

EDUCATION

Harvard University

Ph.D. in Psychology (Cognition, Brain, & Behavior)

2022 - Present

Advisor: Dr. Leah Somerville

University of Southern California

M.S. in Biostatistics

2020 - 2022

Thesis: Emotion Perception & Structural Brain Differences in Youth with Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia

Advisor: Dr. Megan Herting

B.A. in Cognitive Science, *magna cum laude*

2018 - 2022

WORK EXPERIENCE

Harvard University

Affective Neuroscience & Development Laboratory (PI: Dr. Leah Somerville)

August 2022 - Present

Graduate Research Assistant

University of Southern California

Herting Neuroimaging Laboratory (PI: Dr. Megan Herting)

November 2020 - July 2022

Research Assistant

Social Development Laboratory (PI: Dr. David Schwartz)

September 2019 - July 2022

Research Assistant

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

1. Curtis, M., Flournoy, J. C., Kandala, S., Sanders, A., Harms, M. P., **Omary, A.**, Somerville, L. H., & Barch, D. M. *Disentangling the Contributions of Age, Pubertal Status, and Pubertal Hormones to Brain Structure Development.*
2. **Omary, A.**, Flournoy, J. C., Curtis, M., Kandala, S., Barch, D. M., & Somerville, L. H. *Evaluating Pubertal Development Using Multiple Measures and Research Designs.*
3. **Omary, A.**, Flournoy, J. C., Curtis, M., Kandala, S., Barch, D. M., & Somerville, L. H. *Longitudinal Changes in Pubertal Development, Hormones, and Neural Reward Processing.*
4. Heffer, T., **Omary, A.**, & Somerville, L. H. *Affective Processing and Response Inhibition to Previous Value Cues Across Development.*

PUBLICATIONS IN SCHOLARLY JOURNALS

6. **Omary, A.**, Khalifeh, N., Cotter, D., Kim, M. S., Choudhury, F., Ahmadi, H., Geffner, M. E., & Herting, M. M. (2023). Altered Emotion Perception Linked to Structural Brain Differences in Youth with Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia. *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*. <https://doi.org/10.1210/clinem/dgad158>
5. Khalifeh, N., **Omary, A.**, Cotter, D., Kim, M. S., Geffner, M. E., & Herting, M. M. (2022). Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia and Brain Health: A Systematic Review of Structural, Functional, and Diffusion MRI Investigations. *Journal of Child Neurology*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08830738221100886>
4. Schwartz, D., Ryjova, Y., Luo, T., Malamut, S. T., Zhang, M., Taylor, L. M., & **Omary, A.** (2022). Social Adjustment of Problem-Talk Partners Moderates Associations Between Self-Perceived Victimization and Depressive Symptoms. *Research on Child and Adolescent Psychopathology*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10802-022-00992-4>
3. Richie-Halford, A., Cieslak, M., Ai, L., Caffarra, S., Covitz, S., Franco, A. R., Karipidis, I. I., Kruper, J., Milham, M., Avelar-Pereira, B., Roy, E., Sydnor, V. J., Yeatman, J., The Fibr Community Science Consortium (incl. **Omary, A.**), Satterthwaite, T. D., & Rokem, A. (2022). An Analysis-Ready and Quality Controlled Resource for Pediatric Brain White-Matter Research. *Scientific Data*, 9(616) <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-022-01695-7>
2. Kennedy, B., Atari, M., Davani, A.M., Yeh, L., Omrani, A., Kim, Y., Koomb, K., Havaladar, S., Portillo-Wightman, G., Gonzalez, E., Hoover, J., **Omary, A.**, ... Dehghani, M. (2022). Introducing the Gab Hate Corpus: Defining and Applying Hate-Based Rhetoric to Social Media Posts at Scale. *Language Resources & Evaluation*, 56. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10579-021-09569-x>
1. Schwartz, D., Fritz, H. L., Kelleghan, A. R., Ryjova, Y., **Omary, A.**, Taylor, L. M., & Luo, T. (2021). Adolescents Who Are Nonusers of Fashionable Social Networking Platforms. *Cyberpsychology*, 15(3). <https://doi.org/10.5817/CP2021-3-7>

