

Celia Fernández Ford

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EDUCATION

UC Berkeley, Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute, Berkeley, CA

Ph.D. in Neuroscience, expected 2022

Brown University, Department of Cognitive, Linguistic, and Psychological Sciences, Providence, RI

Sc.B. in Cognitive Neuroscience, May 2017

FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

2018 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program

2018 Milton I. and Florence Mack Neurology Research Scholarship, University of California, Berkeley

2017 Marian Diamond Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley

2016 Samuel Nabrit Undergraduate Teaching and Research Award, Brown University

2015 Leadership Alliance Scholar, University of Chicago

HONORS & AWARDS

2017 Magna Cum Laude, Brown University

2017 CLPS Premium for Excellence in Cognitive Neuroscience, Brown University

2017 Honors in Cognitive Neuroscience, Brown University

2016 Deep Learning Hackathon First Prize, Brown Initiative in Computation in Brain and Mind

2013 National Hispanic Merit Scholar

2013 Salutatorian, Timber Creek High School

MEMBERSHIPS

2018 - Society for Neuroscience

2017 - Sigma Xi

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

UC Berkeley, Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute, Berkeley, CA

❖ **Graduate Student Researcher**, Fall 2017 – present

Principal Investigator: Dr. Joni Wallis

Project: Interactions between model-based and model-free reinforcement learning systems.

Brown University, Department of Cognitive, Linguistic, and Psychological Sciences, Providence, RI

❖ **Undergraduate Research Assistant, Fall 2014 – Spring 2017**

Principal Investigator: Dr. David Badre

Honors Thesis: “Task switching, or task integration? Learning working memory gating policies in dual-task settings.”

Projects: Learning and transfer of working memory gating policies (Fall 2015 – Fall 2016);

Dynamic control of declarative memory decisions (Fall 2014 – Spring 2015)

University of Chicago, Department of Psychology, Chicago, IL

❖ **Leadership Alliance Scholar, Summer 2015**

Principal Investigator: Dr. Jasmin Cloutier

Project: Influence of context and social dominance on rapid trait judgements

TEACHING

UC Berkeley, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Berkeley, CA

❖ **Graduate Student Instructor, Fall 2018**

Drugs and the Brain, Instructor: Dr. David Presti

Brown University, Department of Cognitive, Linguistic, and Psychological Science, Providence, RI

❖ **Teaching Assistant, Spring 2017**

Introduction to Programming, Instructor: Dr. Thomas Serre

❖ **Teaching Assistant, Spring 2016**

Computational Cognitive Science, Instructor: Dr. Thomas Serre

Brown University, Department of Neuroscience, Providence, RI

❖ **Teaching Assistant, Fall 2016**

The Brain: Introduction to Neuroscience, Instructors: Dr. John Stein & Dr. Michael Paradiso

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Ford, C., & Wallis, J. (2019, July). Dissociating model-based and model-free reinforcement learning in a nonhuman primate model. Multidisciplinary Conference on Reinforcement Learning and Decision Making. Montréal, Québec, Canada.

Ford, C. (2017, May). Task switching, or task integration? Learning working memory gating policies in dual-task settings (Undergraduate honors thesis), Brown University. doi: 10.7301/Z03F4N19.

Ford, C., Bhandari, A., and Badre, D. (2016, August). Multitasking: Task Switching, or Task Integration? (Poster). Brown University Summer Research Symposium, Providence, RI.

Ford, C., & Bayer, P. (2016, August). Visual Reasoning in Humans and Artificial Neural Networks (Oral presentation and demonstration). Deep Learning Hackathon, Providence, RI.

Ford, C., Li, T., & Cloutier, J. (2015, July). Status judgments as a function of the interaction between facial dominance and social context (Oral presentation and poster). Leadership Alliance National Symposium (LANS), Samford, CT.

OUTREACH & ACADEMIC SERVICE

Bay Area Scientists in Schools (BASIS), Community Resources for Science, Berkeley, CA

- ❖ **Volunteer Instructor**, Fall 2017 – present
Teaches one-hour hands-on lesson, *Our Brains Sensing Our World*, to first-grade students at public schools in Berkeley, Oakland, and Richmond.

Neuroscience Boot Camp, Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute, Berkeley, CA

- ❖ **Graduate Student Coordinator**, Fall 2018 – present
Organizes 10-day orientation program for incoming neuroscience graduate students.

Thriving in Science, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

- ❖ **Peer Group Facilitator**, Fall 2017 – Spring 2018
Led small group discussions among early-career researchers about mental health in academia.

Women in Science and Engineering, Brown University, Providence, RI

- ❖ **Mentor**, Fall 2014 – Spring 2016
Guided first-year cognitive science undergraduate through STEM curriculum and navigating challenges faced by women and underrepresented minorities.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

95.5 WBRU-FM, Providence, RI

- ❖ **Intern Director**, Rock Department, Fall 2016 – Spring 2017
- ❖ **Drive-Time Personality (DJ)**, Rock Department, Fall 2013 – Spring 2017

Office of Residential Life, Brown University, Providence, RI

- ❖ **Community Assistant**, Fall 2016 – Spring 2017
- ❖ **Woman Peer Counselor**, Fall 2014 – Spring 2016

Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP), Davidson, NC

- ❖ **Residential Counselor**, Summer 2014

Classic Rock School of Music, Orlando, FL

- ❖ **Piano/Violin Instructor**, Spring 2012 – Summer 2013