

Madeline H. Pelgrim

Website: <https://mpelgrim.github.io>

Last Updated: August 26, 2025

EDUCATION

Brown University

Doctor of Philosophy in Cognitive Science

Providence, RI

September 2020 - May 2026 (exp.)

Brown University

Master of Science in Cognitive Science

Providence, RI

September 2020 - May 2023

University of Toronto

Honors Bachelor of Science in Psychology & Biology with High Distinction

Toronto, ON, Canada

September 2015 - June 2019

TEACHING

Instructor

Cognitive Psychology, *Rhode Island School of Design*. Spring 2026 (scheduled).

Introduction to Psychology, *Bryant University*. Fall 2025

Psychology Across Species: Animal Cognition & Behavior, *Brown University Pre-College Program*, Summer 2022 - 2025.

Learning & Cognition, *Providence College*, Fall 2023.

Supervisory Teaching Assistant

Mind, Brain and Behavior: An Interdisciplinary Approach, *Brown University*, Fall 2022.

Teaching Assistant

Research Methods, *Brown University*, Spring 2023.

Children's Thinking: Asynchronous, *Brown University*, Summer 2022, 2023.

Children's Thinking, *Brown University*, Spring 2022.

Mind, Brain and Behavior: An Interdisciplinary Approach, *Brown University*, Fall 2021.

Guest Lectures

Statistical Methods *Brown University*, Fall 2024

Children's Thinking *Brown University*, Spring 2022, 2024

Senior Seminar on Canine Cognition *Occidental College*, Spring 2024

Research Methods *Brown University*, Spring 2023

Topics in Development: The Developmental and Evolutionary Origins of Mind *Brown University*, Fall 2022

Selected Professional Development

Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning (CIRTL): Associate Level, Certificate, An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching, Summer 2024 8 week course completed with distinction; Change Leadership for Inclusive Teaching and Learning, Summer 2024 5 week course.

Brown University Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning: Teaching Consultant Program, Fall 2024; Reflective Teaching Seminar Program, Fall 2022; Essentials for Graduate TA's, Fall 2021.

External Conferences: Teaching at Teaching Intensive Institutions Conference, 2024

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

*Undergraduate mentees indicated with underline

Pelgrim, M. H., Sundara Raman, S., Serre, T., & Buchsbaum, D. (2025) Evaluating Dogs' Real World Visual Environment and Attention. *Cognitive Science*, 49 (6), e70080

Pelgrim, M. H., Tidd, Z., Byrne, M., Johnston, A. M., & Buchsbaum, D. (2024) Synchronous citizen science with dogs. *Animal Cognition*, 27(1): 46.

ManyDogs Project, Espinosa, J., Stevens, J.R., Alberghina, D., Alway, H.E.E., Barela, J.D., Bogese, M., Bray, E.E., Buchsbaum, D., Byosiére, S.-E., Byrne, M., Cavalli, C. M., Chaudoir, L. M., Collins-Pisano, C., DeBoer, H.J., Douglas L.E.L.C., Dror, S., Dzik, M.V., Ferguson, B., Fisher, L., Fitzpatrick, H.C., Freeman, M.S., Frinton, S.N., Glover, M.K., Gnanadesikan, G.E., Goacher, J.E.P., Golańska, M., Guran, C.-N.A., Hare, E., Hare, B., Hickey, M., Horschler, D.J., Huber, L., Jim, H.-L., Johnston, A.M., Kaminski, J. Kelly, D.M., Kuhlmeier, V.A., Lassiter, L., Lazarowski, L., Leighton-Birch, J., MacLean, E.L., Maliszewska, K., Marra, V., Montgomery, L.I., Murray, M.S., Nelson, E.K., Ostojić, L., Palermo, S.G., Parks Russell, A.E., **Pelgrim, M.H.**, Pellowe, S.D., Reinholz, A., Rial, L.A., Richards, E.M., Ross, M.A., Rothkoff, L.G., Salomons, H., Sanger, J.K., Santos, L., Shirle, A.R., Shearer, S.J., Silver, Z.A., Silverman, J.M., Sommese, A., Srdoc, T., St. John-Mosse, H., Vega, A.C., Vékony, K., Völter, C.J., Walsh C.J., Worth, Y.A., Zipperling, L.M.I., Żołędzewska, B., & Zylberfuden, S.G. (2023) ManyDogs 1: A multi-lab replication study of dogs' pointing comprehension. *Animal Behavior & Cognition*, 10(3), 232-28.

