

# Ezra M. Wingard

he / him

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## EDUCATION

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**B.A., Psychology, Cognitive Science** with Honors and Minor in French, *State University of New York (SUNY), Oswego* 2023

- Honors thesis: The Impact of Biases in Facial Recognition Artificial Neural Networks. ([thesis](#))
- Advisors: Theo Rhodes & John K. Lindstedt

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Research Assistant, B-RAD Lab** (PI: Caitlin Hudac), *University of South Carolina* Feb 2024 - Present

- Design and implement E-Prime experimental tasks using E-Basic script, creating 3 novel tasks and refining 2 existing tasks
- Recruit and retain participants for a longitudinal study, managing outreach and tailored participant experiences
- Create and maintain several RedCAP databases, ensuring accurate record-keeping and compliance to study protocols
- Oversee general lab management, including recordkeeping, financial oversight of grant funds, and procuring equipment
- Manage and mentor up to 12 interns, garnering co-authored presentations and publications to disseminate study data

**Volunteer Research Assistant, STARR Lab** (PI: Michelle Brown), *University of South Carolina* Jul 2023 - Present

- Author and refine introduction, methods, and results sections for research papers
- Assist with literature reviews and ensured all documents adhered to APA formatting, including tables and datasets
- Identify and evaluate suitable journals for publication, considering impact factors and submission requirements
- Ensure accuracy and consistency of results by re-running analyses on two separate datasets using R

**Data Collector, JKLAB** (PI: John K. Lindstedt), *SUNY Oswego* 2022

- Assisted in a Human-Computer Interaction Master's student project to refine spatial audio perception for online meetings
- Recruited and ran human subjects using SONA Systems, ensuring strict adherence to lab guidelines and procedures
- Created and refined experimental stimuli, and implemented basic JavaScript syntax for task execution
- Collaboratively organized project information to meet deadlines and ensure accurate data collection

**Undergraduate Research Assistant, Cognitive Neuroscience Lab** (PI: Sien Hu), *SUNY Oswego* 2021 - 2023

- Learned MATLAB and developed a comprehensive script to analyze behavioral fMRI data, focusing on reaction time dynamics in control and aphantasic participants
- Conducted extensive literature reviews to understand fMRI methods and data collection techniques
- Assisted in the dissemination of fMRI results and began drafting a manuscript for publication before graduation
- Completed a safety exam and earned certification to use the 3T CABIN MRI machine at the University of Rochester

**Undergraduate Research Assistant, RAD Lab** (PI: Matthew Dykas), *SUNY Oswego* 2020 - 2021

- Recruited participants through SONA Systems for a COVID-based research study, conducting all sessions via Zoom
- Followed extensive protocols to ensure accurate data collection
- Presented initial research findings through a poster presentation at SUNY Oswego's QUEST Week
- Collaborated with the research team to organize data, evenly distribute tasks, and manage workload

## PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

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- Nelson, C.M., **Wingard, E.M.**, & Hudac, C.H. Characterizing Friendships And Other Relationships in Autistic Adolescents.  
Talk at The Love Conference, Denver, CO. ([slides](#)) 2024
- Hersey, J., Morgan, A., Cheever, A., Nelson, C.M., **Wingard, E.M.**, & Hudac, C.M. Exploring Nonverbal Communication Differences Among Individuals in Romantic Partnerships: A Neuroscientific Perspective.  
Poster at Discover USC, Columbia, SC. Won 2nd place poster award for the section. ([poster](#)) 2024
- McCune, M., Turner, B., Vidal, L., Nelson, C.M., **Wingard, E.M.**, & Hudac, C.M. The Adolescent Brain: Quantifying the Relationship Between Social Awareness and Perception of Upright and Inverted Faces.  
Poster at Discover USC, Columbia, SC. ([poster](#)) 2024
- Khan, M., Patel, M., Tuppale, B., **Wingard, E.M.**, Nelson, C.M., & Hudac, C.M. The Effect of Sleep Quality as Measured by Couple's Sleep Performance in Charades.  
Poster at Discover USC, Columbia, SC. ([poster](#)) 2024
- Johnson, M., **Wingard, E. M.**, Nelson, C.M., & Hudac, C.M. Do I Know You? Brain Responses to Familiar and AI-Generated Faces.  
Poster at Discover USC, Columbia, SC. ([poster](#)) 2024
- Poster at Social & Affective Neuroscience Society Conference (SANS), Toronto, Canada. 2024
- Wingard, E.M. (2023). The Impact of Biases in Facial Recognition Artificial Neural Networks. *Illuminate NRHC*, 5, 25-32. ([paper](#))
- Wingard, E.M. The Impact of Biases in Facial Recognition Artificial Neural Networks.  
Poster at Northeast Regional Honors Conference (NRHC), Pittsburgh, PA. ([poster](#)) 2023
- Talk at Quest Week, Oswego, NY. ([slides](#)) 2023
- Wingard, E.M. French Polynesia: Flora and Fauna.  
Talk at Quest Week (French Forum), Oswego, NY. ([slides](#)) 2023
- Dykas, M., **Wingard, E.M.** Does Making Narcissists 'Feel Bad' Make Them Want to Be Better People?  
Poster at Quest Week, virtual. ([poster](#)) 2021

