CLARA E. HAEFFNER

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EDUCATION & TRAINING

2025 - present **Yale University**
PhD Student, Cognitive Psychology
Brains, Minds, & Machines Certificate
Advisor: Robb B. Rutledge, PhD

2023 - 2025 **National Institute of Mental Health**
Postbaccalaureate Intramural Research Training Award Fellow
Advisor: Silvia Lopez-Guzman, PhD, MD

2019 - 2023 **University of Wisconsin-Madison**
BS in Neurobiology (with Comprehensive Honors)
Honors Thesis: *Associations between lifetime stressor severity, amygdala and hippocampal volumes, and the acute stress response.*
Advisor: Stacey M. Schaefer, PhD

GRANTS

2026 **Wu Tsai Institute Activity Grant, Yale University** ($2000)
Awarded for: Yale Computational Psychiatry Graduate Consortium

2023 **Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation** ($159000)
Title: *The Impact of Uncontrollable Stress and Reappraisal on Decision-Making: A Naturalistic Investigation Using Artificial Intelligence and Ecological Momentary Assessment*

AWARDS AND HONORS

2025 Sterling Prize, Yale University ($7000)
2025 Chancellor's Fellowship, University of California Berkeley ($37000; declined)
Awarded to selected prospective graduate students
2024 Postbaccalaureate Poster Day Outstanding Poster Award, National Institutes of Health
2024 Award to Mentor a Summer Intern, National Institutes of Health
2019 - 2023 Dean's List, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2021 Rothschild Study Abroad Scholarship ($1250), University of Wisconsin-Madison
2021 Scandinavian Scholars Award ($100), University of Wisconsin-Madison
2019 Bucky's Non-Resident Tuition Scholarship ($136000), University of Wisconsin-Madison

PUBLICATIONS

* denotes co-authorship

Henry, L. M., Pandya, U., Malone, E., Miller, C., Agyemang, S., Tandilashvili, E., Lewis, K., **Haeffner, C. E.**, Lee, K., Livinski, A., Kiderman, M., Naim, R., Metcalf, O., Lopez-Guzman, S., Brotman, M. A. (2024). Adherence to ecological momentary assessment studies in children and adolescents with psychopathology: A systematic review with meta-analysis. *Nature Neuropsychopharmacology-Digital Psychiatry and Neuroscience.*

Henry, L. M.*, Blay-Tofey, M.*, **Haeffner, C. E.,** Raymond, C. N., Tandilashvili, E., Terry, N., Kiderman, M. Metcalf, O., Brotman, M. A., Lopez-Guzman, S. (2025). Just-in-time adaptive interventions to

promote behavioral health: Protocol for a systematic review. *Journal for Medical Internet Research Protocols*. http://dx.doi.org/10.2196/58917

Henry, L. M., Pandya, U., Malone, E., Miller, C., Agyemang, S., Tandilashvili, E., Lewis, K., **Haeffner, C. E.**, Lee, K., Livinski, A., Kiderman, M., Naim, R., Metcalf, O., Lopez-Guzman, S., Brotman, M. A. (2024). Adherence with ecological momentary assessment studies in children and adolescents with psychopathology: A protocol for a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Nature Neuropsychopharmacology-Digital Psychiatry and Neuroscience.* https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.25732482.v1

Haeffner, C. E., Barretto-Garcia, M., Lopez-Guzman, S. (2024). Choice Stochasticity and Cognitive Imprecision Across Value Tasks. *Conference Proceedings of the Cognitive Computational Neuroscience Conference.* https://2024.ccneuro.org/pdf/59_Paper_authored_ccn_authors_2024.pdf

PUBLICATIONS IN PREP

* denotes co-authorship

Haeffner, C. E.*, Higgins, E. T.*, Laubacher, C. M., Gresham, L. K., Nord, E., Barnes, A. L., Skinner, S., Abercrombie, H. C., Rosenkranz, M. A., Davidson, R. J., Slavich, G. M., Schaefer, S. M. (*in prep*). Associations among lifetime stressor severity, amygdala and hippocampal volume, and the acute stress response.

Haeffner, C. E., Garcia, M., Hartley, C.A., Lopez-Guzman, S. (*in prep*). Choice stochasticity and cognitive imprecision across value-based tasks.

INVITED TALKS

Haeffner, C. E. (2026, September 11). Depression symptoms are associated with increased loss aversion. First Year Symposium, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

Haeffner, C. E. (2026, April 15). Risky decision-making across symptom severity in depression. Computational Clinical Science Lab, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

Haeffner, C. E. (2024, April 17). Emotional intelligence and decision-making under uncertainty following acute stress: A potentially moderating role. Translational Addiction Medicine Branch, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Baltimore, MD.

Haeffner, C. E. (2023, October 11). Climate change, stress, and substance use: Will the emerging climate crisis increase use? Decision-making insights. Translational Addiction Medicine Branch, NIDA, Baltimore, MD.

