

Stephanie Washburn

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EDUCATION

University of Florida

Master of Science in Psychology

Dual specialization in brain and behavior and development

Gainesville, FL

May 2026

University of Central Florida

Bachelor of Science in Psychology (cum laude)

Minor in Statistics

Specialization: Neuroscience

Orlando, FL

May 2024

HONORS & AWARDS (Total: \$282,720)

2026 Travel Award Cognitive Aging and Memory Center, UF (\$1500)

2025 Scientific Research Network in Decision Neuroscience and Travel Grant (\$1500)

2025 Phi Eta Sigma Leader of the Year Award (\$10000)

2025 Balkhi Foundation Experiential Learning Fund (\$500)

University of Florida Department of Psychology Travel Grant Spring 2025, Fall 2025 (\$1500)

2024 Phi Eta Sigma Founders Fund Scholarship (\$7000)

2024 University of Florida National Science Foundation Travel/Research Funds (\$10,000)

2024 Grinter Fellowship (\$9420)

2024 Ronald E. McNair Graduate Research Fellow (\$70,000)

2024 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (\$159,000)

2024 University of Florida Knight of Distinction

2023 Allyn M. Stearman Research Scholarship (\$350)

2023 Phi Eta Sigma Founders Fund Scholarship (\$5000)

2023 Distinguished Undergraduate Research Award.

2022 Phi Eta Sigma Founders Fund Scholarship (\$1000)

2022 UCF Office of Undergraduate Research Travel Grant (\$1000)

2022 UCF Office of Undergraduate Research Travel Grant (\$1000)

2021 UCF Office of Undergraduate Research Travel Grant (\$1000)

2020-2021 NSF Learning Engaging Academic Research Network Scholarship (\$600)

2020 Kenneth O. and Doris A. Rewick Educational Aid Fund (\$2000)

2020 Mokihana Hui Scholarship (\$350)

PUBLICATIONS

1. Kamps, S., Chen, E., Mah, A., **Washburn, S.**, Kanwisher, N., & Saxe, R. (August 2023). Development of Navigational Affordance Perception in Infancy. *Journal of Vision*, 23(9), 5716. <https://doi.org/10.1167/jov.23.9.5716>
2. **Washburn, S.**, Branch, R., & Jean-Francois, I., Berman, S. L. (June 2024). The Role of Identity in the Relationship between PTSD and Executive Functioning. *Adolescent Psychiatry*, 14(3), 164-176. <https://doi.org/10.2174/0122106766279589240529123124>
3. **Washburn, S.**, Branch, R., & Jean-Francois, I., Berman, S. L. (May 2024). The Influence of Intersectionality on Identity and Resiliency. *UCF Undergraduate Research Journal*. <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/hut2024/90/>

RESEARCH GRANTS

1. **Office of Undergraduate Research Grant (\$750) Washburn, S.**, Kurr, E., Wagaman, B., Berman, S. (July, 2021). *Exploring Identity and LGBTQ+ labels among Indigenous populations*.
2. **2024 Scientific Research Network in Decision Neuroscience and Aging Grant (\$3500) Washburn, S.**, & Ebner, N.C. (May, 2024) *Age-Related Differences in Deep-Fake Detection*.

PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES AND ABSTRACTS

1. **Washburn S.**, Wagaman, B., Kurr E., Berman, S. L. (August, 2021) *The relationship between identity variables and executive functioning*. Poster presentation at the S.U.R.F. (Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship) annual poster display.
2. **Washburn S.**, Wagaman, B., Kurr E., Berman, S. L. (March, 2022) *Identity, trauma, and executive functioning*. Poster presentation at The Society of Social Human Development.
3. **Washburn S.**, Wagaman, B., Kurr E., Berman, S. L. (April, 2022) *Identity and executive functioning*. Poster presentation at Student Scholar Symposium, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL.