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

12. **Omary, A.**, Flournoy, J. C., Baum, G. L., Curtis, M., Barch, D. M., HCP-D Consortium, & Somerville, L. H. (2023, September 6-9). *Longitudinal Changes in Pubertal Development, Hormones, and Neural Reward Response in the HCP-D Study* [Poster presentation]. Flux 2023 Conference.
11. **Omary, A.**, Heffer, T., Flournoy, J. C., Baum, G. L., Curtis, M., Colich, N. L., Mair, P., Barch, D. M., HCP-D Consortium, & Somerville, L. H. (2023, April 27-29). *Testing The Mediating Role of Pubertal Hormones on Age-Related Changes and Sex Differences in Adolescent Behavioral Inhibition and Activation* [Poster presentation]. Social & Affective Neuroscience Society 2023 Conference.
10. Curtis, M., Flournoy, J., Kandala, S., Sanders, A., Harms, M. P., **Omary, A.**, Somerville, L. H., HCP-D Consortium, & Barch, D.M. (2023, April 27-29). *Developmental Pubertal and Hormone Trajectories and Relationships with Brain Structure* [Poster presentation]. Society of Biological Psychiatry 2023 Conference.
9. Heffer, T., **Omary, A.**, Flournoy, J.C., Baum, G.L., Barch D.M., HCP-D Consortium, Somerville, L.H. (2023, March 30 - April 1). *The Impact of Reward and Punishment History on Response Inhibition from Childhood to Early Adulthood* [Poster presentation]. Society for Affective Science 2023 Conference.

8. **Omary, A.**, Cardenas-Iniguez, C., Cotter, D., Sukumaran, K., & Herting, M. M. (2022, November 12-16). *Effects of Social & Environmental Stressors on Resting-State Functional Connectivity in the ABCD Study* [Poster presentation]. Society for Neuroscience 2022 Conference.
7. **Omary, A.**, Taylor, L. M., Stone, A., & Schwartz, D. (2022, February 16-19). *Online Dating App Usage and Mental Health during the COVID-19 Pandemic* [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality & Social Psychology 2022 Convention.
6. Taylor, L. M., **Omary, A.**, Stone, A., & Schwartz, D. (2022, February 16-19). *Body Image as Moderated by Social Media Use Subtypes* [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality & Social Psychology 2022 Convention.
5. Stone, A., **Omary, A.**, Taylor, L. M., Troop-Gordon, W., & Schwartz, D. (2022, February 16-19). *Medical, Racial, and Political Stressors: Mental Health Implications of the COVID-19 Pandemic* [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality & Social Psychology 2022 Convention.
4. **Omary, A.**, Kim, M. S., & Herting, M. M. (2021, December 13-15). *Altered Emotion Perception Linked to Structural Brain Differences in Youth with Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Neuroscience 2021 Conference.
3. **Omary, A.**, Kim, M. S., & Herting, M. M. (2021, April 12-16). *Emotive Image Perceptions in Youth with Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia* [Poster presentation]. USC 2021 Undergraduate Symposium for Scholarly & Creative Work.
2. **Omary, A.**, Atari, M., & Dehghani, M. (2021, February 9-13). *Bottom-up Conceptions of Morality: A Qualitative Analysis* [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality & Social Psychology 2021 Convention.
1. Karimi-Malekabadi, F., **Omary, A.**, & Dehghani, M. (2021, February 9-13). *Moral Values, Intrasexual Rivalry, and Mate Retention Tactics in Iran* [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality & Social Psychology 2021 Convention.

PUBLICATIONS IN POPULAR PRESS

20. **Omary, A.** (2023, June 12). [The Key to Social Harmony](#). *Psychology Today*.
19. **Omary, A.** (2023, May 24). [The ‘Love Hormone’ Promotes Aggression, Too](#). *Psychology Today*.
18. **Omary, A.** (2023, April 12). [How Uncertainty Causes Anxiety](#). *Psychology Today*.
17. **Omary, A.** (2023, February 20). [The Evolution of the Love Hormone](#). *Psychology Today*.
16. **Omary, A.** (2023, January 17). [Not All Sex Differences Are Created Equal](#). *Psychology Today*.
15. **Omary, A.** (2022, November 25). [How We Measure Risk-Taking in the Brain](#). *Psychology Today*.
14. **Omary, A.** (2022, October 29). [How Babies Detect Social Bonds](#). *Psychology Today*.
13. **Omary, A.** (2022, October 12). [Is Memory Transfer Possible?](#) *Psychology Today*.
12. **Omary, A.** (2022, October 6). [A Recipe for Responsible Teenagers](#). *Psychology Today*.
11. **Omary, A.** (2022, September 30). [How Stereotypes About Teens Cause Harm](#). *Psychology Today*.