ManyDogs Project, Alberghina, D., Bray, E.E., Buchsbaum, D., Byosiére, S.E., Espinosa, J., Gnanadesikan, G.E., Guran, A., Hare, E., Horschler, D.J., Huber, L., Kuhlmeier, V.A., MacLean, E.L., **Pelgrim, M.H.**, Perez, B., Ravid-Schurr, D., Rothkoff, L., Sexton, C.L., Silver, Z.A., & Stevens, J.R. (2023) ManyDogs Project: A Big Team Science Approach to Investigating Canine Behavior and Cognition. *Comparative Cognition & Behavior Reviews* 18, 59-77

Pelgrim, M. H., Espinosa, J., & Buchsbaum, D. (2022) Head-Mounted Mobile Eye-tracking in the Domestic Dog: A New Method. *Behavior Research Methods* 55, 1924-1941

Pelgrim, M. H., Espinosa, J., Tecwyn, E.C., Marton, S. M., Johnston, A.M., & Buchsbaum, D. (2021) What's the point? Domestic Dogs' understanding of the accuracy of human social informants. *Animal Cognition* 24, 281-297.

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Pelgrim M. H., He, I.X., Lee, K., Pabari, F., Tellex, S., Nguyen, T., & Buchsbaum, D. (2024). Find it like a dog: Using Gesture to Improve Object Search *Proceedings of the 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*

Pelgrim, M. H., Espinosa, J., & Buchsbaum, D. (2023) The Impact of Quality and Familiarity on Dogs' Food Preferences. *Proceedings of the 45th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*

Pelgrim, M. H., & Buchsbaum, D. (2022) Categorizing Dogs' Real World Visual Statistics. *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

MENTORSHIP

Senior Honors Thesis Mentor Brown University

- Tovi Portnow (2026) - "What does eye-tracking reveal about how toddlers use other's pointing cues when finding a hidden object?"
- Julia S. Ceccarelli (2026) - "Comparing Understanding of Solidity in Dogs and Dingoes"
- Lauren Bonner (2024) - "The Dog Days of Life: An Investigation into Factors that Impact Age-Related Cognitive and Behavioral Changes in Dogs"

- Sarah Zylberfuden (2022) "*Do Dogs Understand Pointing as a Social Communicative Gesture*"

Research Mentor *Brown Dog Lab* Brown University, 2020 - Present. Mentored undergraduate students in research practice, coding, and data analysis, and provided support with professional development. Includes 4 honors thesis students, 1 independent study student (2022), and 13 students funded through Brown's competitive Undergraduate Teaching and Research Award program.

Peer Mentor *International Student Orientation* Brown University, 2021-2025. Served as peer mentor to approximately 20 incoming international graduate students during orientation each year.

Research Mentor *Student Research Institute by the Harvard Undergraduate OpenBio Laboratory*. Summer 2025. Mentored an advanced high school student in conducting an independent research project.

Leadership Alliance Mentor *Carney Institute for Brain Science* Brown University. 2024. Provided research training and professional development mentorship to 1 student per year from an underrepresented background and from a historically Black college and universities or minority-serving institutions.

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee *CLPS Department, Brown University* 2024 - Present. Elected as departmental graduate student representative to serve on the undergraduate curriculum committee to discuss coursework, honors requirements, curriculum needs, and majors offered by the department.

Committee Member *CLPS Department Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan, Brown University* 2022-Present. Work on Curriculum Subcommittee to assess and improve the curriculum of CLPS Department courses through planning reading groups, syllabi surveys, and developing new courses.

