

# Joseph Outa

Stanford University

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## EDUCATION

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**Cornell University, College of Arts and Sciences, Ithaca NY**

Graduated, May 2020

Bachelor of Arts (Biology and Society) focus on behavior

## ACADEMIC INTERESTS

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Moral reasoning and intuition

Concepts and Categories

Theory of mind

Attribution theory

Causal reasoning and inference

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Research Assistant, Causality in Cognition Lab, Social Learning Lab, and Language and Cognition Lab at Stanford University**

Aug 2020-present

- PIs: Tobi Gerstenberg, Hyowon Gweon, Michael Frank
- Will explore collaborative projects relating to counterfactual models of causal reasoning, early development of theory of mind and cross-cultural differences in early abstract reasoning

**Research Assistant, Applied Moral Psychology Lab at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY**

Aug 2020-present

- PI: Laura Niemi
- Will explore projects that help build a mechanistic description of morality and an understanding of how moral commitments lead to wellbeing and discord

**Research Assistant, Pizarro Emotion and Judgement Lab at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY**

Jan 2019-May 2020

- PI: David Pizarro
- Collaborated with an interdisciplinary team of 10 to formulate 2 procedures for analyzing taste sensitivity
- Developed and administer a 60-question political compass and disgust-sensitivity survey to over 50 subjects
- Implemented a MATLAB algorithm for quantification and data analysis of oral fungiform papillae
- Performed literature review on moral psychology and neuroscience from various science journals

**Research Assistant, Raguso Animal Behavior Lab at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY**

June 2016-Dec 2016

- PI: Robert A. Raguso
- Served with research team of 5 in a study that contributed to push-pull agricultural pest management techniques
- Reared, fed and maintained populations of Drosophila fruit flies, Manduca and Hyles moth species
- Shadowed a supervisor to fly moths through a 2-way wind tunnel to probe effect of water vapor on flight pattern; and to isolate plant volatiles using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry
- Investigated attraction and repulsion to plant volatiles by running Manduca caterpillars through a multi-arm arena

## **AWARDS**

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- 2020** Exceptional Senior Feature, Cornell University
- 2019** SEG Summer Research Grant: For the Taste Sensitivity Study at David Pizarro Lab, Department of Psychology (\$1250, Role: Research Assistant)

## **SKILLS**

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- Computer** MS Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel), Qualtrics, R, Adobe Premiere Pro, Adobe Final Cut, Learning Python
- Languages** Swahili (fluent), Spanish (basic)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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- Cognitive Science Society
- Society for the Improvement of Psychological Science (SIPS)

## **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

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- 2020-2020** Peer Advisor, Office of Off-campus Living, Cornell University
- 2019-2020** Student representative, Biology and Society major, Cornell University
- 2018-2020** Summer manager and Social Chair, Triphammer Cooperative, Cornell University
- 2015-2018** President, Givology at Cornell, Cornell University
- 2015-2018** Co-president, International Student Admissions Ambassadors, Cornell University

## **INTERESTS**

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- Blog on <https://www.othermindly.com/>

## **RELEVANT COURSEWORK**

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- Neurobiology and Behavior I: Introduction to Behavior
- Neurobiology and Behavior II: Introduction to Neuroscience
- Adult Psychopathology

Affective and Social Neuroscience

Comparing Global Healthcare Systems

Introduction to Psychology

Introductory Statistics

Ancient and Modern Philosophy

Microeconomic Theory

Investigative Biology Laboratory

Human Bonding

Introduction to Environmental Psychology

Behavioral Ecology, Evolution and Genomics

Life Sciences and Society