

Ricardo Morales-Torres
rim11@duke.edu

Education

- 2021 Ph.D. student in Psychology & Neuroscience**
Advisors: Dr. Roberto Cabeza, Dr. Simon Davis, Dr. Felipe De Brigard, Dr. Tobias Egner.
Duke University.
- 2019 Master of Science in Neuroscience.**
School of Medicine.
Universidad de Chile.
- 2017 Bachelor's in psychology.**
Department of Psychology.
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

Publications

*Both authors contributed equally to this work.

- 2026 Morales-Torres, R., & Egner, T.** Visual working memory for real-world objects is resistant to visual but vulnerable to semantic interference. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xge0001912>
- 2026 Morales-Torres, R., Miceli, K., De Brigard, F.** Plausibility in episodic counterfactual thinking does not depend on the difficulty of the mental simulation. *Cognition*, 271, 106424.
- 2026 Morales-Torres, R., Davis, S. W., & Cabeza, R. (2026),** Perceptual and Conceptual Influences on Memory Judgments. *Communications Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s44271-026-00443-6>
- 2026 Morales-Torres, R., De Brigard, F. (in press),** Episodic Counterfactual Generation Prioritizes Plausible and Vivid Imagined Alternatives. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 48.
- 2025 Morales-Torres, R., Davis, S. W., & Cabeza, R.** What Makes Memories Vivid? *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xge0001855>
- 2025 Morales-Torres, R., Miceli, K., & De Brigard, F. (2025).** Plausibility sampling rather than difficulty influences sequential selection of episodic counterfactual thoughts. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 47. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/2r5845hk>
- 2025 Morales-Torres, R.* , Miceli, K*., Huang, S., Szpunar, K., De Brigard, F. (2025).** Episodic details are better remembered in plausible relative to implausible counterfactual simulations. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13423-025-02670-0>
- 2025 Huang, S., Howard, C., Bogdan, P., Morales-Torres, R., Slayton, M., Cabeza, R., Davis, S.,** Trial-level Representational Similarity Analysis. *eLife*. <https://doi.org/10.7554/eLife.106694.2>
- 2025 Artigas, C., Morales-Torres, R., Rojas-Thomas, F., Villena-González, M., Rubio, I., Ramírez-Benavides, D., ... & Rodríguez, E. (2025).** When alertness fades: Drowsiness-induced visual dominance and oscillatory recalibration in audiovisual integration. *International Journal of Psychophysiology*, 212, 112562.
- 2024 Morales-Torres, R., Wing, E. A., Deng, L., Davis, S. W., & Cabeza, R. (2024).** Visual Recognition Memory of Scenes Is Driven by Categorical, Not Sensory, Visual Representations. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 44(21).
- 2024 Morales-Torres, R., & Egner, T. (2024).** Beyond Stimulus–Response Rules: Task Sets Incorporate Information About Performance Difficulty. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1037/xlm0001337>.
- 2024 Miceli, K.* , Morales-Torres, R.* , Khoudary, A., Faul, L., Parikh, N., & De Brigard, F. (2024).** Perceived plausibility modulates hippocampal activity in episodic counterfactual thinking. *Hippocampus*, 34(1), 2-6.
- 2023 Morales-Torres, R., & De Brigard, F. (2023).** On the frequency and nature of the cues that elicit déjà vu and involuntary autobiographical memories. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 46, e370.

