

Kathy Garcia

Email: kgarci18@jh.edu

LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/kathy-garcia-01](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kathy-garcia-01)

Last updated: July 2024

EDUCATION

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 2022 - Present | Johns Hopkins University
Ph.D. in Computational Cognitive Science GPA: 4.0/4.0
M.A. in Computational Cognitive Science 2024 GPA: 4.0/4.0
Advisor: Leyla Isik |
| 2013 - 2017 | Stanford University
B.S. in Science, Technology, and Society |

EXPERIENCE

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 2022 - Present | Graduate Researcher Computational Cognitive Neuroscience Lab
<i>Johns Hopkins University</i>
PI: Leyla Isik
Exploring computational models for dynamic and social visual perception by assessing diverse Deep Neural Networks (DNNs) against the lateral visual stream's response to naturalistic videos, and analyzing their hierarchical alignment with brain regions like the superior temporal sulcus (STS). |
| 2020 - 2021 | Research Fellow NU-IN Postbaccalaureate Research Research Program
<i>Northwestern University</i>
PI: Robin Nusslock
Developed machine learning models for predicting dimensional symptoms of psychopathology from task-based fMRI using support vector regression, and clustering dimensional symptoms of psychopathology and related cognitive effects. |
| 2019 - 2020 | Staff Research Associate TMS Clinic and Research Program
<i>University of California, Los Angeles</i>
PIs: Andrew Leuchter, David Krantz, Kate Marder, Reza Tadayon-Nejad
Assisted in clinical and technical procedures to facilitate doctors and researchers to provide repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS) treatment, and pioneered an automated data processing algorithm to reduce patient data processing time from 20 minutes to 1 second per patient while eliminating human error. |

2017 - 2018 **Data Scientist & KDB+/Q Engineer | KX Systems/First Derivatives**
 Collaborated with a team of consultants to implement kdb+/q framework for major US financial institutions, migrating an existing multi-region financial trade data capture and enrichment system involving combined static and real-time data source handling.

INVITED TALKS

- 2024 **Garcia, K.**, Conwell, C., McMahon, E., Bonner, M.F., Isik, L. **Modeling Dynamic Social Vision Reveals Gaps Between Deep Learning and the Human Brain**. Talk presentation at the upcoming annual meeting for Computational Cognitive Neuroscience (CCN): August 2024
- 2024 **Garcia, K.**, Conwell, C., McMahon, E., Bonner, M.F., Isik, L. **Modeling Dynamic Social Vision Reveals Gaps Between Deep Learning and the Human Brain**. Talk presentation at the annual meeting for the International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), LatinX in AI Workshop: July 2024
- 2024 **Garcia, K.**, Conwell, C., McMahon, E., Bonner, M.F., Isik, L. **Large-scale Deep Neural Network Benchmarking in Dynamic Social Vision**. Talk presentation at the annual meeting for the Vision Sciences Society (VSS): May 2024
- 2024 **Garcia, K.**, Conwell, C., McMahon, E., Bonner, M.F., Isik, L. **Large-scale Deep Neural Network Benchmarking in Dynamic Social Vision**. Brown bag talk at the Johns Hopkins University, Department of Cognitive Science: April 2024
- 2020 **Garcia, K.** Review Discussion on MVPA Methods, Principles of fMRI Course, Evanston, IL. Oral Presentation: July 2020
- 2019 **Garcia, K.** & Pace, C. Brain and Emotions for Children, Universidad National Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM), Los Angeles, CA. Oral Presentation: 2019

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 **Garcia, K.**, Conwell, C., McMahon, E., Bonner, M.F., Isik, L. **Modeling Dynamic Social Vision Reveals Gaps Between Deep Learning and the Human Brain**. Poster to be presented at the upcoming annual meeting for the Computational Cognitive Neuroscience Conference (CCN): August 2024
- 2024 **Garcia, K.**, Conwell, C., McMahon, E., Bonner, M.F., Isik, L. **Modeling Dynamic Social Vision Reveals Gaps Between Deep Learning and the Human Brain**. Poster presented at the annual meeting for the International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), LatinX in AI Workshop: July 2024

2021 **Garcia, K.**, Anderson, Z., Chat, I. K., Damme, K., Bookheimer, S.Y., Zinbarg, R., & Craske, M., Nusslock, R. Predicting Dimensional Symptoms of Psychopathology from Task-Based fMRI using Support Vector Regression. Poster presented at the annual meeting for the Society for Neuroscience (SFN): January 2021

HONORS, AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

2024 ICML 2024 LatinX in AI Workshop Best Oral Presentation Award
 2024 National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship
 2024 Females of Vision et al. (FoVea) Travel and Networking Award
 2022 Johns Hopkins University Keller Miller Fellowship
 2020 Northwestern University Interdepartmental Neuroscience Research Fellowship
 2017 Stanford University El Centro Latino Acknowledgement Undergraduate with Academic Honors
 2016 Bay Area Graduate Pathways to STEM Symposium Trainee
 2016 Stanford University Leadership Intensive Program Recipient
 2013 Miguel Contreras Learning Complex Valedictorian
 2013 Carnegie Mellon Celebration of Diversity Weekend Travel Awardee
 2012 QuestBridge College Prep Scholar

TEACHING

Spring 2024 Johns Hopkins University
 Role: Teaching Assistant
 Course: Cognitive Neuropsychology of Visual Perception
 Lecture Instructor: Michael McCloskey
Prepared and graded exams and assignments

Fall 2023 Johns Hopkins University
 Role: Teaching Assistant
 Course: Cognitive Neuroimaging Methods in High-Level Vision
 Lecture Instructor: Donald Li
Prepared and graded quizzes and assignments

Spring 2023 Johns Hopkins University
 Role: Teaching Assistant

Course: Reading the Mind: Computational Cognitive Neuroscience of Vision
Lecture Instructor: Donald Li
Prepared and graded quizzes and assignments

Fall 2020 Splash at Northwestern University
Role: Teacher
Designed, programmed, and instructed an introductory course and exploration to high school students on the facets of recreating human intelligence in artificial systems through guiding principles in neuroscience, cognitive science, and artificial intelligence, with a focus on limitations, progress, and emerging methods.

SERVICE & OUTREACH

2023 - Present **Student Lead | Diversity and Representation Committee (DRC)**
Department of Cognitive Science, Johns Hopkins University
Organized and facilitated departmental initiatives aimed at increasing representation and promoting equity for individuals from minoritized groups at every level within the department, making the department climate more welcoming and safe for everyone, especially underrepresented groups in science, and taking school-wide and university-wide action to support anti-racist groups and policies.

2022 - Present **Student Representative | Graduate Representative Organization (GRO)**
Johns Hopkins University
Student representative for the Department of Cognitive Science

2016 - 2017 **Intern Volunteer | Youth Policy Institute**
Partnership with Stanford HAAS Center for Public Service
Advisor: Dixon Slingerland
Fostered STEM learning environments for children across low-income communities of Los Angeles in areas such as health & wellness and computer science by introducing many to logical online games that provide the basis for computer programming

2016 - 2017 **Member | Stanford Latinos Unidos**
Stanford University
Organized community outreach programs across the university to cultivate a more inclusive, diverse, and united Latinx community on campus, through social and cultural events about the various Latin American celebrations, our rich history, literature, art, and diverse community.

2016 - 2017 **Co-Founder & President | Stanford Latinx Business Association**
Stanford University

Created and facilitated a student group focused on promoting diversity in corporations by building partnerships, finding community, and providing mentorship for underrepresented minorities, with a particular focus on members of the Latinx community who are interested in business, technology, and engineering.