4. Wagaman, B., Kurr E., **Washburn S.**, Mullin A., Berman S. L. (April, 2022) *The Impact of Sexual Assault on Identity Distress among the LGBTQ+ Community*. Poster presentation at the Society of Human Development.
5. **Washburn S.**, Wagaman, B., Kerr, E., Berman, S. L. (April, 2022). *The impact of trauma on identity and executive functioning*. Poster presentation at the Southeastern Psychological Association annual convention, Hilton Head, SC.
6. Wagaman, B., Kurr E., Berman, S. L., **Washburn S.**, Mullin A. (April, 2022) *Sexual orientation, sexual assault, and identity distress*. Poster presentation at Southeastern Psychological Association annual convention, Hilton Head, SC.
7. **Washburn S.**, Kamps F., Saxe R. (July, 2022) *Exploring the development of attention to navigational affordances in infancy*. Poster presentation at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Summer Research Showcase.
8. **Washburn S.**, Wagaman B., Kerr E., Berman S. L. (October, 2022) *The relationship among identity, executive functioning, and PTSD*. Poster presentation at the National Diversity in STEM conference.
9. **Washburn S.**, Wagaman B., Kerr E., Berman S. L. (October, 2022) *Identity variables and PTSD*. Poster presentation at the McNair Annual Research Conference in Baltimore, Maryland.
10. **Washburn S.**, Jean-Francois I., Branch R., Berman S. L. (March, 2023) *Exploring identity and LGBTQ+ labels among Indigenous populations*. Poster presentation at the Student Scholar Symposium, University of Central Florida.
11. **Washburn S.**, Kamps F., Saxe, R. (March, 2023) *Exploring the development of attention to navigational affordances in infancy*. Poster presentation at the Student Scholar Symposium, University of Central Florida.
12. Mullin A., Branch R., Margaris A., **Washburn S.**, Berman S.L. (March, 2023) *Intrusive Thoughts and Behavioral Urges*. Presented at the Florida Undergraduate Research Conference.
13. Mullin A., **Washburn S.**, Branch R., Margaris A., Berman S.L. (March, 2023) *Intrusive Thoughts and Behavioral Urges*. Poster presentation at the Southeastern Psychological Association, New Orleans.
14. Jean-Francois I., Branch R., **Washburn S.**, Berman, S. L. (March, 2023) *Exploring identity and LGBTQ+ labels among Indigenous populations*. Abstract accepted for the International Society for Research on Identity, Boston Massachusetts.

15. Kamps S., Chen E., Mah A., **Washburn S.**, Kanwisher N., Saxe R. (May, 2023) *Development of navigational affordance perception in infancy*. Abstract accepted by Vision Science Society.
16. **Washburn S.**, Roque, N. (September, 2023) *The effect of perceived discrimination on decision making*. Poster presentation at the Central European Conference on Information and Intelligent Systems.
17. **Washburn S.**, Roque, N. (October, 2023) *The effect stress on decision making*. Poster presentation at the 2023 SANCAS NDiSTEM Conference. Portland, Oregon.
18. **Washburn S.**, Soto, O., Ibarra, B., Fuentes, D. (October, 2023) *Gender and cultural influences on mate selection in college students*. Poster presentation at the 2023 Amy Zeh High Impact Showcase. Orlando, Florida.
19. Roque N., **Washburn S.**, Andrews H. (November, 2024) *Personality Traits, Screen Time, and Mobile Phone Dependence Across the Lifespan*. Poster presentation at the 2024 Gerontology Society of America's Annual Scientific Meeting. Seattle, Washington.
20. **Washburn, S.**, Barnas, A. J., Faulkner, R., Lin, T., Ebner, N. C. (February, 2025) *Examining the Influence of Age on Deepfake Detection*. Poster at the Society for Neuroscience. Gainesville, FL, USA.
21. **Washburn, S.**, Barnas, A. J., Faulkner, R., Lin, T., Ebner, N. C. (February, 2025) *The Role of Age in Deepfake Detection Accuracy*. Poster at the Aging & Cognition Conference. Dallas, TX, USA.
22. Faulkner, R., ***Washburn, S.**, *Barnas, A. J., Lin, T., & Ebner, N. C. (April, 2025) *The Role of Age in Deepfake Detection Accuracy*. Poster at the Institute for Learning in Retirement. Gainesville FL, USA.
23. King, T., **Washburn, S.**, Lin T., Barnas, A. J., Faulkner, R., Wilson R., C., Lighthall R. N., Ebner, N.C. *Age-Related Differences in Hyperrealism* (April, 2026) Poster at the University of Florida Spring Undergraduate Symposium
24. King, T., **Washburn, S.**, Lin T., Barnas, A. J., Faulkner, R., Wilson R., C., Lighthall R. N., Ebner, N.C. *When Deepfakes Feel More Real: Age Differences in Hyperrealism* (April, 2026) Poster at the Psychology Graduate Student Organization Research Forum.
25. **Washburn, S.**, Lin T., Barnas, A. J., Faulkner, R., Wilson R., C., Lighthall R. N., Ebner, N.C. (April 2026) *Brain and Behavioral Processes in Deepfake Detection in Younger and Older Adults*. Poster for Social & Affective Neuroscience Society (SANS) 2026 Annual Conference. San Diego, CA, USA.
26. **Washburn, S.**, Lin T., Barnas, A. J., Faulkner, R., Wilson R., C., Lighthall R. N., Ebner, N.C.

