REBECCA MARTIN, PH.D.

Behavioral scientist with 14 years of experience investigating neural, cognitive, social, and emotional factors in learning and decision making across development. Author of 18 peer-reviewed publications, 4 articles for the general public, and over 36 invited talks and conference presentations. Recipient of 6 fellowship grants awarded by the NIH and Leon Levy Foundation. Passionate about conducting research that changes behavior in positive, high impact ways.

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🏛 EDUCATION

2017

Columbia University
Ph.D. Psychology   📍 New York, NY

• Dissertation: Influencing emotions: how brain development and social factors shape affective responses

2009

Harvard Graduate School of Education
M.Ed. Mind, Brain, and Education   📍 Cambridge, MA

2006

UC Santa Cruz
M.A.T. Secondary School Social Science Teaching   📍 Santa Cruz, CA

2003

New York University
B.A. History   📍 New York, NY

🖥 EXPERIENCE

2021 | Present

Research Director, Communication Neuroscience Lab
University of Pennsylvania   📍 Philadelphia, PA

• Manage multi-institutional, international research teams across academia, industry, and government on projects investigating health, climate, and behavior change
• Quickly adapted to new protocols and challenges due to the pandemic and got study up and running and collected data in record time
• Set up data structures, aggregated and analyzed large, complex data from multiple sources (brain, behavioral, survey, & population-level data)
• Communicate findings across levels including stakeholders, management, colleagues across disciplines, and general public

2017 | Present

Postdoctoral Fellow, Hartley Lab
New York University   📍 New York, NY

• Designed and ran multiple studies from end to end and managed team examining how exploration and learning changes with age using reinforcement learning modeling; led to 5 publications and proceedings
• Worked with cross-functional team of scientists, software engineers, UX designers, and teachers to develop large-scale citizen science online experiment platform product, mindHIVE, and accompanying curriculum for student-teacher-scientist collaborations; analyzed quantitative and qualitative data leading to 3+ publications

🔧 SKILLS

Experiment design
Quantitative & qualitative analysis
Project management
Science communication
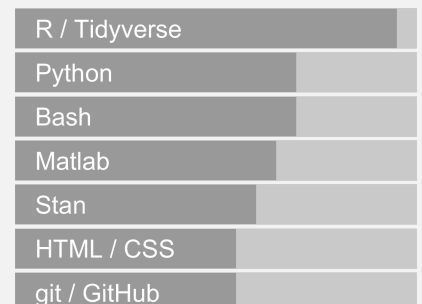Technical & non-technical writing
Teaching / mentorship

⚗ METHODS

Lab / field / online studies
Randomized control trials
Interventions
Structured interviews
Surveys
Magnetic resonance brain imaging
Psychophysiology inc. eye-tracking
Diary / EMA

📊 DATA ANALYSIS

Data visualization (e.g., ggplot2)
Linear & nonlinear modeling
Longitudinal & multilevel modeling
Bayesian data analysis (e.g., Stan)
Machine learning
Reinforcement learning
Data pipeline development

</> PROGRAMMING

R / Tidyverse
Python
Bash
Matlab
Stan
HTML / CSS
git / GitHub

2011
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2017

Graduate Research Fellow, Ochsner SCAN Lab
Columbia University   ◉ New York, NY

- Led multiple studies from start to finish on use of social norms interventions to regulate emotions and improve eating choices resulting in 3 publications and 11 conference presentations
- Led data collection and analysis of multi-institutional research team on two-wave longitudinal study investigating emotion-regulation development from childhood to adulthood resulting in 3+ publications and 4 conference presentations
- Lead instructor for 8 research methods courses totaling ~650 students; TA-ed 5 courses totaling ~600 students

2008
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2011

Technical Assistant, Gabrieli Lab
Massachusetts Institute of Technology   ◉ Cambridge, MA

- Conducted brain imaging research, recruitment, behavioral testing, literature reviews, data management and analysis, and grant writing for studies investigating executive functioning and memory development resulting in 6 publications and 10 conference presentations; Implemented marketing techniques that increased recruitment by 200%

2006
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2008

High School Teacher
Berkeley High School   ◉ Berkeley, CA

- Designed and taught 6 courses to 300 students of all skill levels for large, diverse urban public school

2004

AdWords Representative Temp
Google   ◉ Mountain View, CA

- Reviewed and edited advertisements for Google search result pages and partner sites

2004

Human Resources Assistant
Bevocal   ◉ Mountain View, CA

- Collaborated with chief counsel and CFO on due diligence; evaluated and organized system for improving HR records

🏅 SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS & SERVICE

2008
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2022

Academic Awards

- Postdoctoral NIH National Research Service Award Fellowship (2019-2022; scored in top 29th percentile)
- Leon Levy Neuroscience Fellowship (2018-2019)
- Institutional National Research Service Award Fellowship (2017)
- Predoctoral National Research Service Award Fellowship (2015-2017; scored in top 6th percentile)
- Won inaugural Edward E. Smith Award for accomplishments in Cognitive Neuroscience (2014)
- Elected Harvard Graduate School of Education Student Government Senator (2008-2009)
- Selected to be Harvard Class Commencement Marshal (2009)

1996
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2020

Misc

- Olympic Training Squad, US National Team Member, and world-ranked synchronized swimmer (1996-2001)
- Selected to be Research and Production Intern at Saturday Night Live (2002-2003)
- Wrote adolescent advocacy policy briefs (Raise the Age, Miranda Rights) with Scientist Action and Advocacy Network
- Science outreach volunteer: gave neuroscience talks to local schools and organized science expos (2008-2020)
- Mentored 27 students and research staff