

Minjae Kim

NSF SBE Postdoctoral Fellow, LIU Lab
Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, Johns Hopkins University

Education

Boston College

PH.D. IN PSYCHOLOGY & NEUROSCIENCE

- Advisor: Liane Young

Chestnut Hill, MA

Sep 2017 - Jul 2023

Swarthmore College

B.A. IN NEUROSCIENCE

- Thesis advisor: Dan Grodner

Swarthmore, PA

Sep 2011 - May 2015

Academic Appointments

LIU Lab, Johns Hopkins University

NSF SBE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW (FROM AUG 2024)

- Advisor: Shari Liu

Baltimore, MD

Aug 2023 - Present

NeuroCognition of Language Lab, Tufts University

RESEARCH TECHNICIAN

- PI: Gina Kuperberg

Medford, MA

Jul 2015 - Aug 2017

Academic Work

PUBLICATIONS

- Liu, S., Karakose-Akbiyik, S., Outa, J., & **Kim, M.** (2026). How physical information is used to make sense of the psychological world. *Nature Reviews Psychology*, 5(1), 59-73.
- Daley, R., **Kim, M.**, Young, L., & Kensinger, E. (2025). Breaching of the U.S. Capitol: Memory and moral judgment. *Cognition and Emotion*, 1-13.
- Karg, S., **Kim, M.**, Mitkidis, P., & Young, L. (2023). Collaborative cheating in hierarchical teams: Effects of incentive structure and leader behavior on subordinate behavior and perceptions of leaders. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 49(8), 1166-1183.
- **Kim, M.**, Young, L., & Anzellotti, S. (2022). Exploring the representational structure of trait knowledge using perceived similarity judgments. *Social Cognition*, 40(6), 549-579.
- **Kim, M.**^{*}, Theriault, J.^{*}, Hirschfeld-Kroen, J., & Young, L. (2022). Reframing of moral dilemmas reveals an unexpected positivity bias in updating and attributions. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 101, 104310. ^{*} = co-first author
- Park, B., **Kim, M.**, & Young, L. (2022). The role of relational mobility in relationship quality and well-being. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 39(12), 3728-3752.
- Wang, L., Schoot, L., Brothers, T., Alexander, E., Warnke, L., **Kim, M.**, Khan, S., Hamalainen, M., & Kuperberg, G. (2022). Predictive coding across the left fronto-temporal hierarchy during language comprehension. *Cerebral Cortex*, 33(8), 4478-4497.
- **Kim, M.**, Mende-Siedlecki, P., Anzellotti, S., & Young, L. (2021). Theory of mind following the violation of strong and weak prior beliefs. *Cerebral Cortex*, 31(2), 884-898.
- Park, B., **Kim, M.**, & Young, L. (2021). An examination of accurate versus "biased" mentalizing in moral and economic decision-making. In Gilead, M. & Ochsner, K. (Eds.). *The Neural Basis of Mentalizing*. Springer International Publishing.
- **Kim, M.**, Park, B., & Young, L. (2020). The psychology of motivated versus rational updating. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 24(2), 101-111.
- Wang, L., Wlotko, E., Alexander, E., Schoot, L., **Kim, M.**, Warnke, L., & Kuperberg, G. (2020). Neural evidence for the prediction of animacy features during language comprehension: Evidence from MEG and EEG Representational Similarity Analysis. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 40(16), 3278-3291.

PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

- Sikos, L., **Kim, M.**, & Grodner, D. (2019). Social context modulates tolerance for pragmatic violations in binary but not graded judgments. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 10, 510.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- **Kim, M.**, Maione, S., & Liu, S. (under review). Shared neural representations of barriers to agents' actions and objects' motions. [\[Preprint\]](#).
- Malik, M., **Kim, M.**, Shu, T., Liu, S., & Isik, L. (under review). Bottom-up and generative computations uniquely explain neural responses across the social brain. [\[Preprint\]](#).
- **Kim, M.**, Kumar, M., Young, L., & McAuliffe, K. (submitted). Dynamic trait inference and behavioral prediction in 6- to 9-year-old and adults. [\[Preprint\]](#).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **Kim, M.**, Hauptman, M., & Liu, S. (Apr 2026). Shared neural representations of causal interactions across social and physical domains [Poster presentation]. Social and Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.
- **Kim, M.**, Hauptman, M., & Liu, S. (Aug 2025). Pushing people: the neural basis of social interaction perception [Poster presentation]. Cognitive Science Society Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- **Kim, M.**, Maione, S., Drissi, A., & Liu, S. (Aug 2024). Cortical regions preferentially engaged during social and physical processing represent obstacles to agent action and object motion [Conference abstract]. Cognitive Computational Neuroscience Annual Conference, Cambridge, MA.
- Malik, M., **Kim, M.**, Liu, S., Shu, T., & Isik, Leyla. (Aug 2024). Investigating the neural computations underlying visual social inference with graph neural networks [Conference abstract]. Cognitive Computational Neuroscience Annual Conference, Cambridge, MA.
- **Kim, M.**, Liu, S., Anzellotti, S., & Young, L. (Feb 2024). Theory of Mind regions encode the surprisingness of behaviors given the target's past behavioral history [Poster presentation]. SPSP Annual Convention, San Diego, CA.
- **Kim, M.**, Mende-Siedlecki, P., Anzellotti, S., & Young, L. (May 2022). The role of prediction error and mentalizing in belief updating [Paper presented in the Symposium on Prediction Error in Social Cognition]. APS Annual Convention, Chicago, IL.
- **Kim, M.**,^{*} Chen, T.^{*}, Anzellotti, S., & Young, L. (Feb 2022). The impact of prior beliefs on attributions and updating [Paper presented in the Symposium on Computational Social Cognition]. SPSP Annual Convention, Online session.
- **Kim, M.**, Mende-Siedlecki, P., Anzellotti, S., & Young, L. (Feb 2020). The neural signatures of updating strong and weak prior impressions [Poster presentation]. SPSP Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.
- **Kim, M.**, Mende-Siedlecki, P., Anzellotti, S., & Young, L. (Feb 2019). Updating person impressions: effects of prior strength and valence [Poster presentation]. SPSP Annual Convention, Portland, OR.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Neuroplasticity Lab, Johns Hopkins University (Jan 2026)
- Computational Social Cognition Lab, Yale University (Apr 2023)
- Cooperation Lab, Boston College (Oct 2022)
- Trends in Psychology Summit, Harvard University's Women in Psychology (Nov 2021)
- Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience Lab, Columbia University (Jun 2021)
- Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience Lab, Boston College (Apr 2021)
- Ferguson Lab, Yale University (Mar 2021)
- Social Learning Lab, Stanford University (Feb 2021)
- FeldmanHall Lab, Brown University (Jan 2021)
- Moral Psychology Research Lab & Green Lab, Harvard University (Mar 2020)

Teaching

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS AT BOSTON COLLEGE

- How Extraterrestrials Think (Spring 2022)
- Intro to Psychology (Spring 2021)
- Social Psychology (Fall 2020)
- Intro to Behavioral Statistics & Research (Spring 2020)
- Clinical Psychology (Fall 2019)
- Intro to Psychology (Spring 2019)
- Intro to Behavioral Statistics & Research (Fall 2018)
- Social and Emotional Development (Spring 2018)
- Developmental Psychology (Fall 2017)

GUEST LECTURES AT BOSTON COLLEGE

- Impression updating. 90-minute lecture for Moral Psychology (Feb 2023).
- Note-taking and study skills. 60-minute workshops for students in Intro to Psychology (Oct 2022).
- Adolescent social relations. 90-minute lecture for Social and Emotional Development (Apr 2021).
- Social psychology. 50-minute lecture for Intro to Psychology (Mar 2021).
- Development of Theory of Mind. 50-minute lecture for Developmental Psychology (Nov 2017).

Service

- Member, Johns Hopkins Early Career Colloquium Committee (2024-)
- Co-organizer, Marginalia Science (2023-)
- Member, Boston College Psychology & Neuroscience Diversity & Inclusion Committee (2019-2023)
- Co-organizer and mentor, Boston College Application Mentorship Program (2021-2023)
- Graduate mentor, Boston College Grad-Undergrad Program (2017-2021)
- Volunteer reviewer, SPSP undergraduate registration awards (2021)
- Graduate mentor, Boston College McNair Mentorship Program (2018-2019)
- Ad hoc reviewer for: *Cognitive Science*, *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, *Nature Scientific Reports*, *Personality & Social Psychology Bulletin*, *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*

Mentorship

- Undergraduates advised at Johns Hopkins: Assiya Drissi, Arushi Devgun (BS/MS student), Celine Li, Andrew Suster
- Undergraduates advised at Boston College: Stella Si (thesis student), Mookie Manalili, Frankie Lynch, Christian Hamilton, Skylar Hou, Emma Sansom, Alice Lu, Emma Alai, Kayla Carew, Jordyn Mason, Mariel Kronitz, Arturo Balaguer
- Undergraduates advised at Tufts University: Rebecca Nardulli, Nimarta Narang, Becca Schaub, Sayaka Koga

Awards & Honors

- NSF SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (2024-2026): \$160,000
- Boston College Presidential Fellowship (2017-2022): \$25,000
- Boston College Research Incentive Grant (2021-2022): \$15,000
- SPSP Graduate Registration Award (2021)
- Swarthmore College Phi Beta Kappa (2015)
- Swarthmore College J. Horace Ervien Endowed Scholarship (2015)
- Swarthmore College Summer Research Fellowship (2014): \$4,350