(April 2026) *Brain and Behavioral Processes of Hyperrealism in Younger and Older Adults*.
Poster for Center for Aging and Memory (CAM) 2026 Research Day. Gainesville, FL, USA.

RESEARCH TALKS

1. **Washburn, S.**, Roque, N., (May, 2023) *The effect of cognitive factors on decision making*. Oral presentation at the 11th Student Symposium at the Faculty of Organization and Informatics. Varazdin, Croatia.
2. **Washburn, S.**, Smith, L., Powell, L. (August, 2023) *Using joint attention as an early indicator of autism spectrum disorder*. Oral presentation at the Summer Research Conference, San Diego, California.
3. **Washburn S.**, Faulkner R., Barnas A.J., Pehlivanoglu D., Zhen J., Lin T., El-Shafie D., Zhu M., Woodard D., Cahill B., Ebner N.C. (September, 2024) *Age-Related Differences in Deep-Fake Detection*. Oral presentation at the Scientific Research Network on Decision Neuroscience and Aging Data Blitz.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Social-Cognitive and Affective Development Lab

Gainesville, FL

- Collected **fMRI and behavioral data** for studies on social decision-making and deepfake perception June 2024-May 2026
- Preprocessed multi-echo fMRI data using **fMRIPrep and TEDANA** in Unix/Linux environments
- Designed and implemented **GLMs in SPM (MATLAB)**, including parametric modulation and factorial models for group-level analyses
- Conducted **mixed-effects modeling in R** and integrated behavioral and neuroimaging findings to examine brain–behavior relationships

Gainesville, FL

Society of Research Network on Decision Neuroscience and Aging

June-August 2024

Research Assistant, University of Florida

- Conducted research on scam susceptibility in aging **for 40 hours a week**
- Preprocessed fMRI data in **Linux/Unix**, and **R**
- Collected fMRI data
- Ran behavioral data analyses using **R**

San Diego, CA

Summer Training Academy for Research Success

June-August

Research Assistant, University of California, San Diego

2023

- Conducted research on early markers of autism through joint attention **for 40+ hours a week**
- Shadowed experiments using **fNIRS** on infants in Dr. Lindsey Powell's lab
- Ran data analyses using **R** and coded eye-tracking data

Quantitative Biology Workshop at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Boston, MA
January 2023

Attendee

- Attended lectures with focuses in bioinformatics and computational biology
- Participated in workshops that introduced techniques in **MATLAB, Python,** and **R**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Summer Research Program- Biology Research Assistant, Saxe Lab

Boston, MA
June 2022 - August 2022

- Conducted research on the development of perception of navigational affordances in infancy **40+ hours a week**
- Applied **fMRI, eye-tracking, and R**
- Assisted in collecting **fMRI data** for the **Kanwisher Lab**

Research Assistant at the Context Lab

Orlando, FL
July 2022 – Present

- Performed research on cognitive factors in decision-making **10+ hours a week**
- Applied **eye-tracking, Python, jsPsych,** and **open-science** techniques to build experiments
- *Analyzed behavioral data using R*

Research Assistant, Attention and Memory Lab

Orlando, FL
August 2021- July 2022

- Performed research concerning subsequent search misses for cancerous masses in radiological scans **20+ hours a week**
- Designed a visual search experiment using **PsychoPy** and **Python**
- Applied **electroencephalogram** techniques, **eye-tracking, and Python** for experimental design

Research Assistant at the Berman Lab

Orlando, FL
August 2020-May 2024

- Conducted research across four projects examining identity, trauma, and related psychosocial factors
- Conducted a research project on trauma and identity published in **Adolescent Psychiatry**
- Collected and analyzed survey data using **Qualtrics** and **SPSS**
- Completed an **honors thesis** on resilience and identity in minority groups