Haeffner, C. E. (2023, April 14). Associations between lifetime stressor exposure, brain stress circuitry, and cortisol responses to acute stress. Honors College of Letters and Sciences Senior Honors Thesis Symposium, Madison, WI.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

* denotes advisee

Haeffner, C. E., & Rutledge, R. B. (2026, October 9–11). Distinct depression symptom dimensions predict risk and loss aversion. *Society for Neuroeconomics*, New Haven, CT.

Haeffner, C. E., & Rutledge, R. B. (2026, July 14–16). Distinct depression symptom dimensions predict risk and loss aversion. *Computational Psychiatry Conference*, New Haven, CT.

Erkan, C. N., Pandya, U., Malone, E., Miller, C., Agyemang, S., Tandilashvili, E., Lewis, K., **Haeffner, C. E.**, Gu, G., Trowbridge, S., Trudeau, J., Meigs, J. M., Lee, K., Livinski, A. A., Kiderman, M., Gandjbakhche, A. H., Naim, R., Metcalf, O., Lopez-Guzman, S., Pine, D. S., Brotman, M. A., & Henry, L. M. (2026, April 9–11). Real-time, real challenges: A systematic review with meta-analysis of EMA adherence in youth with psychological disorders. *Anxiety and Depression Association of America Conference*, Chicago, IL.

Trudeau, J. H., Kao, C.-H., **Haeffner, C. E.**, Trowbridge, S. M., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2025, November 15). Relating emotional monitoring and control to metacognition and choice behavior in risky decision-making. *Society for Neuroscience*, San Diego, CA.

Trudeau, J. H., **Haeffner, C. E.**, Hassan, F., Trowbridge, S. M., Kao, C.-H., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2025, October 3). Computational measures of metacognition for risk and their relation to emotional monitoring and control. *Society for Neuroeconomics*, Boston, MA.

Trowbridge, S. M., Trudeau, J. H., **Haeffner, C. E.**, Kao, C., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2025, October 3). Emotional control predicts changes in decision-making under negative affect. *Society for Neuroeconomics*, Boston, MA.

Trudeau, J. H., **Haeffner, C. E.**, Hassan, F., Trowbridge, S., Kao, C.-H., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2025, May 9). Computational measures of metacognition for risk and their relation to emotional monitoring and control. *NIH Postbaccalaureate Poster Day*, Bethesda, MD.

Haeffner, C. E., Higgins, E. T., Laubacher, C. M., Gresham, L. K., Nord, E., Barnes, A. L., Skinner, S. E., Abercrombie, H. C., Rosenkranz, M. A., Davidson, R. J., Slavich, G. M., & Schaefer, S. M. (accepted). Associations between lifetime stressor severity, amygdala and hippocampal volumes, and the acute stress response. *Society for Affective Science*, Portland, OR.

Lopez-Guzman, S., **Haeffner, C. E.**, Raymond, C., Blay-Tofey, Morkeh. (2024, December 7–11). Trait- and state-dependent multidimensional computational phenotyping. *American College of Neuropsychopharmacology*, Phoenix, AZ.

Haeffner, C. E., Barretto-Garcia, M., Hartley, C. A., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2024, October 8–13). Choice stochasticity and cognitive imprecision across value tasks. *Society for Neuroeconomics*, Cascais, Portugal.

Haeffner, C. E., Renfro, A. G., Blay-Tofey, M., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2024, September 30). Emotional intelligence and the impact of acute stress on decision-making. *Inaugural Hispanic Heritage Neuroscience Symposium*, Washington, DC. Presented by Lopez-Guzman.

Haeffner, C. E., Renfro, A. G., Blay-Tofey, M., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2024, September 16). Emotional intelligence and the impact of acute stress on decision-making. *NIMH Fellows' Scientific Training Day*, Washington, DC.

Haeffner, C. E., Barretto-Garcia, M., Hartley, C. A., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2024, August 6–9). Choice stochasticity and cognitive imprecision across value tasks. *Cognitive Computational Neuroscience Conference*, Cambridge, MA.

Hassan, F., **Haeffner, C. E.**, & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2024, August 2). Towards a comprehensive understanding of the relationship between metacognition and emotional awareness. *NIH Summer Poster Day*, Bethesda, MD.

Haeffner, C. E., Raymond, C. R., Renfro, A. G., Blay-Tofey, M., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2024, July 16–18). Emotional intelligence may moderate the impact of stress on decision-making under uncertainty. *Computational Psychiatry Conference*, Minneapolis, MN.

