Introducing our New Graduate Students | Department of Psychology

Nikita Agarwal (Developmental Science & Cognitive and Computational Sciences)
Advisor: Rochat

I am interested in development of ethics and morality in early childhood with emphasis on conforming to authority.

Angelle Antoun (Behavioral and Systems Neuroscience)
Advisor: Wilson

I am interested in comparative work with primates on the evolution of cognition, with a focus on the evolution of language and cooperation.

Nia Barbee (Clinical Science)
Advisor: Brennan

My research interests center on stressful environmental exposures during gestation and interventions that can be implemented to prevent adverse health outcomes for African American mothers and children.

Sarah Etuk (Clinical Science & Behavioral and Systems Neuroscience)
Advisor: Treadway

I am interested in using neuroimaging approaches to examine how stress and adversity alter reward-related brain function and increase risk for psychopathology. I am also interested in relating neural data to measures of inflammation.

Ami Ikeda (Clinical Science)
Advisor: Palmer

I am interested in understanding the gene-environment interaction in the development of substance use disorders. Additionally, examining the neurological, biological, and behavioral changes that occur in individuals exposed prenatally to substances of abuse and how that impacts later substance use.

Natalie Jaume (Clinical Science & Behavioral and Systems Neuroscience)
Advisor: Palmer

My research interests include the effects of stress and environmental factors on one’s genome, and how that may affect one’s predisposition and risk for substance use disorders.

Kiana Jodeiry (Clinical Science)
Advisor: Waldman

I am interested in neurobiological correlates of genomic variants associated with higher-order psychopathology dimensions, particularly the externalizing spectrum; genetic contribution to disruptive behavior disorders in youth.
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Christopher Jones (Cognitive and Computational Sciences)
Advisor: Dilks

I am interested in how the visual cortex is functionally organized to facilitate perception of higher-level information.

Christopher King (Clinical Science)
Advisor: Waldman

I am interested in investigating how the nature of nurture and exposure to violence and trauma contribute to the development of externalizing psychopathology across the lifespan.

Ryno Kruger (Developmental Science & Cognitive and Computational Sciences)
Advisor: Lourenco

My research interests include inherent biases, the influence of early experience on later-life spatial navigation, cognitive processes behind risk taking behavior.

Adriana Mendez (Clinical Science)
Advisor: Klin

I am interested in understanding the development, identification, and treatment of developmental disabilities (DD), particularly autism spectrum disorder. Furthermore, I’m interested in working towards eliminating healthcare disparities within the DD field, which unfairly and profoundly impact underserved communities.

Leonardo Michelini (Cognitive & Computational Sciences)
Advisor: Nygaard

I am interested in the relationship between language and cognition, and how language perception and meaning are influenced by lived experience.

Chaela Nutor (Clinical Science)
Advisor: Brennan

I aim to better understand the environmental risk factors that lead to disparities in child development. I am particularly interested in exploring the role of race, socioeconomic status, and exposure to environmental toxicants in the earliest stages of the neurodevelopment.

Rael Sammeroff (Behavioral and Systems Neuroscience)
Advisor: Hampton

I am interested in learning how attention and cognitive control develop throughout the lifespan of monkeys and how these two behavioral systems interact with each other. I also want to understand the impact of psychosocial stress (such as subordination) on cognition.