- 2023** **Morales-Torres R.***, Carrasco-Gubernatis C.* , Grasso-Cladera A, Cosmelli D, Parada FJ, Palacios-García I. Psychobiotic Effects on Anxiety Are Modulated by Lifestyle Behaviors: A Randomized Placebo-Controlled Trial on Healthy Adults. *Nutrients*. 2023; 15(7):1706. <https://doi.org/10.3390/nu15071706>
- 2023** Gjorgieva, E., **Morales-Torres, R.**, Cabeza, R., & Woldorff, M. G. (2023). Neural retrieval processes occur more rapidly for visual mental images that were previously encoded with high-vividness. *Cerebral Cortex*, bhad278.
- 2023** Villena-Gonzalez, M., Rojas-Thomas, F., **Morales-Torres, R.**, & López, V. (2023). Autonomous sensory meridian response is associated with a larger heartbeat-evoked potential amplitude without differences in interoceptive awareness. *Psychophysiology*, 00, e14277. <https://doi.org/10.1111/psyp.14277>
- 2021** **Morales R**, Ramírez-Benavides D, Villena-Gonzalez M. 2021. Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response self-reporters showed higher scores for cognitive reappraisal as an emotion regulation strategy. *PeerJ* 9:e11474 DOI 10.7717/peerj.11474
- 2020** Campos-Arteaga, G., Forcato, C., Wainstein, G., Lagos, R., Palacios-García, I., Artigas, C., **Morales, R.**, Pedreira, M.E. & Rodríguez, E. 2020. Differential neurophysiological correlates of retrieval of consolidated and reconsolidated memories in humans: An ERP and pupillometry study. *Neurobiology of Learning and Memory*, 174, 107279. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nlm.2020.107279>
- 2019** Ibaceta, M.; Aldunate, N.; **Morales, R.**; Villalon, F. & Kronmuller, E. 2019. El rol de la expectativa pragmática de consistencia en la resolución de la referencia definida repetida durante el diálogo [The role of the pragmatic expectation of consistency in the resolution of the repeated definite reference during dialogue]. *Signos*, 52(101).
- 2018** Haye, A.; Herraz, P.; Caceres, E.; **Morales, R.**; Torres-Sahli, M. & Villarroel, N. (2018). "Tiempo y memoria: sobre la mediación narrativa de la subjetividad histórica" [Time and Memory: On the Narrative Mediation of Historical Subjectivity]. *Revista de Estudios Sociales* 65: 22-35. 10.7440/ res65.2018.03.
- 2017** Cornejo, C., Cuadros, Z., **Morales, R.** & Paredes J. (2017) Interpersonal Coordination: Methods, Achievements, and Challenges. *Frontiers in Psychology*. 8:1685.

Book Chapters

- 2026** De Brigard, F., **Morales-Torres, R. (In press)** The cognitive neuroscience of episodic counterfactual thinking. Book chapter for *The Handbook of Autobiographical Memory: From Basic to Applied Perspectives*.
- 2017** Haye A, **Morales R**, Nino S. The social/neuro science: bridging or polarizing culture and biology? In: Ibanez A, Sedeno L, Garcia AM. (2017) *Neuroscience and Social Science: The Missing Link*. Switzerland: Springer. doi10.1007/978-3-319-68421-5. Hardcover ISBN 978-3-319-68420-8.
- 2017** Cornejo C, Cuadros Z, **Morales R**. Neurobiological approaches to interpersonal coordination: achievements and pitfalls. In: Ibanez A, Sedeno L, Garcia AM. (2017) *Neuroscience and Social Science: The Missing Link*. Switzerland: Springer. doi 10.1007/978-3-319-68421-5. Hardcover ISBN 978-3-319-68420-8

Teaching Experience

- 2023 - Teaching assistant at the department of Psychology (undergraduate course),**
2024 Duke University.
 PSY205L: Quantitative Research Methods and Statistics for Psychological Science II.
- 2021 - Lecturer at the department of psychology, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.**
- 2019** Courses: Cognition Theories, Quantitative Research Methods.
- 2020 - Lecturer at the department of psychology, Universidad de Santiago de Chile.**
- 2019** Courses: Cognitive Neuroscience, Affectivity and Motivation.
- 2018 - Teaching assistant at the department of Psychology (undergraduate courses),**
2014 Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

Courses: Affectivity and Motivation; Biological Foundations of Behavior; History of Psychology; Social Psychology; Quantitative Research Methods; Neurosciences; Basic Psychological Processes; Cognition Theories; Individual and Society; Philosophy of Science; Philosophical Basis of Psychology.

