frontiers in Psychology*.

*indicates joint-first authorship.

Peer-reviewed conference proceedings

Partington, S., Nichols, S., Kushnir, T. (2021). Is children's norm learning rational? A meta-analysis. *Proceedings of the 43rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Partington, S., Nichols, S., Kushnir, T. (2020). When in Rome, do as Bayesians do: Statistical learning and parochial norms. *Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Selected conference presentations

Partington, S., Nichols, S., Kushnir, T. (2021). Is children's norm learning rational? A meta-analysis. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Vienna, AT* (virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic).

Partington, S., Nichols, S., Kushnir, T. (2021). Statistical learning and parochial norms. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of Society for Research in Child Development* (virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic).

Partington, S., Nichols, S., Kushnir, T. (2020). When in Rome, do as Bayesians do: Statistical learning and parochial norms. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Toronto, ON* (virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic).

Partington, S., Nichols, S., Kushnir, T. (2020). Statistical learning and parochial norms. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Princeton, NJ* (virtual and postponed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

Manuscripts in preparation

Partington, S., Nichols, S., Kushnir, T. (in prep) Rational learners and parochial norms.

Partington, S., Vesga, A., Nichols, S. (in prep) The principle of sufficient reason in ordinary cognition.

# Research experience

Early Childhood Cognition Lab, Human Development, Cornell University      Aug.'19-May'21
Experimental Philosophy Research Group, Philosophy, Cornell University      Aug.'19-Aug.'21
PIs: Prof. Tamar Kushnir, Prof. Shaun Nichols

> Designed and conducted experiments in cognitive development and moral psychology in the labs of Prof. Tamar Kushnir and Prof. Shaun Nichols. Developed experimental and computational methods to examine whether adults and children learn the scope of norms via rational statistical inference.

Gilovich Lab, Dept. of Psychology, Cornell University      August '19-May '20; June '16-May '18
PIs: Prof. Tom Gilovich, Sebastian Deri

Designed and conducted experiments in social and cognitive psychology in the lab of Prof. Tom Gilovich, working closely with PhD candidate Sebastian Deri. Research focused on misperception of randomness, availability asymmetries in judgment, Bayesian models of lie detection, impact of social media on political discourse, and using computational methodologies to re-investigate classic social psychological phenomena.

**Lifespan Cognitive Development Lab, MRC-CBU, University of Cambridge**  March '19-April '19
PI: Dr. Rogier Kievit

During break between Lent and Easter terms co-authored with Dr. Rogier Kievit a manuscript on abduction and the replication crisis in psychology. Conducted an extensive literature review in the following areas: modes of inference in science, proposed methodological reforms relating to the replication crisis, debates surrounding null-hypothesis significance testing, emerging techniques in psychometric modeling, and the history of theory development in psychology.

**Gilbert Lab, Dept. of Psychology, Harvard University**  June '18-August '18
PI: Prof. Dan Gilbert, Dr. Gus Cooney

Conducted social psychology experiments in the lab of Prof. Dan Gilbert, working closely with post-doctoral researcher Dr. Gus Cooney. Research focused on conversation, self/other asymmetries in judgment, and motivated reasoning.

## Relevant research skills

Programming languages: R, Python.
Experimental platforms: Qualtrics, Amazon MTurk, Prolific, PsychoPy.
Other: Adobe Premiere Pro (video editing), Adobe Photoshop.

## Relevant coursework

*Psychology*: Intro to Psychology, Intro to Cognitive Science, Social Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Biopsychology, Cognitive Neuroscience, Human Ecology and Behavior, Judgment and Decision-Making, Psychology and the Ethics of Technology, Moral Learning.

*Statistics and research methods*: Statistics and Research Design, Data Science, Undergraduate Research in Psychology, Advanced Undergraduate Research in Psychology, Independent Study in Philosophy (topic: Experimental Philosophy).

*Computer science*: Intro to Computer Science (Python), Object-Oriented Programming and Data Structures (Java).

## Extracurricular

Editorial Board, *Logos Undergraduate Journal of Philosophy*  2017-2020
Reviewed submissions in philosophy of science, philosophy of mind, and free will

Full-Blue (varsity letter), Men's Ice Hockey, University of Cambridge  2018-2019

Short fiction and poetry published in *Notes* (Issues 53, 54) and *Marginalia* (Vol. 3, Issue 2).

Co-creator of "Hourglass," a short film commissioned by *Notes* magazine and the Cambridge Film Association, one of five films selected for the 2019 Cambridge Shorts film festival.

Cornell Democrats: registered voters at dining halls throughout Spring 2018 semester ahead of the mid-term congressional elections.

## References

**Shaun Nichols**, Professor, Philosophy, Cornell University, [sbn44@cornell.edu](mailto:sbn44@cornell.edu)
**Tamar Kushnir**, Professor, Psychology, Duke University, [tk397@cornell.edu](mailto:tk397@cornell.edu)
**Tom Gilovich**, Professor, Psychology, Cornell University, [tdg1@cornell.edu](mailto:tdg1@cornell.edu)
**Rogier Kievit**, Professor, Neuroscience, Donders Institute, [Rogier.Kievit@radboudumc.nl](mailto:Rogier.Kievit@radboudumc.nl)