Primary Scientific Member *Brown University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee* 2022 - Present. Conduct evaluations of animal care and use program, supervise and assess animal care and use activities, review and approve of institutional training programs

Assistant Director: Methods Development & Monitoring, *ManyDogs* 2022 - 2025. Leads committee to support ManyDogs projects implementing best practices in canine science research methods. Acts as spokesperson for the committee and provides regular updates to the Co-Directors about progress and problems.

Animal Research Compliance Advisory Group Member *Office of Research Integrity, Brown University*, 2021 - 2024. Collaborated and partner with animal research program stakeholders to promote positive animal welfare initiatives.

Graduate Representative *CLPS Department* Brown University, 2021-2022 Academic Year. Elected as one of two departmental representatives of graduate student body. Serve to bring student ideas and concerns to faculty and plan events like town-hall meetings, socials, and professional development seminars.

Meeting Organizer *Greater Toronto Area Animal Cognition Group* 2019 - 2020. Contacted and invited speakers from a wide range of disciplines and scheduled monthly meetings. Facilitated meetings, introducing speakers and moderating timing of discussion

Journal Reviewer *Animal Cognition, Developmental Science, Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Open Mind*

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

*Undergraduate mentees indicated with underline

Julia S. Ceccarelli, Carly F. Fisher, **Madeline H. Pelgrim**, & Daphna Buchsbaum. On a Roll: Physical Reasoning and the Understanding of Solidity in Dogs.

- 2025, Jul: Poster at the *Brown University Summer Research Symposium* in Providence, RI, USA

Pelgrim, M.H., He, I.X., Tellex, S., & Buchsbaum, D. Point comprehension in dogs and toddlers.

- 2025, Mar: Poster at the *33rd Annual International Conference of the Comparative Cognition Society* in Albuquerque, NM, USA

Pelgrim, M. H., He, I.X., Lee, K., Pabari, F., Tellex, S., Nguyen, T., & Buchsbaum, D. Find it like a dog: Using Gesture to Improve Object Search.

- 2024, Jul: Talk at the *46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* in Rotterdam, Netherlands

Pelgrim, M.H., He, I.X., Lee, K., Pabari, F., Tellex, S., Nguyen, T., & Buchsbaum, D. (2024, Jun)

- 2024, Jun: What's in a point? Quantifying dog guardian pointing gestures. Poster at the *Canine Science Conference* in Seattle, WA, USA

Ross, M., **Pelgrim, M. H.**, Malle, B., & Buchsbaum, D. What makes Lassie smart? Human Perceptions of Canine Intelligence.

- 2023, Apr: Poster at the *30th Annual International Conference of the Comparative Cognition Society* in Melbourne Beach, FL, USA
- 2024, Jun: Talk at the *Canine Science Conference* in Seattle, WA, USA

Pelgrim, M. H. & Buchsbaum, D. Categorizing Dogs' Real World Visual Statistics.

- 2022, Jul: Talk at the *44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* online and in Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2022, Oct: Talk at the *Canine Science Conference* in Hamilton, NY, USA
- 2023, Apr: Talk at the *30th Annual International Conference of the Comparative Cognition Society* in Melbourne Beach, FL, USA

Pelgrim, M., Espinosa, J., Buchsbaum, D. Impact of Value and Familiarity on Dogs' Food Preferences.

- 2022, Apr: Talk at the *29th Annual International Conference of the Comparative Cognition Society* online
- 2023, Jul: Poster at the *45th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* online & in Sydney, Australia

Gatesy-Davis, A., **Pelgrim, M.H.**, Buchsbaum, D. A Comparison of human trust in human and non-human agents.

- 2022, Apr: Poster at the *29th Annual International Conference of the Comparative Cognition Society* online
- 2022, Oct: Poster at the *Canine Science Conference* in Hamilton, NY, USA
- 2023, Apr: Poster at the *30th Annual International Conference of the Comparative Cognition Society* in Melbourne Beach, FL, USA

Pelgrim, M., Espinosa, J., Buchsbaum, D. Head Mounted Eye-Tracking In Dogs: A New Method.

