

Michael Cohanpour

Zuckerman Institute, Columbia University
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Education

2017- Present

PhD Candidate in Neurobiology and Behavior
Co-advisors: Drs Jacqueline Gottlieb and Mariam Aly
Columbia University
Current GPA: 4.0/4.0

2019

M.A./MPhil. in Neurobiology and Behavior
Co-advisors: Drs Jacqueline Gottlieb and Mariam Aly
Columbia University

2011-2015

B.A., Biological Sciences
Concentrations in Neuroscience, Cognitive Science
Cornell University
Cumulative GPA: 3.7/4.0

Honors and Awards

- 2021 Ruth L. Kirschstein Pre-Doctoral National Research Service Award
National Institute of Mental Health, National Institute of Health
- 2021 AY21 Prize for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusive Service in Neurobiology & Behavior
- 2020 NIH NEI Vision Sciences Training Grant Recipient
- 2020 Columbia University Neuroscience Travel Grant
- 2011- 2015
Dean's Honors List

Research Experience

2018-Present

PhD Candidate, Department of Neurobiology and Behavior, Columbia University
(Co-advised by Drs Jacqueline Gottlieb and Mariam Aly)
Project: **The neural mechanisms of perceptual curiosity**

2015-2017

Research Technician, Department of Neurobiology and Behavior, Columbia University
(Advised by Dr. Jacqueline Gottlieb)

Project: **Neural correlates of reward-based information-seeking in non-human primates**

2011-2015

Research Assistant, Department of Biological Sciences, Cornell University
(Advised by Dr. Christiane Linster)

Project: **The role of serotonergic neuromodulation in the olfactory bulb and behavior**

Teaching Experience

2014 Teaching Assistant, Department of Neuroscience, Cornell University
Introduction to Neuroscience (Professor: Dr. Joseph Fetcho)

2014 Teaching Assistant, Department of Evolutionary Biology, Cornell University Applied
Population Ecology (Professor: Dr. Evan Cooch)

Publications

Taghizadeh, B., Karimimehr, S., Foley, N.C., Cohanpour, M., Semework, M., Sheth, S.A., Lashgari, R., Gottlieb, J. Reward uncertainty asymmetrically affects information transmission within monkey frontoparietal network. *Communications Biology*. 3 (1), 1-11. (2020)

Gottlieb, J., Cohanpour, M., Li, Y., Singletary, N., Zabej, E. Curiosity, information demand, and attentional priority. *Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences*. 35, 83-91 (2020).

Foley, N.C., Cohanpour, M., Semework, M., Sheth, S.A., Gottlieb, J. Population coding of reward prediction errors through opponent organization in the frontoparietal network. *Nature Communications (in review)* 2020.

Presentations and Invited Talks

Cohanpour, M., Aly, M., Gottlieb, J. Towards a Mechanistic Account of Perceptual Curiosity. Poster presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS) Annual Conference. (2021)

Cohanpour, M., Aly, M., Gottlieb, J. Perceptual Curiosity. Talk given at Psychology Department Graduate Student Open House Symposium. (2020).

Cohanpour, M. Your Brain on Curiosity. Columbia University Neuroscience Outreach Late Night Science (2019).

Cohanpour, M. Curiosity and immersive learning. Presentation at TechRow EdTech Conference. (2019)

Lewis, M. **Cohanpour, M.** Berlin, C. Linster, C. Serotonin's role in olfaction. Presentation at Cornell University Undergraduate Research Symposium (2015)

Lewis, M. **Cohanpour, M.** Berlin, C. Linster, C. Contrast enhancement in the olfactory bulb. Presentation at Cornell University Undergraduate Research Symposium (2014).

Specialized Research Skills:

Programming: MATLAB (advanced), Python (basic)

Data Analysis: FSL, SPM, general statistical proficiency, linear (mixed-effects) modeling, General Linear Modeling, neural decoding, spike sorting/quantification, various machine learning and signal processing methods, and more that I am currently forgetting!

Stimulus Presentation: Psychtoolbox, PsychoPy, Gorilla, Monkeylogic

Experimentation: fMRI Scanner Operation (Level 3 Certified), non-human primate neurophysiology

Mentoring Experience:

2020- Batsheva Rubin (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

2018 Laura Hunter (Research Assistant)

Outreach: (email me to learn more about below! outreach is *huge* to me)

2017- Columbia University Neuroscience Outreach (CUNO) Volunteer

2021 Columbia Access Neuroscience Event Organizer/Volunteer

2020 NIH Blueprint ENDURE Virtual Graduate Student Recruitment Fair Volunteer

2019 NYC Regional Brain Bee Volunteer

2019 Neurobiology & Behavior Prospective Students Weekend Organizer

2018 Neurobiology & Behavior Prospective Students Weekend Organizer