

# AMIR RAZ

## Curriculum Vitae

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### Education

#### Post-doctoral Training:

Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York, NY, USA 2002  
Sackler Institute for Developmental Psychobiology, Department of Psychiatry  
Supervisor: Michael I. Posner

#### Graduate:

Ph.D., Brain Science: Computation and Information Processing, 2000  
M.Sc., Brain Science: Computation and Information Processing, 1997  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel  
Interdisciplinary Center for Neural Computation and Department of Psychology  
Supervisor: Shlomo Bentin

#### Undergraduate:

B.Sc., Computer Science, *summa cum laude*, 1988  
Farleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ, USA  
School of Science and Engineering, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

## Appointments

<b>Director and Professor</b> Institute for Interdisciplinary Brain and Behavioral Sciences Chapman University, Orange, CA, U.S.A.	2017-present
<b>Senior Researcher</b> Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research of the SMBD Jewish General Hospital	2007–present
<b>Visiting Professor</b> Department of Psychology and Brain Institute University of California, Los Angeles Los Angeles, CA, USA	2014–2015
<b>Canada Research Chair</b> in the Cognitive Neuroscience of Attention in Atypical Attention Faculty of Medicine, McGill University	2007–present 2007–2012 2012–present
<b>Associate Professor</b> Department of Psychiatry (Associate Member in the Departments of Neurology & Neurosurgery, Psychology, and the Montreal Neurological Institute) McGill University, Montréal, QC	2007-present
<b>with Tenure</b>	2012–present
<b>Visiting Professor</b> Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute Vancouver, BC	2006-2007
<b>Assistant Professor</b> Clinical Neuroscience, Department of Psychiatry Columbia University, College of Physicians & Surgeons New York, NY, USA	2003–2006
<b>Research Scientist (IV)</b> New York State Psychiatric Institute 1051 Riverside Drive New York, NY	2003–2006
<b>Assistant Professor</b> Psychology, Department of Psychiatry Weill Medical College of Cornell University The New York Presbyterian Hospital – Westchester Division White Plains, NY, USA	2002–2003

## Special Honors, Awards, and Recognition

Erica Fromm Teaching Award, Society of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis	2019
International Hypnosis Society, Head of Science Conference, Montreal	2018
Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada	2018
Golden Key Honourary Fellow	2017
Fellow of the Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis	2017
BIAL Fellow	2016
Jay Haley Early Career Award for Innovative Contributions	2012
Award of the Task Force on Hypnosis Research from ASCH	2010
Presidential Commendation from SCEH	2008
American Society of Clinical Hypnosis Special Recognition Award	2007
Ernest and Josephine Hilgard Award.	2007
Diplomate of the American Board of Psychological Hypnosis (ABPH)	2006
Young Investigator Award from the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression (NARSAD)	2006
American Psychological Association's Early Career Award (Div. 30)	2006
Presidential Commendation for Public Education from the Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis	2005
Best Paper Award, American Psychological Association, Division 30	2004
Lake Tahoe Summer Institute Brain Science Award	2003
Honorary Young Member of the Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience 36 <sup>th</sup> Winter Conference on Brain Research, Snowbird, Utah –Young Fellow Award	2003
Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis: Sherry K. and Harold B. Crasilneck Award.	2002
DeWitt Wallace – Reader's Digest Research Award in Psychiatry.	2002
Research Award of Psychology in Psychiatry, Payne Whitney Clinic.	2001
Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis Award.	2001
Best poster award: Cornell/Rockefeller/Sloan-Kettering, Tri-Institutional Competition.	2001
Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience Award, Dartmouth College, NH.	2000
Presentation Award: Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics.	2000
The Open University Award for Excellence in Teaching.	1995–1999
Hebrew University Award for Outstanding Pilot Studies.	1998
Institute of Neural Computation Prize.	1994–1997
Feinberg Graduate School Merit Award.	1993–1994
Honors List and Dean's Award for outstanding thesis: "Thematic Abstraction Units."	1989–1990
Merit Scholarship and Member of Honor Society, FDU.	1985–1988

## Summary

I have authored more than 150 peer-reviewed publications, including in top journals such as *Nature*, *Nature Reviews Neuroscience*, *The Lancet Psychiatry*, *Archives of General Psychiatry (JAMA Psychiatry)*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Brain*, and *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience* (with over a thousand citations). In addition, I have published my programmatic research efforts in leading niche journals including *Psychological Science*, *PLoS Medicine*, *Cortex*, and *NeuroImage*. Moreover, I published three peer-reviewed volumes, commissioned by reputable academic publishing houses (e.g., Oxford University Press) and am currently completing two more books. I have a demonstrated track-record of successful grantsmanship, teaching, service, and scholarship.

My contributions are multi-factorial and apply both outside and within the University. Outside the University, I am an active communicator of popular science and an avid proponent of community outreach including high school and college education, responsible media appearances (e.g., New York Times, Scientific American Mind), featured documentaries on specific neuroscience topics (e.g., with the BBC, National Geographic, and CBC), editorial responsibilities, administrative leadership positions in both international societies and professional organizations, and communicating with the general public. Within the university circle, I have served on the Board of Governors at McGill, McGill Senate, and the McGill Association of University Teachers. I regularly engage in a variety of University-related affairs. I also find the time to contribute to the important causes of continuing medical education, including homecoming, and fundraising events.