Awards

- 2026 Summer Research Fellowship**
Duke University
- 2024 Neuroscience of Consciousness Winter School**
CIFAR
- 2024 Impact Neuroscience Fellowship**
Duke University
- 2023 - Summer Research Fellowship**
Duke University
- 2024 - Charles Lafitte Graduate Research Travel Award.**
Duke University
- 2023 Graduate Student Award.**
Cognitive Neuroscience Society
- 2021 BioCoRE Graduate Scholar**
Initiative to support diversity in the biomedical sciences.
Duke University.
- 2020 Trinity Henry Barlow Scholarship (Declined).**
University of Cambridge.
- 2020 Cambridge International Scholarship (Declined).**
Fully funded scholarship to study at the University of Cambridge.
- 2014 Academic Excellence Award.**
Distinction given to the student with the highest GPA of a cohort.
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

Conference Posters

- 2025 Morales-Torres, R.,** Egner, T. Visual working memory for real-world objects is resistant to visual but vulnerable to semantic interference. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society. Denver, USA.
- 2025 Morales-Torres, R.,** Miceli, K, De Brigard, F. Plausibility sampling rather than difficulty influences sequential selection of episodic counterfactual thoughts. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. San Diego, USA.
- 2025 Morales-Torres, R.,** Miceli, K, De Brigard, F. Psychological factors influencing the perceived plausibility of episodic counterfactual thoughts. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness. Crete, Greece.
- 2025 Morales-Torres, R.,** Hovhannisyann, M., Woldorff, M., Davis, S.W. Bilateral and Unilateral TMS Impacts on Entrainment in Aging and MCI. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition. Kildare, Ireland.
- 2025 Morales-Torres, R.,** Davis, S.W., Cabeza, Roberto. What Makes memories vivid?. Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society annual meeting. Boston, USA.
- 2024 Morales-Torres, R.,** Miceli, K., Huang, S., Szpunar, K., De Brigard, F. Episodic details are better remembered in likely relative to unlikely counterfactual simulations. Poster presented at the 65th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society. New York, USA.
- 2024 Morales-Torres, R.,** Miceli, K, Huang, S., Khoudary, A., De Brigard, F. How perceived plausibility influence the generation of episodic counterfactual thoughts. Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society annual meeting. Toronto, CA.
- 2024 Morales-Torres, R.,** Egner, T. Beyond stimulus-response rules: Task sets incorporate information about performance difficulty. Poster presented at the North Carolina Cognition Conference. North Carolina, USA.
- 2024** Miceli, K., **Morales-Torres R.,** Khoudary A., Parikh N., De Brigard F. Perceived Plausibility Modulates Hippocampal Activity in Episodic Counterfactual Thinking. Poster presented at the

