

# Mason Youngblood

Minds & Traditions Research Group  
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## EDUCATION

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- **Graduate Center, CUNY** New York, NY  
*PhD in Animal Behavior and Comparative Psychology* April 2021  
Dissertation: "From psychology to phylogeny: bridging levels of analysis in cultural evolution"
- **Graduate Center, CUNY** New York, NY  
*Master of Philosophy in Psychology* February 2020
- **Hunter College, CUNY** New York, NY  
*Master of Arts in Psychology* January 2018
- **University of South Carolina, Honors College** Columbia, SC  
*Bachelor of Science in Biology, Minors in Neuroscience and Anthropology, 3.87 GPA* May 2015

## EXTERNAL COURSEWORK

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- **University of Southern Denmark** Odense, DK  
*Acoustic Communication - Methods and techniques for studying animal sound communication* August 2017

## TEACHING

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- **Genspace, Community Biology Lab** Brooklyn, NY  
*Instructor*
  - Models of Cultural Transmission in Human Populations (Interactive Coding Workshop): May 2021 (4 hours)
- **Queens College, CUNY** Flushing, NY  
*Teaching Assistant*
  - Introduction to College Biology (BIOL 011): Spring 2020 (3 credits), Fall 2019 (3 credits), Spring 2019 (6 credits)
  - Principles of Evolutionary Biology (BIOL 287 & 587): Fall 2020 (6 credits), Fall 2019 (3 credits), Fall 2018 (6 credits), Fall 2017 (3 credits)
  - Animal Behavior (BIOL 345W & 685): Spring 2021 (3 credits), Spring 2018 (4 credits)
- **Hunter College, CUNY** New York, NY  
*Instructor*
  - General Experimental Psychology (PSYCH 25000): Spring 2017 (4 credits), Fall 2016 (4 credits)
- **Hunter College, CUNY** New York, NY  
*Teaching Assistant*
  - General Experimental Psychology (PSYCH 25000): Spring 2016 (4 credits), Fall 2015 (4 credits)
  - Neuroscience (PSYCH 22400): Spring 2016 (3 credits)
  - Personality Psychology (PSYCH 22000): Fall 2015 (3 credits)

## PUBLICATIONS & SOFTWARE

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### • Journal Articles

- [1] Youngblood, M. (2020). Extremist ideology as a complex contagion: the spread of far-right radicalization in the United States between 2005 and 2017. *Humanities & Social Sciences Communications*, 7(49). DOI: 10.1057/s41599-020-00546-3
- [2] Youngblood, M. (2020). A Raspberry Pi-based, RFID-equipped birdfeeder for the remote monitoring of wild bird populations. *Ringing & Migration*. DOI: 10.1080/03078698.2019.1759908
- [3] Youngblood, M. (2019). Conformity bias in the cultural transmission of music sampling traditions. *Royal Society Open Science*, 6(9). DOI: 10.1098/rsos.191149
- [4] Youngblood, M. (2019). Cultural transmission modes of music sampling traditions remain stable despite delocalization in the digital age. *PLoS ONE*, 14(2). DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0211860
- [5] Youngblood, M. & Lahti, D. (2018). A bibliometric analysis of the interdisciplinary field of cultural evolution. *Palgrave Communications*, 4(120). DOI: 10.1057/s41599-018-0175-8

## • Preprints

- [6] Youngblood, M. & Lahti, D. (2021). Content bias in the cultural evolution of house finch song. *bioRxiv*. DOI: 10.1101/2021.03.05.434109
- [7] Youngblood, M., Baraghith, K. & Savage, P. E. (2020). Phylogenetic reconstruction of the cultural evolution of electronic music via dynamic community detection (1975–1999). *arXiv*. ID: 2011.02460
- [8] Gomezde-la-Torre Clavel, M. G., Youngblood, M. & Lahti, D. (2020). Relationship between personality and cognitive traits in domestic rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*). *bioRxiv*. DOI: 10.1101/2020.10.12.336024

## • Other

- [9] Youngblood, M. (2021, Spring). Birdsong diversity in the urban environment. *Plot, Vol. 10: X*. URL: <https://www.plotjournal.com/issues>
- [10] Friedman, A. & Youngblood, M. (2020, June). Poorer cities spend more of budget on police, even where crime is lower. *Sludge*. URL: <https://bit.ly/2BhR5H4>
- [11] Youngblood, M. (2019, June). A study of collaborative sampling across international networks. *Red Bull Music Academy Daily*. URL: <https://win.gs/2xc9v6s>

## • Software

- [12] Youngblood, M. (2021). *TransmissionBias*: agent-based model of biased cultural transmission (R package). URL: <https://github.com/masonyoungblood/TransmissionBias>
- [13] Youngblood, M. (2020). *DynCommPhylo*: phylogenetic reconstruction via dynamic community detection (R package). URL: <https://github.com/masonyoungblood/DynCommPhylo>

## PRESENTATIONS

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(\*invited)