10. **Omary, A.** (2022, September 23). [What Does Entropy Have to Do With Psychology?](#) *Psychology Today*.
9. **Omary, A.** (2022, September 17). [What Happens to Your Brain if You Lose an Arm?](#) *Psychology Today*.
8. **Omary, A.** (2022, September 9). [Tickling Rats in the Name of Science.](#) *Psychology Today*.
7. **Omary, A., & Ford, N.** (2022, September 2). [Understanding Dopamine Can Help Us Create Better Habits.](#) *Psychology Today*.
6. **Omary, A.** (2022, August 25). [Is Kindness Genetically Predetermined?](#) *Psychology Today*.
5. **Omary, A.** (2022, August 17). [What Primates Can Teach Us About Gender.](#) *Psychology Today*.
4. **Omary, A.** (2022, August 10). [Feeling Irritable This Summer? Blame the Heat.](#) *Psychology Today*.
3. **Omary, A.** (2022, August 2). [The Science of Happiness.](#) *Psychology Today*.
2. **Omary, A.** (2022, July 26). [Is Music Really Auditory Cheesecake?](#) *Psychology Today*.
1. **Omary, A.** (2022, July 19). [The Awesome Psychology of Awe.](#) *Psychology Today*.

HONORS & AWARDS

Harvard University

Diversity, Inclusion, & Belonging Fellow 2023 - 2024

University of Southern California

QuestBridge Scholar (*Full Scholarship, ~\$260,000*) 2018 - 2022

Dean's List Spring 2019 - Spring 2022

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (\$3000) Summer 2021

Provost's Undergraduate Research Fellowship (\$3000) Summer 2020

Student Opportunities for Academic Research Grant (\$500) Spring 2020

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (\$3000) Summer 2019

Abrams Attridge Scholarship (\$500) Fall 2018

Extramural

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program 2023
Honorable Mention

UW Summer Institute in Statistical Genetics Scholarship (*Full Tuition, \$900*) Summer 2021

SPSP Undergraduate Diversity Registration Award (\$50) February 2021

LEADERSHIP & MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Harvard University

Harvard Mind Brain Behavior Interfaculty Initiative
Undergraduate Thesis Workshop Leader

September 2022 - Present

Department of Psychology
Diversity, Inclusion, & Belonging Committee Member

October 2022 - Present

Leadership Alliance Mellon Initiative
Summer Research Mentor

Summer 2023

Prospective Ph.D. & RA Event in Psychology
Graduate Student Mentor & Panelist

October 2022

Project TEACH
Presenter, "Myths & Facts About the Brain"

October 2022

University of Southern California

Omega Psi: International Honor Society in Cognitive Science
President

January 2021 - May 2022

Graduate Society for Biostatistics and Epidemiology
Treasurer

August 2021 - May 2022

Department of Population & Public Health Sciences
Racial Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Council Member

August 2021 - May 2022

Extramural

QuestBridge Scholars Network

2018 - Present

ScholarMatch

June 2018 - Present

Project SHORT

June 2022 - Present

NextGen Psych Scholars Program

June 2022 - Present

Psychin' Out

June 2022 - Present

Letters to a Pre-Scientist

September 2022 - Present

Skype a Scientist

November 2021 - Present

Application Statement Feedback Program

October 2022

CollegePoint Ambassadors Program

January 2019 - May 2022

PUBLIC OUTREACH

[The Nature & Nurture Podcast](#)

Host

April 2021 - Present

[Psychology Today](#)

Contributing Writer

July 2022 - Present

UCLA First-Generation/Low Income Graduate Healthcare Track Conference

Panelist

April 2021

Stanford First-Generation/Low Income College Student Conference

Presenter, "Maximizing Engagement Within the FLI Community"

February 2020

ScholarMatch Annual Convening

Presenter, "QuestBridge 101"

July 2019

Princeton CollegePoint Convening

Presenter, "QuestBridge 101"

August 2018

ScholarMatch Annual Convening

Panelist

July 2018

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Omega Psi: International Honor Society in Cognitive Science

September 2019 - Present

Psi Chi: International Honor Society in Psychology

April 2020 - Present

Cognitive Science Society

July 2020 - Present

Society for Neuroscience

June 2022 - Present

Heterodox Academy

August 2022 - Present

Social & Affective Neuroscience Society

December 2022 - Present

Flux Society for Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience

April 2023 - Present

Society for Personality and Social Psychology

August 2020 - May 2022

American Psychological Association

July 2021 - May 2022

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

Programming: R, MATLAB, SAS, SPSS

Statistical: Frequentist & Bayesian Generalized Linear Mixed Effects Models, Generalized Additive Models, Principal Component Analysis, Exploratory & Confirmatory Factor Analysis, Longitudinal Mediation Modeling

Software: Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), PhotoShop, iMovie, LaTeX, WordPress

Certifications:

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), *University of Southern California (USC)*

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI), *Harvard University, USC*

Research Conduct Training

Human Subjects Training

Programming in MATLAB, *Vanderbilt University*

Crisis Counselor Training, *Crisis Text Line*