Haeffner, C. E., Raymond, C. R., Renfro, A. G., Blay-Tofey, M., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2024, May 1). Emotional intelligence may moderate the impact of stress on decision-making. *NIH Postbaccalaureate Poster Day*, Washington, DC. **Received Outstanding Poster Award.**

Raymond, C. R., **Haeffner, C. E.**, Renfro, A. G., Blay-Tofey, M., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2024, May 1). The effect of urban life stress on economic decision-making. *NIH Postbaccalaureate Poster Day*, Washington, DC.

Haeffner, C. E., Higgins, E. T., Laubacher, C. M., Gresham, L. K., Nord, E., Barnes, A. L., Abercrombie, H. C., Rosenkranz, M. A., Davidson, R. J., Slavich, G. M., & Schaefer, S. M. (2023, November 11–15). Associations among lifetime stressor exposure, amygdala and hippocampal volume, and the acute stress response. *Society for Neuroscience*, Washington, DC.

Lewis, K., Henry, L. M., Pandya, U., Malone, E., Miller, C., Agyemang, S., Tandilashvili, E., **Haeffner, C. E.**, Lee, K., Livinski, A., Kiderman, M., Naim, R., Metcalf, O., Lopez-Guzman, S., & Brotman, M. A. (2023, September 29). A systematic literature review on EMA adherence in youth with psychopathology. *NIMH Fellows' Scientific Training Day*, Washington, DC.

Haeffner, C. E., Raymond, C. R., Renfro, A. G., Pizarro, R. A., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2023, September 29). Within-participant impacts of acute stress on risky and ambiguous decision-making. *NIMH Fellows' Scientific Training Day*, Washington, DC.

Raymond, C. N., **Haeffner, C. E.**, Guardo-Maya, S., Renfro, A. G., Pizarro, R. A., Kiderman, M., Blay-Tofey, M., & Lopez-Guzman, S. (2023, September 13). Uncovering the mechanisms behind altered decision-making in mental health to inform intervention. *NIMH 75th Anniversary Kick-Off: The Evolution of Mental Health Research*, Bethesda, MD. Presented by Raymond due to illness.

Haeffner, C. E., Higgins, E. T., Laubacher, C. M., Gresham, L. K., Nord, E., Barnes, A. L., Abercrombie, H. C., Rosenkranz, M. A., Davidson, R. J., Slavich, G. M., & Schaefer, S. M. (2023, April 28). Associations between lifetime stressor exposure, brain stress circuitry, and the acute stress response. *Undergraduate Research Symposium*, Madison, WI.

Haeffner, C. E., Higgins, E. T., Laubacher, C. M., Gresham, L. K., Nord, E., Barnes, A. L., Abercrombie, H. C., Rosenkranz, M. A., Davidson, R. J., Slavich, G. M., & Schaefer, S. M. (2023, April 17). Associations between lifetime stressor exposure, brain stress circuitry, and the acute stress response. *Wisconsin Symposium on Emotion*, Madison, WI.

TEACHING

2027 Lecturer, Computational Psychiatry Consortium Interest Group, Yale University
2027 Lecturer, YBDIC Computational Seminar Series, Yale University
2026 Teaching Fellow, PSYC 2358: Computational Modeling in Decision-Making, Yale University
2022 Peer Tutor, STAT 371: Statistics for Life Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison

MENTORSHIP

2025-2026 Reena Wong, Yale Sneak Peek Mentorship Program
2026 Marcel Liu, CalTech Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship
2025-2026 Reena Wong, Yale Sneak Peek Mentorship Program
2024 Faraz Hassan, NIH Undergraduate Scholarship Program

Other Mentorship

2025 - present Mentor, Yale Sneak Peek Mentorship Program

SERVICE

2026-present	Lead Organizer, Computational Psychiatry Consortium Interest Group, Yale University
2026-present	Cognitive Current Works Student Organizing Committee
2025 - present	Member, Psychology Department DEI Committee, Yale University
2026	Local Organizer & Student Committee Lead, Computational Psychiatry Conference
2026	Reviewer, Wu Tsai Undergraduate Summer Fellowship, Yale University
2026	Co-Lead, Yale Cognitive Area Interview Day
2023 - 2025	Reviewer, James S. Jackson Memorial Award, National Institute of Mental Health
2023 - 2025	Member, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Group, National Institute of Mental Health
2023 - 2025	Member, Emotion and Development Branch Outreach Team, National Institute of Mental Health
2022 - 2023	Presenter, Antiracism and Action in Neuroscience, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2021 - 2023	Co-Founder, Brainy Book Club, University of Wisconsin-Madison

AD-HOC REVIEW

* denotes co-reviewer

Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*
Nature Human Behavior*
PLOS Computational Biology*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

2026	Society for Computational Psychiatry
2024, 2026	Society for Neuroeconomics
2025	Society for Affective Science
2023	Society for Psychophysiological Research
2023	Society for Neuroscience

OTHER TRAINING

2025 New York Computational Psychiatry Workshop