## • Talks

- Cultural Evolution Society Conference (Virtual Meeting, June 2021): Content bias in the cultural evolution of house finch song
- \*International Council on Systems Engineering, Social Systems Working Group (Virtual Meeting, May 2021): Agent-based modeling and generative inference in cultural evolution
- \*Animal Behavior at Queens College (Flushing, NY, May 2021): Cultural evolution
- European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association (Virtual Conference, March 2021): Phylogenetic reconstruction of the cultural evolution of electronic music via dynamic community detection (1975–1999)
- \*Thinking About the Cultural Evolution of Thinking Workshop (Düsseldorf, DE, January 2021): Inferring cognitive phenomena from cultural evolutionary patterns
- \*Principles of Evolutionary Biology at Queens College (Flushing, NY, November 2020): Cultural evolution
- Animal Behavior Society (Virtual Conference, July 2020): A Raspberry Pi-based, RFID-equipped birdfeeder for the remote monitoring of wild bird populations
- Cultural Evolution Society Conference (Tempe, AZ, October 2018): The cultural transmission of sampling traditions in a network of musical collaborators
- Cultural Evolution Society Conference (Tempe, AZ, October 2018): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution
- Cognition and Comparative Psychology Colloquium at the Graduate Center (New York, NY, September 2018): Pattern and process in cultural evolution
- \*Principles of Evolutionary Biology at Queens College (Flushing, NY, September 2018): Genes, development, and environment
- International Behavioral Ecology Congress (Minneapolis, MN, August 2018): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution
- Applications in Cultural Evolution Conference (Tartu, EE, June 2018): The cultural transmission of sampling traditions in a network of musical collaborators
- Applications in Cultural Evolution Conference (Tartu, EE, June 2018): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution

- Queens College Biology Symposium (Flushing, NY, January 2018): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution
- \*Principles of Evolutionary Biology at Queens College (Flushing, NY, November 2017): Cultural evolution
- Cultural Evolution Society Conference (Jena, DE, September 2017): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution
- South Carolina Junior Academy of Science Annual Meeting (Orangeburg, SC, April 2011): Characterization of gene function in the epithelium of female *Drosophila melanogaster* egg chambers by using in vivo RNA interference
- South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Math Annual Research Colloquium (Hartsville, SC, February 2011): Characterization of gene function in the epithelium of female *Drosophila melanogaster* egg chambers by using in vivo RNA interference
- **Posters**
  - Animal Behavior Society (Twitter Conference, January 2021): Transmission bias in the cultural evolution of house finch song
  - Psychology Research Day at the Graduate Center (New York, NY, March 2019): Cultural transmission modes of music sampling traditions remain stable despite delocalization in the digital age
  - SNAK Acoustic Communication Symposium (Faaborg, DE, August 2017): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution
  - Queens College Biology Symposium (Flushing, NY, January 2017): A bibliometric analysis of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of cultural evolution
  - UTEP Undergraduate Research Symposium (El Paso, TX, August 2013): The role of dopamine D2 receptor in brain development and ethanol-induced behavioral disinhibition

## AWARDS, GRANTS, & FELLOWSHIPS

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(\*personnel not PI)

### ● External Sources

- Sigma Xi Grant-In-Aid of Research (2018, \$1,000): The neural basis and spatiotemporal dynamics of female preferences for male bird song
- \*John Templeton Foundation (2016-2018, \$89,000): Towards a new synthesis for cultural evolution
- Summer Research Training, Methods in the Neuroscience of Drug Abuse, University of Texas at El Paso (2013): The role of dopamine D2 receptor in brain development and ethanol-induced behavioral disinhibition

### ● Institutional Sources

- Doctoral Student Mini-Grant, Queens College (2018, \$500): A Raspberry Pi-based, RFID-equipped birdfeeder for the remote monitoring of wild bird populations
- Doctoral Student Research Grant, Graduate Center (2018, \$1,000): The neural basis and spatiotemporal dynamics of female preferences for male bird song
- Research Enhancement Award, Queens College (2017, \$6,000): The neural basis and spatiotemporal dynamics of female preferences for male bird song
- Science Undergraduate Research Fellowship (2012-2014): The epigenetic expression of dopamine receptor D4 in the deer mouse (*Peromyscus*)

## ADVISING

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### ● Masters Students

- Macarena G. GomezdelaTorre Clavel (2019-2020): M.A. in Biology, Queens College - Relationship between personality and cognitive traits in domestic rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)
- Wendy Castillo (2019-Present): M.A. in Biology, Queens College - Cultural variation in the birdsong of Hawaiian house finches (*Haemorhous mexicanus*)

### ● Undergraduate & Postbaccalaureate Students

- Joderick Castillo (2019-Present): B.A. in Biology, Queens College
- Ratna Kanhai (2019-Present): B.A. in Biology, Queens College
- Rahhid Khan (2019): B.A. in Biology, Queens College

- Sheila Gogineni (2019): B.A. in Psychology, Queens College
- Christina Takos (2019): B.A. in Biology, Queens College
- Sachin Surendra (2018-2019): B.A. in Biology, Queens College
- Andrea Lopez (2018-2020): B.A. in Biology, Queens College
- Shari Zimmerman (2017-2020): B.A. in Biology, Queens College

- **Committee Membership**

- Macarena G. GomezdelaTorre Clavel (2019-2020): M.A. in Biology, Queens College - Relationship between personality and cognitive traits in domestic rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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- Twitter Management for Animal Behavior Society: March 2019 - August 2020
- Peer Reviewing: Nature Communications, Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Frontiers in Psychology, Animal Behaviour, Methods in Ecology and Evolution, Journal of Complex Networks, Palgrave Communications, International Journal of Infectious Diseases

## PROGRAMMING SKILLS

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- **Languages:** R, Python, C++, Bash

**Technologies:** AWS, CUDA, TensorFlow