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship at UCF

Orlando, FL
May 2021- August 2021

Research Fellow, Berman Lab

- Performed research concerning identity and PTSD **10+ hours a week**
- Attended bi-weekly professional development sessions
- Presented a research poster at UCF's Student Scholar

Symposium

Orlando FL

Learning Environment and Academic Research Network

August 2020 - May

Research Assistant, Berman Lab

2021

- Participated in a **12-week research apprenticeship** in a lab
- Wrote a research proposal concerning **neuroplasticity and anxiety**
- Completed a year-long introduction to research course

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Remote

Research Girl, Inc. Data Analyst Educator Intern

May - August 2025

- Mentored a student in data cleaning and statistical analysis using R across seven datasets; led weekly lessons covering ANOVA, post hoc tests, effect sizes, and ANCOVA
- Cleaned and then conducted analysis of categorical and quantitative variables to identify patterns and group differences
- Applied machine learning models in Python (pandas, scikit-learn, matplotlib) to forecast key program metrics, including the number and demographics of future mentors and mentees, projected student participation, geographic reach, and academic fields of study

Remote

UMASS LIFT Program

January - May 2025

- Gained knowledge of competitive analysis, analytical marketing, regulatory and reimbursement strategies, intellectual property, and venture financing
- Participated in 12 structured sessions focused on developing business acumen in the biotech and life sciences sectors
- Delivered an in-person business pitch

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Orlando FL

Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans

July 2022 – May

UCF Student Chapter

2024

President

- Presented **Research Readiness** workshops
- Hosted graduate workshops and cultural events

Orlando FL

Phi Eta Sigma UCF Student Chapter

May 2021 – May

President and Event Coordinator

2024

- Hosted professional development workshops
- Organized various philanthropic events like food drives and charity marathons for increasing literacy in low-income neighborhoods
- Led a project where the society raised over \$1,500 dollars for children in hospitals

Phi Eta Sigma Regional Southeastern Diversity and Equity Chair

Orlando FL
May 2022 – May 2023

- Organized and started a national program for high school students from minority groups to learn computer science
- Planned national monthly events for **cultural awareness** within Phi Eta Sigma
- Advocated for **diversity talks** for the national annual conference

Learning Environment and Academic Research Network Peer Mentor

Orlando FL
August 2022 - May 2023

- Led face-to-face meetings with **nine LEARN mentees**
- Facilitated academic, social and community service events hosted by the program
- Planned, implemented, and managed social service and cultural events

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Co-founder of P.A.S.S the Torch Initiative

Gainesville FL
January 2025 - present

- Organized NSF GRFP workshop with over 50 attendees and 14 reviewers to help look over attendees' application materials
- Presented application materials and resources for the NSF GRFP application

Founder of ByteCraft

Orlando FL
January 2023 - present

- Founded an organization with the goal of increasing STEM retention in minority groups by introducing students to ByteCamps or workshops that host sessions where faculty talk about research and how they use computer science in their everyday lives.
- Created a website called ByteCraft that provides students with free resources to continue learning programming:
<https://bytecraftenterprise.github.io/bytecraft-website/>
- Partnered with four nonprofit organizations to host ByteCraft workshops teaching R

Pass the Plate Initiative Mentor

Gainesville FL
June 2024 - May 2025

- Provide comprehensive mentoring on the college application process, ensuring students are well-prepared and confident
- Assisted students in crafting compelling college and scholarship applications

Mentee-Mentor 500 Program

Gainesville FL
September 2024 - May 2025

- Provided comprehensive mentoring on the graduate application process
- Assisted students in crafting compelling fellowship and graduate school

applications, including personal statements and supplementary essays

RELEVANT SKILLS

Survey and Experimental Methods

- Qualtrics
- RedCap
- Experiment Builder

Neuroimaging

- fNIRS data collection (basic)
- fMRI data collection, preprocessing, and analysis (intermediate)
- EEG data collection and preprocessing (basic)

Programming

- MATLAB (basic)
- SPSS (basic)
- BrainVision Analyzer (basic)
- Python (intermediate)
- Psychopy (intermediate)
- Datavyu (intermediate)
- R programming (advanced)