Isabella Aslarus

i.aslarus@gmail.com • isabella_aslarus@brown.edu

Education

Sep 2017-Dec 2021   Harvard University
B.A. in Neuroscience (Mind, Brain, and Behavior)
Minor in English
Graduation Cum Laude with Highest Honors in Neuroscience
GPA 3.9/4

Research Experience

Jan 2022-Present   **Lab Manager / Lead Research Assistant**, FeldmanHall Lab.
Brown University, Department of Cognitive, Linguistic, and
Psychological Sciences (CLPS).
Supervisor: Dr. Oriel FeldmanHall

Jan 2020-Dec 2021   **Research Assistant**, Phelps Lab.
(full-time, June 2020-Dec 2020 and June 2021-Aug 2021)
Harvard University, Department of Psychology.
Supervisor: Dr. Elizabeth Phelps

Sep 2021-Dec 2021   **Research Assistant**, Human Intergroup Neuroscience Lab.
Harvard University, Department of Psychology.
Supervisor: Dr. Mina Cikara

Projects

Mental representations of real-world social networks
Brown University; Supervisor: Dr. Oriel FeldmanHall
- Designed and implemented multiple Qualtrics tasks
- Project management and data collection: recruitment (~75% of population in 3 first-year dormitories, 85% retention rate over an academic year), monthly data collection (N=196) including fMRI (N=49), managing 9 undergraduate research assistants
- Analysis in R: mixed-effects regression, longitudinal behavioral and network analysis

Social categorization biases learning by distorting cognitive maps
Brown University; Supervisor: Dr. Oriel FeldmanHall
- Designed and programmed eye-tracking tasks in both JavaScript (jsPsych, with webcam eye-tracking) and MATLAB (PsychToolBox, with EyeLink eye-tracking)
- Data collection: behavioral and eye-tracking (N=70)
- Analysis in R: mixed-effects regression, eye-tracking analysis, multidimensional scaling, k-means clustering, modified implementations of SUSTAIN and ALCOVE models of category learning, model fitting and comparison

Novelty exposure interferes with emotional memory consolidation
Harvard University; Supervisor: Dr. Elizabeth Phelps
- Designed and implemented multiple Qualtrics tasks
- Data collection: online stimulus validation task (N=184) and 3-part longitudinal study (N=340)
- Statistics in SPSS and R: chi-square test, t-test, ANOVA, ANCOVA

Neural representations of politically-salient facts and opinions
Harvard University; Supervisor: Dr. Mina Cikara
- Over 40 hours of fMRI administration in one semester
- Certified as a fully-trained MR user

Posters and Conference Abstracts

Aslarus, I., Son, J.Y., & FeldmanHall, O. (2023). *Network position biases mental representations of real-world social networks*. Presented at the 21st Annual Conference of the Society for NeuroEconomics, and at the 10th Consumer Neuroscience Satellite Symposium of the Annual Conference of the Society for Neuroeconomics. Vancouver, B.C., Canada. [Abstract, Poster]

Aslarus, I. C., Kredlow, M. A., Fan, H., & Phelps, E. A. (2022). *Novelty exposure interferes with visual emotional memory consolidation.* Presented at the 14th Annual Meeting of the Social and Affective Neuroscience Society. Virtual. [Abstract, Poster, Video]

Press, D., **Aslarus, I.**, Lim, E., Amarasinghe, S., & Lim, C. (2017). *Cognitive Neurology Toolkit: An iPad App for Mental Status Testing*. Presented at the 69th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Neurology. Boston, MA. [Abstract]

Manuscripts In Preparation

Aslarus, I., Son, J. Y., Xia, A., & FeldmanHall, O. (In prep). *Accurate representation of network structure drives long-term popularity in real-world social networks*.

Aslarus, I., Vives, M. L., & FeldmanHall, O. (In prep). *Irrelevant social information warps cognitive maps to bias trust decisions*.

Unpublished Manuscripts

Aslarus, I. Advisors: Kredlow, M.A., Fan, H., & Phelps, E.A. (2021). *Novelty-Enhanced Learning: An Exploration of Behavioral Tagging in Humans*. Honors Senior Thesis, Harvard University. [Thesis]

Honors and Awards

Graduation Cum Laude with Highest Honors in Neuroscience, Harvard University, 2021

High Magna Cum Laude for Honors Senior Thesis, *Novelty-Enhanced Learning: An Exploration of Behavioral Tagging in Humans*, Harvard University, 2021

Mary Gordon Roberts Fellowship in Mind, Brain, and Behavior, Harvard University, 2020

Harvard College Research Program Award ($1750), 2020

Finalist, Harvard College First Year Creativity Award, 2018

Mentorship, Teaching, and Service

Conference Organizer (2023 New England Research on Decision-Making Conference)

Research Mentor (Brown University)
    Current: 4 students
        1 Honors Undergraduate Thesis (Cognitive, Linguistic, and Psychological Sciences)
        1 Senior Capstone Project (Behavioral and Decision Sciences)
        1 undergraduate research assistant
        1 high school research assistant *(full-time, Summer 2023)*
    Previous: 7 students
        7 undergraduate research assistants *(1 full-time, Summer 2022)*

Academic Writing Tutor (Harvard College Writing Center)
    4 Honors Senior Thesis students (regular tutoring over 1-2 semesters) in Psychology, Anthropology, and Economics
    Multiple weekly tutoring sessions for students across any discipline

Other Experience

Sep 2018-Dec 2021   **Writing Tutor**, Harvard College Writing Center.

Nov 2018-Dec 2020   **Co-President** (Sep-Dec 2020), **Editor-in-Chief** (Sep 2019-Aug 2020), and **Editor**, Harvard Technology Review.

Sep 2017-Dec 2020   **Illustration Executive** (Jan-Dec 2020), **Illustration Comp Director** (*training new illustrators*; Jan 2019-Dec 2020), **Contributing Opinion Columnist** (Sep-Dec 2018), and **Illustrator**, the Harvard Crimson.

Jun 2019-Dec 2019   **Customer Success Intern** (*data analyst*), Cambridge Mobile Telematics, Cambridge, MA.

May 2017,   **Research Assistant**, Harvard Microrobotics Laboratory, Harvard
May 2018-May 2019 University, School for Engineering and Applied Sciences.
                    Supervisors: Dr. Kaitlyn Becker and Dr. Robert Wood

Apr 2015-Jun 2017   **Programmer**, Cognitive Neurology Toolkit, Beth Israel Deaconess
Medical Center, Department of Neurology, Boston, MA.
Supervisors: Dr. Daniel Press and Dr. Chun Lim

Technical Skills

Coding and Data:	R, MATLAB, SPSS, Git, eye-tracking (EyeLink)
Task Design:	MATLAB (PsychToolBox), JavaScript (jsPsych), Swift (Apple developer), Qualtrics
Stimulus Design:	Adobe Illustrator
Data Collection:	Eye-tracking administration, EEG administration, MRI administration (Green Badge / Level 2 Certified [*fully trained MR user*], Harvard Center for Brain Science Neuroimaging Facility; Level 2 Certified [*advanced safety training*], Brown MRI Research Facility)