- 2020, Feb: Talk at the *East Coast Canine Cognition Workshop* in New Haven, CT, USA
- 2021, Apr: Talk at the *28th Annual International Conference of the Comparative Cognition Society* online
- 2021, Jul: Talk at the *7th Biannual Canine Science Forum* online & in Lisbon, Portugal

ManyDogs, Espinosa, J., **Pelgrim, M.**, Byosiére S. The ManyDogs Project.

- 2021, Jul: Virtual round table at the *7th Biannual Canine Science Forum* online & in Lisbon, Portugal

Espinosa, J., Corbit, L., McGinn, K., **Pelgrim, M.**, Buchsbaum, D. Domestic dogs understanding of the temporal priority principle.

- 2020, Jul: Talk presented virtually at the *Animal Behaviour Society Virtual Meeting* online, originally scheduled to be in Knoxville, TN, USA
- 2020, Jul: Poster presented virtually at the *42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* online
- 2020, Sep: Talk presented virtually at the *University of Toronto's Ebbinghaus Empire Meeting* online.
- 2021, Jul: Virtual Talk at the *7th Biannual Canine Science Forum* online & in Lisbon, Portugal

Gnanadesikan, Gitanjali E., Julia Espinosa & **ManyDogs**. ManyDogs 1: An International Collaborative Approach to Pointing Comprehension in Domestic Dogs.

- 2021, Jan: Presented at the *Animal Behaviour Twitter Conference*.

Pelgrim, M., Espinosa, J., Tecwyn, E., Marton, S., Johnston, A., Buchsbaum, D. Domestic Dogs' understanding of the accuracy of human social informants.

- 2018, Nov: Talk at the *East Coast Canine Cognition Workshop* in New Haven, CT, USA.
- 2019, Jan: Talk at the *Arts and Sciences Student Union Undergraduate Research Conference* in Toronto, ON, Canada.
- 2019, Apr: Poster at the *26th Annual International Conference of the Comparative Cognition Society* in Melbourne Beach, FL, USA
- 2019, Jul: Poster at the *41st Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* in Montreal, QC, Canada
- 2019, Oct: Talk at the *Canine Science Conference* in Phoenix, AZ, USA
- 2021, Apr: Poster at the *Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Conference* online

Pelgrim, M., Espinosa, J., Tecwyn, E., Buchsbaum, D. Physical reasoning in the domestic dog: An exploration of solidity.

- 2017, Mar: *Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Poster Session*, Toronto, ON, Canada

INVITED TALKS & PANELS

University of California, Berkeley, Social Origins Lab, October 2024 *Find it Like a Dog*

Brown University Developmental Brown Bag, March 2024 *Evaluating Mechanisms of Selective Social Learning*

Brown University Departmental Undergraduate Group, November 2023, *Graduate School Panel*

Boston College Canine Cognition Center, March 2023. *What's that Dog Looking At?*

University of Toronto Student Recruitment Training, September 2019, *Introduction to Canine Cognition*.

University of Toronto International Counsellors Event, May 2019, *Research in Canine Cognition*

University of Toronto Psychology Student Association, November 2018, *Undergraduate Research*

HONORS AND FUNDING

NSERC Post-Graduate Scholarship - Doctoral, 2023-2026

Kuczaj Memorial Travel Grant, 2023. Comparative Cognition Society.

NIH Interdisciplinary Training in Computational, Cognitive, and Systems Neuroscience T32, 2022-2023.

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention, 2022.

Mary L. S. Downes Fund Fellowship, 2021-2022. Brown University.

Graduate Conference Travel Award, 2021, 2022, 2024. Brown University.

Betty R.H. and James M. Pickett Fellowship Fund for Psychology, 2020-2021. Brown University.

Arts and Science Student Union Travel Grant, 2019. University of Toronto.

NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award, 2018.

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

"What's Fido Thinking? Brown's canine cognition lab is not just a walk in the park." (October, 2024) Brown University Alumni Magazine.

"In Photos: U of T's Canine Cognition Lab, where dogs play and humans learn" (March, 2019) University of Toronto News.

"What does a Scientist Look Like?" (March, 2019) The Varsity, University of Toronto's Student Newspaper

"How do dogs learn? U of T undergrads look for answers"(March, 2017) University of Toronto News.