- North Carolina Cognition Conference. North Carolina, USA.
- 2023** **Morales-Torres, R.**, Egner, T. Beyond stimulus-response rules: Task sets incorporate information about performance difficulty. Poster presented at the 64th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society. San Francisco, USA.
- 2023** **Morales-Torres R.**, Wing E., Deng L., Davis S., Cabeza R. Visual recognition memory of complex scenes is driven by high-level, but not by low-level, visual representations. Poster presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society annual meeting. California, USA.
- 2023** **Morales-Torres, R.**, McAllister, M.L., Roberts, K., Gamboa, O.L., Hovhannisyan, M., Galla, J. T., Dannhauer, M., Woldorff, M., Davis, S.W. Bilateral and Unilateral TMS Impacts on Entrainment in Aging and MCI. Poster presented at the Research Symposium of the Duke Neurology Division of Translational Brain Sciences Durham, USA.
- 2023** Miceli, K., **Morales-Torres R.**, Khoudary A., Parikh N., De Brigard F. Perceived Plausibility Modulates Hippocampal Activity in Episodic Counterfactual Thinking. Poster presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society annual meeting. California, USA.
- 2023** McAllister, M.L., **Morales-Torres, R.**, Roberts, K., Gamboa, O.L., Hovhannisyan, M., Galla, J. T., Dannhauer, M., Woldorff, M., Davis, S.W. Bilateral and Unilateral TMS Impacts on Entrainment in Aging and MCI. Poster presented at International Brain Stimulation Conference, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2023** Campos-Arteaga, G., Flores-Torres J., **Morales-Torres, R.**, Poyser, D., Sitaram, R., Rodríguez, E., Ruiz S. Investigating the impact of EEG subject-dependent neurofeedback on declarative memory consolidation. Poster presented at the International Brain Research Organization. Granada, Spain.
- 2023** Welch, E, Deng L, Howard C., McAllister M., Huang, S., Yu C., **Morales-Torres R.**, Davis S., Cabeza R. Schema Effects on Memory Representation: Aging and MCI. Poster presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society annual meeting. California, USA.
- 2023** McAllister, M, Deng L, Howard C., Welch E., Huang, S., Yu C., **Morales-Torres R.**, Davis S., Cabeza R. Functional Connectivity and Semantic Memory Success in Aging and MCI. Poster presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society annual meeting. California, USA
- 2023** Howard, C, Deng L, McAllister M., Welch E., Huang, S., Yu C., **Morales-Torres R.**, Davis S., Cabeza R. Investigating age-related mnemonic representational encoding-retrieval shifts. Poster presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society annual meeting. California, USA
- 2022** McAllister, M.L., **Morales, R.**, Gamboa, O.L., Hovhannisyan, M., Galla, J. T., Dannhauer, M., Woldorff, M., Davis, S.W. Bilateral TMS Influences Connectivity and Cognition in MCI and Controls. Poster presented at Triangle Chapter of Society for Neuroscience, Cary, NC
- 2022** Carrasco-Gubernatis, C., **Morales, R.**, Parada, F., Palacios-García, I. Synergistic effect of probiotics and lifestyle behaviors – a randomized placebo-controlled clinical trial on healthy adults. Poster presented at the 35th European College of Neuropsychopharmacology congress.
- 2022** Campos-Arteaga, G., Ruiz, S., Poyser, D., **Morales, R.**, Sitaram, R., Rodriguez, E. Can Subject-Dependent Neurofeedback modulate memories? Effects of Neurofeedback on longterm memory. Poster presented at Society of applied neuroscience.
- 2022** McAllister, M.L., Gamboa, O.L., Hovhannisyan, M., Galla, J. T., **Morales, R.**, Dannhauer, M., Woldorff, M., Davis, S.W. Interhemispheric Connectivity Predicts the Influence of Bilateral TMS in MCI and Controls. Poster presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, CA
- 2017** Haye, A, **Morales, R.**, Villarroel, N. & Torres, M. Nesting forms of biographical discourse within the history of class struggle. Conferencia COES “Vínculos sociales y Ciudadanía: Interacciones y cohesión social”. Vina del Mar, Chile. Award to the best poster in the category “Identity and social class”.
- 2016** Ibaceta, M., **Morales, R.**, Villalon, F & Wisniewski, O. Suspension of pragmatics expectations in ambiguity context: Costs of talking with someone with Alzheimer disease. 9th Embodied and Situated Language Processing Conference, Pucón, Chile; 09/10/2016.
- 2016** Rodríguez, E., Campos, G., Artigas, C. & **Morales, R.** While you don't ask It's both a vase and a face: Simultaneous neural processing of an inattentively viewed bistable stimulus. 20th

annual meeting of the Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness, Buenos Aires, Argentina; 16/06/2016.

- 2015** Rodríguez, E., Campos, G., Artigas, C. & **Morales, R.** Inattentively viewing a bistable stimulus induces simultaneous processing of both alternative percept IX Reunión Anual de la Sociedad Chilena de Neurociencias, Coquimbo, Chile.

Service

Reviewer for: Nature Communications; Journal of Experimental Psychology: General; Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory & Cognition; Neuroimage; Behavioral Research Methods; Memory & Cognition; Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience; Aging, Neuropsychology and Cognition.