I enjoy teaching and thrive on interacting with students. As a former professional performer, standing in front of and engaging my audience comes naturally to me. I am passionate about effective teaching and strive to offer meaningful and memorable educational experiences to my students and colleagues. I have taught undergraduate, graduate, medical, and non-degree students for more than 30 years.

Cognitive scientists typically distinguish between controlled (i.e., voluntary) and automatic (i.e., involuntary) mental processes. On the one hand, controlled processes are effortful, deliberate, and demand attention (e.g., acquiring literacy for a neophyte). On the other hand, automatic processes are effortless, “happen on their own,” and require little attention (e.g., word reading for a skilled reader). While several researchers have studied how controlled processes may become automatic (e.g., through extensive practice and persistent exposure), only a few studies have explored how automatic processes could return to the purview of voluntary control and free will. My overarching research trajectory addresses this topic and comprises a converging series of interrelated experiments – drawing on different experimental paradigms to elucidate how automatic processes can be de-automatized. This program has guided my research for nearly a decade and represents a novel research direction exploring the influence of top-down processes – e.g., framing, priming, and symbolic thinking – including suggestion and expectation, on a wide array of bottom-up processes. Findings from this research program pave the road to a more scientific understanding of the neural correlates of healthy as well as abnormal brain computations, hold important therapeutic implications for patients suffering from psychopathologies, and elucidate fundamental processes in the behavioral and neurocognitive sciences.

## Recent Peer-Reviewed Publications

*Bold font indicates a supervised student.*

### a) Select Papers

1. **Wong, A.**, and Raz, A. (2021). Microdosing with Classical Psychedelics: Research Trajectories and Practical Considerations. *Transcultural Psychiatry*.
2. **Kaypak, A. C.** and Raz, A. (2021). Macro dosing to micro dosing with psychedelics: Clinical, social, and cultural perspectives. *Transcultural Psychiatry*.
3. **Landry, M., Da Silva Castanheira, J., Milton, D., & Raz, A.** (2021) Suggestion alters Stroop automaticity: Hypnotic alexia through a proactive lens. *Psychology of Consciousness: Theory, Research, and Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/cns0000268>
4. **Thériault, R., Olson, J. A., Krol, S. A. & Raz, A.** (2021) Body swapping with a black person boosts empathy: Using virtual reality to embody another. *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*. 174702182111024826.
5. **Olson, J.A., Lifshitz, M., Raz, A., and Vessière, S.P.L.** (2021). Super placebos: A feasibility study combining contextual factors to promote placebo effects. *Front. Psychiatry* 12:644825
6. **Landry, M., Da Silva Castanheira, J., Sackur, J., Raz, A.** (2021). Investigating how the modularity of visuospatial attention shapes conscious perception using type 1 and type 2 signal detection theory. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*.
7. **Olson, J. A., Sandra, D., Chmoulevitch, D., Raz, A., & Veissière, S. P.** (2021). A ten-step behavioural intervention to reduce screen time and problematic smartphone use. (*Preprint*).
8. **Olson, J. A., & Raz, A.** (2021) Applying insights from magic to improve deception in research: The Swiss cheese model. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*. 104053.
9. **Olson, J. A., Sandra, D. A., Colucci, É. S., et al.** (2020). Smartphone addiction is increasing across the world: A meta-analysis of 24 countries. (*Preprint*). <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/fsn6v>
10. **Landry M., Da Silva Castanheira J, Sackur J, & Raz A.** (2020). Difficult Turned Easy: Suggestion Renders a Challenging Visual Task Simple, *Psychological Science*.
11. **Landry, M., Da Silva Castanheira, J., Milton, D., Raz, A.** (2020). Suggestion alters automaticity: Hypnotic alexia through a proactive lens. *Psychology of Consciousness: Theory, Research, and Practice*.
12. **Olson, J.A., Suissa-Rochelleau, L., Lifshitz, M.** et al. (2020). Tripping on nothing: placebo psychedelics and contextual factors. *Psychopharmacology*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00213-020-05464-5>
13. **Olson, J. A., Artenie, D. Z., Cyr, M., Raz, A., & Lee, V.** (2019). Developing a light-based intervention to reduce fatigue and improve sleep in rapidly rotating shift workers. *Chronobiology International*, 1-19.
14. **Krol, S. A., Thériault, R., Olson, J. A., Raz, A., & Bartz, J.** (2019). Self-Concept Clarity and the Bodily Self: Malleability Across Modalities. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*. doi: 10.1177/0146167219879126
15. **Thériault, R., & Raz, A.** (2018). Patterns of bronchial challenge testing in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Respiratory Therapy*, 54(2), 41-47. doi: 10.29390/cjrt-2018-006.
16. **Thibault RT, Lifshitz M, & Raz A.** (2018). The Climate of Neurofeedback: Scientific Rigour and the Perils of Ideology *Brain*.
17. **Thibault, R. T., Veissière S., Olson, J. A., & Raz, A.** (2018). Treating ADHD with Suggestion: Neurofeedback and Placebo Therapeutics. *Journal of Attention Disorders*, 22(8), 707-711.
18. **Landry, M., Stendel, M., Landry, M., & Raz, A.**(2018). Hypnosis in palliative care: from clinical insights to the science of self-regulation. *Annals of palliative medicine*, 7(1).
19. **Thibault, R. T., MacPherson, A., Lifshitz, M., Roth, R. R., & Raz, A.** (2018). Neurofeedback with fMRI: A critical systematic review. *NeuroImage*, 172, 786–807.