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- Animal Care Technician**, Carolina Wildlife Center, *Columbia, SC* 2023 - 2024
- Administered precise doses of medication and formula to local animal species, ensuring their health and well-being
  - Documented meticulous records of medication administration, dietary requirements, and behavioral observations
  - Maintained satisfactory care to enhance the quality of life for wildlife, with a focus on rehabilitation for eventual release
  - Cared for over 70 native species daily while adhering to strict safety protocols to minimize stress and ensure comfort
- SHOP Coordinator**, SUNY Oswego Dean of Students Office, *Oswego, NY* 2022 - 2023
- Supervised four interns and over 80 student volunteers per year to ensure optimal day-to-day functioning
  - Organized the inventory system and optimized workflows, decreasing clerical errors by 10%
  - Engaged with university-wide faculty and staff to plan, create, and host philanthropic events and programming
  - Maintain statistics and organize data for effective dissemination of data to the Advisory Board Committee
- Peer Specialist; Clubhouse Specialist Substitute**, Oswego County Opportunities, *Oswego, NY* 2019 - 2023
- Tailored informative lesson plans to teach youth about sexual health information to youth aged 15-21
  - Helped develop education and planned weekly events across multiple programs
  - Created training materials, public trainings on diverse topics such as sexual health and LGBT+ identities
  - Reviewed and disseminated information about HIV/AIDS to historically vulnerable communities

## AWARDS, HONORS, AND CERTIFICATES

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Distinguished Cognitive Science Senior Award	2023
Excellence in French Award	2023
President's List	2019, 2020, 2023
Dean's List	2021 - 2022
Pi Delta Phi, <i>SUNY Oswego</i>	2023
Psi Chi, <i>SUNY Oswego</i>	2023
CITI <a href="#">Social &amp; Behavioral Researchers Certificate</a>	
CITI <a href="#">Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research Certificate</a>	

## SERVICE ACTIVITIES & LEADERSHIP

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*To the University of South Carolina* 2024-Present

**CAN Trainee Committee**, Department of Psychology

- Plan events for graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, undergraduate students, and early-career scientists
- Moderate group meetings to convert stakeholder feedback into actionable items

**Advisory Board Member**, Ph.D. Candidate Rhys Dreeszen-Bowman

- Attend 4 team meetings to provide ideas and collaboratively provide feedback on research and interview questions
- Assist in the creation of a community-focused social media resource for transgender and LGBTQ+ South Carolinians

**Thesis Advisee**, Ph.D. Candidate Mariana Foster

- Advised about inclusive language about transgender populations to assist with survey measure construction for Dissertation

*To the State University of New York at Oswego*

**President, Vice President**, Cognitive Science Club 2023

- Moderated group activities and discussions to spark interest in the field of cognitive science
- Directed and planned activities for club meetings, focusing on topics related to Cognitive Science and related fields
- Successfully increased club participation by 30% during the academic year

**Member**, Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC) 2022

- Moderated group activities and discussions to spark interest in the field of cognitive science
- Directed and planned activities for club meetings, focusing on topics related to Cognitive Science and related fields
- Successfully increased club participation by 30% during the academic year

## GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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Student Travel Award, \$325	2023
Merit Scholarship, <i>SUNY Oswego</i>	2019-2023

## LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

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Certified to use <i>CABIN 3T</i> MRI at University of Rochester	Python, R (tidyverse), SPSS, MATLAB
E-Prime, E-Basic, NetStation, REDCap	Prolog, PyTorch, TensorFlow
English - Native Fluency	Java, HTML, CSS, Node.js, JavaScript
French – Near Fluent (CEFR C1 Level - “Advanced Low”)	Spanish – Basic Understanding
Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint	