

Eric J. Pedersen

Curriculum Vitae

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Address: Department of Psychology and Neuroscience
University of Colorado Boulder
345 UCB
Boulder, CO 80309-0345
Email: eric.j.pedersen@colorado.edu
Phone: (303) 735-5372
Website: www.colorado.edu/lab/esc

EDUCATION

2015 Ph.D. in Psychology, University of Miami
Emphasis: Evolution and Behavior
2012 M.S. in Psychology, University of Miami
2010 B.A. in Psychology, University of California, Santa Barbara

EMPLOYMENT

2017 – Present Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience
University of Colorado Boulder
2015 – 2017 Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology
University of Miami
2016 – 2017 Lecturer, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

FUNDED GRANTS

2018 - 2020 *A Planning Project to Uncover the Cognitive and Cultural Foundations of Gratitude*. John Templeton Foundation. Role: Co-PI (\$217,399)
2015 *Gratitude: Evolved Function and Computational Structure*. John Templeton Foundation/University of California at Berkeley Greater Good Science Center Gratitude Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$147,624)

- 2012 *Third-Party versus Second-Party Punishment: What's the difference?* American Psychological Association of Graduate Students (APAGS) Basic Psychological Science Research Grant (\$1000)
- 2011 *Bystander Punishment: Are Humans Motivated to Punish as Third Parties?* NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
- 2011 University of Miami, Department of Psychology Fred C. and Helen Donn Flipse Research Support Fund (\$1000)

AWARDS

- 2014 University of Miami, Department of Psychology S. T. Calvin Award for Excellence in the Application of Statistical Methods

PUBLICATIONS

- McAuliffe, W. H. B., Forster, D. E., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & McCullough, M. E. (2018). Experience with anonymous interactions reduces intuitive cooperation. *Nature Human Behaviour*.
- McAuliffe, W. H. B., Forster, D. E., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & McCullough, M. E. (2018). Does cooperation in the laboratory reflect the operation of a broad trait? *European Journal of Personality*.
- Simpson, E. A., Paukner, A., **Pedersen, E. J.**, Ferrari, P., & Parr, L. A. (2018). Visual preferences for direct gaze faces in infant macaques (*Macaca mulatta*) with limited face exposure. *Developmental Psychobiology*.
- Meltzoff, A. N., Murray, L., Simpson, E. A., Heimann, M., Nagy, E., Nadel, J, **Pedersen, E. J.**, Brooks, R., Messinger, D. S., De Pascalis, L., Subiaul, F., Paukner, A., & Ferrari, P. (2018). Eliciting imitation in early infancy. *Developmental Science*.
- Pedersen, E. J.**, McAuliffe, W. H. B., & McCullough, M. E. (2018). The unresponsive avenger: More evidence that disinterested third parties do not punish altruistically. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*.
- Smith, A., **Pedersen, E. J.**, Forster, D. E., McCullough, M. E., & Lieberman, D. (2017). Cooperation: The roles of interpersonal value and gratitude. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 38(6), 695-703.
- Meltzoff, A. N., Murray, L., Simpson, E. A., Heimann, M., Nagy, E., Nadel, J, **Pedersen, E. J.**, Brooks, R., Messinger, D. S., De Pascalis, L., Subiaul, F., Paukner, A., & Ferrari, P.

- (2017). Re-examination of Oostenbroek et al. (2016) – Evidence for Neonatal Imitation of Tongue Protrusion. *Developmental Science*.
- Paukner, A., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & Simpson, E. A. (2017). Testing the arousal hypothesis of neonatal imitation in infant rhesus macaques. *PLoS ONE*, 12(6), e0178864.
- Forster, D. E., **Pedersen, E. J.**, Smith, A., Lieberman, D., & McCullough, M. E. (2017). Benefit valuation predicts gratitude. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 38, 18-26.
- Carter, E. C., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & McCullough, M. E. (2015). Reassessing impulsive choice: Human decision-making is more optimal in a foraging task than in a self-control task. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 6, 95.
- Pedersen, E. J.**, Forster, D. E., & McCullough, M. E. (2014). Life history, code of honor, and emotional responses to inequality in an economic game. *Emotion*, 14, 920-929.
- McCullough, M. E., **Pedersen, E. J.**, Tabak, B. A., & Carter, E. C. (2014). Conciliatory gestures promote forgiveness and reduce anger in humans. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 111, 12111-12116.
- Tabak, B. A., McCullough, M. E., Carver, C. S., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & Cuccaro, M. L. (2013). Variation in oxytocin receptor gene (OXTR) polymorphisms is associated with emotional and behavioral reactions to betrayal. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 9, 810-816.
- Pedersen, E. J.**, Kurzban, R., & McCullough, M. E. (2013). Do humans *really* punish altruistically? A closer look. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 280(1758).
- Pedersen, E. J.**, Smith, A., & Lieberman, D. (2013). Evolutionary psychology. In R. J. McGee & R. L. Warme (Eds.) *Theory in Social and Cultural Anthropology: An Encyclopedia*, (pp. 246-250). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- McCullough, M. E. & **Pedersen, E. J.** (2013). The evolution of generosity: How natural selection builds devices for benefit delivery. *Social Research*, 80, 387-410.
- McCullough, M. E., **Pedersen, E. J.**, Schroder, J., Tabak, B. A., & Carver, C. S. (2012). Harsh childhood environmental characteristics predict exploitation and retaliation in humans. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 280(1750).
- Krasnow, M. M., Cosmides, L., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & Tooby, J. (2012). What are punishment and reputation for? *PLoS ONE* 7(9): e45662.

INVITED TALKS

When and why do third parties punish on behalf of others? Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, University of Colorado Boulder, February, 2017.

Beyond economic games: Do third parties punish in more realistic settings? Annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Evolutionary Psychology Preconference, San Diego, CA, January, 2016.

What is the function of third-party punishment in humans? Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, University of California, Santa Barbara, January, 2015.

Second-party and third-party punishment: An adaptationist view. Nuffield College Sociology Seminar Series, University of Oxford, April, 2014.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

McAuliffe, W. H. B., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & McCullough, M. E. (2018, March). *Cognitive models underlying inconsistent gender differences in self-reported empathy.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

Simpson, E. A., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & Paukner (2017, November). *Testing the arousal hypothesis of neonatal imitation in rhesus macaques.* Paper presented at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology, Washington DC.

Simpson, E. A., Paukner, A., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & Parr, L. A. (2017, April). *Visual preferences for direct gaze faces in infant monkeys with limited face exposure.* Paper presented at the Face Processing Pre-Conference, Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Austin, TX.

Pedersen, E. J., McAuliffe, W. H. B., & McCullough, M. E. (2017, January). *Does the third-party punishment game actually measure altruistic punishment?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX.

McCullough, M. E., McAuliffe, W. H. B., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & Forster, D. E. (2017, January). *An evaluation of the psychometric properties of the dictator game and trust game.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX.

McCullough, M. E., Forster, D. E., & **Pedersen, E. J.** (2016, September). *Apologies and compensation promote forgiveness by reducing perceived exploitation risk and increasing perceived relationship value: Longitudinal and experimental results.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Experimental Social Psychology, Santa Monica, CA.

- Pedersen, E. J.**, Forster, D. E., McCullough, M. E., & Lieberman, D. (2016, June). *A computational approach to gratitude: The roles of benefit delivery and welfare valuation*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Vancouver, BC.
- McCullough, M. E., Burnette, J., & **Pedersen, E. J.** (2016, June). *People selectively forgive valuable transgressors and low-risk transgressors*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Vancouver, BC.
- McCullough, M. E., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & McAuliffe, W. H. B. (2016, January). *The unresponsive bystander: Why doesn't he retaliate?* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.
- Pedersen, E. J.**, Krasnow, M. M., Cosmides, L., & Tooby, J. (2015, May). *Whom to trust and punish? How reputation is used in cooperation*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, New York, NY.
- Pedersen, E. J.**, Forster, D. E., & McCullough, M. E. (2015, May). *Individual differences in endorsement of the code of honor: A life history perspective*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Columbia, MO.
- McAuliffe, W. H. B., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & McCullough, M. E. (2015, May). Do third parties punish on behalf of strangers? Is it motivated by moral outrage? Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Columbia, MO.
- Forster, D. E., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & McCullough, M. E. (2015, May). Are smiles reliable due to receiver-dependent costs? Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Columbia, MO.
- Pedersen, E. J.**, McAuliffe, W. H. B., Shah, Y., & McCullough, M. E. (2014, July). *Welfare interdependence and the regulation of third-party punishment*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Natal, Brazil.
- Forster, D. E., **Pedersen, E. J.**, Smith, A., Lieberman, D., & McCullough, M. E. (2014, July). *Relationship value as a predictor of gratitude in response to benefit delivery*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Natal, Brazil.
- Pedersen, E. J.** & McCullough, M. E. (2014, May). *Piling on: When and why do humans involve themselves in other people's conflicts?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, San Francisco, CA.
- Diaz, K.I., Shaw, A.M., **Pedersen, E.J.**, & Timpano, K.R. (2014, March). *Anxiety sensitivity and distress tolerance as predictors of acquisition behavior: The role of emotional intolerance in an online shopping paradigm*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, Chicago, IL.

- Shaw, A. M., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & Timpano, K. R. (2014, March) *Hoarding and sadness: Does depressed mood predict saving and acquiring tendencies?* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, Chicago, IL.
- Pedersen, E. J.**, Krasnow, M. M., Cosmides, L., & Tooby, J. (2014, February). *Whom to trust and punish? How reputation is used in cooperation.* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Austin, TX.
- McCullough, M. E., Hone, L. S. E., Carter, E. C., & **Pedersen, E. J.** (2014, February). *Religious beliefs: Comparing reproductive religiosity theory and religious prosociality theory.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Austin, TX.
- Witcraft, S. M., Shaw, A. M., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & Timpano, K. R. (2013, October) *The relationship between trauma and hoarding symptoms.* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Advancement of Chicano and Native Americans in Science, San Antonio, Texas.
- Pedersen, E. J.**, Kurzban, R., & McCullough, M. E. (2013, July). *Do humans really punish altruistically? A closer look.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Miami, FL.
- Carter, E. C., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & McCullough, M. E. (2013, July). *The ecological rationality of intertemporal choice in humans: Long-term rate maximization is context dependent.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Miami, FL.
- Forster, D. E., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & McCullough, M. E. (2013, July). *Examining the relationship between code of honor and anger at unfairness in the third-party punishment game.* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Miami, FL.
- Smith, A., Liberman, D., **Pedersen, E. J.**, Forster, D. E., & McCullough, M. E. (2013, July). *Gratitude and interpersonal welfare valuation.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Miami, FL.
- Hone, L. S. E., McCullough, M. E., Carter, E. C., & **Pedersen, E. J.** (2013, July). *Religious cognition increases endorsements of sexual (but not cooperative) morality.* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Miami, FL.
- Tabak, B. A., McCullough, M. E., Carver, C. S., **Pedersen, E. J.**, & Cuccaro, M. L. (2013, January). *Variation in oxytocin receptor gene (OXTR) polymorphisms is associated with emotional and behavioral reactions to betrayal.* Paper presented at the Social Neuroendocrinology Preconference of the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.

Pedersen, E. J., McCullough, M. E., Schroder, J., Tabak, B. A., & Carver, C. S. (2012, June). *Childhood Exposure to Neglect, Conflict, and Crime Predict Unprovoked and Retaliatory Defection in an Iterated Prisoner's Dilemma*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Albuquerque, NM.

Pedersen, E. J., McCullough, M. E., & Tabak, B. A. (2011, January). *Neuroendocrine correlates of perceived relationship value and exploitation risk in victims of recent interpersonal transgressions*. Poster presented at the Evolutionary Psychology Preconference of the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX.

Krasnow, M. M., **Pedersen, E. J.,** Tooby, J., & Cosmides, L. (2010, June). *What are punishment and reputation for? Critical tests*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Eugene, OR.

DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

Sound Statistical Practices. Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, January, 2017.

An Introduction to Regression Models for Counts and Zero-Inflated Data. Department of Psychology S. T. Calvin Lecture, University of Miami, October, 2015.

TEACHING

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| 2018 | PSYC 5741/5751: General Statistics, University of Colorado Boulder |
| 2018 | PSYC 2606: Social Psychology, University of Colorado Boulder |
| 2016, 2017 | PIBS 705: Biostatistics for Biosciences, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine |
| 2012 | PSY 204: Introduction to Biobehavioral Statistics, University of Miami |

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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| 2017 - 2019 | Co-organizer, Evolutionary Psychology Preconference of the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology |
| 2013 | Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference Program Sub-Committee |

Ad hoc reviewing: *Asian Journal of Social Psychology, British Journal of Developmental Psychology, Cognition, Cognitive Science, Emotion, Evolution and Human Behavior,*

Evolutionary Psychological Science, Evolutionary Psychology, Journal of Experimental Psychology: General, Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Nature Human Behavior, PLOS ONE, Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences, Psychological Science, SAGE Open

Grant reviewing: *National Science Foundation*

DEPARTMENT/UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2018	Co-organizer, Undergraduate Research Day
2014 - 2016	Instructor, Statistics boot camp for incoming psychology graduate students
2014	Panelist, “How can you jumpstart your research? Challenges and Success”
2012	Panelist, “NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Information Session”