Aaron A. Wright

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Bio

I study the social mind in dialogue: how the human brain processes language and structures conversation. More specifically, I consider emotion & affect in conversation, miscommunication, culture & bilingualism, and interoception using computational modeling, neuroimaging (EEG, fMRI), and behavioral methods.

Education

B.S. in **Cognitive Science of Language**; **Minors** in **Psychology**, **French** — 2024
Gordon College Honors Institute | *Kenneth L. Pike Honors, Summa cum laude* — *Wenham, MA*

Professional & Research Experience

Brown University
Lab Manager | *Carney Institute for Brain Science, Cognitive and Psychological Sciences* — 2026 - Present
Computational neuroscience, studying embodied intelligence, brain-body feedback loops, and their implications for psychiatry. — *Providence, RI*

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
K. Lisa Yang Post-Baccalaureate Research Scholar | *McGovern Institute for Brain Research, Brain & Cognitive Sciences* — 2024 - 2026
Neuroimaging and behavioral approaches, investigating the neural bases of language and bilingualism. — *Cambridge, MA*

Gordon College
Research Assistant | *School of Science, Technology, and Health* — 2023 - 2024
Structural neuroimaging and auditory analyses for clinical and behavioral profiling of brass instrumentalists. — *Wenham, MA*

Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine | *National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)*
Neuropsychology Research Assistant | Framingham Heart Study: Brain Aging Program, — 2023 - 2024
Psychometric data verification and clinical profile auditing, studying cognitive correlates of neurodegenerative diseases. — *Framingham, MA*

Teaching & Mentorship Experience

Brown University
Teaching Assistant | *Carney Institute for Brain Science, Cognitive and Psychological Sciences* — 2026
Laboratory in EEG Methodology (CPSY-1197). — *Providence, RI*

Harvard University Summer School
Teaching Assistant | *Division of continuing Education* — 2026
Language in the Brain (PSYC P-17501). — *Cambridge, MA*

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
MRSP-Bio Pal | *McGovern Institute for Brain Research, Brain & Cognitive* — 2025
Provided mentorship and academic support to undergraduate scholars hosted in BCS labs. — *Cambridge, MA*

Gordon College
Teaching Assistant | *School of Psychology and Human Services, School of Humanities and Social Sciences* — 2021 - 2022
Introduction to Linguistics (LIN201); Research Methods I & II (PSY256, PSY257); (The Great Conversation (COR107 & COR110) — *Wenham, MA*

Activities, Service, & Other Investments

Outside Board Member | *Gordon College Institutional Review Board (IRB)* — 2026 - Present
Compass Path: Iceland | *Reykjavík & Akureyri, Iceland* — 2023, 2025
Relational, volunteer service for immigrant and refugee communities; organized extracurricular programming for local youth.
Engage Lead: Cambodia | *Phnom Penh, Cambodia* | *Royal University of Law and Economics, National University of Management* — 2023
Assisted English teachers at Khmer universities; led IELTS prep workshops; participated in cross-cultural leadership training.
Languages | *English, French* | speaking: native, intermediate | reading: native, intermediate | writing: native, intermediate

Awards & Honors

† Funding awarded | * Applied | x Declined

National Science Foundation | **NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program**[x] (2025)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology | **School of Science Quality of Life Grant**[†] (twice, $2,000; Spring '25 & '25 Fall)
Gordon College | **Dick and Judy Gross Servant Leadership Scholarship**[†] ('23) | **Marion Jackson Carter Endowment Award**[†] ('23) | **Charles Diehm Scholarship**[†] ('23-'24) | **Wycliffe Scholarship**[†] ('22-'24) | **Kenneth L. Pike Honors** ('22-'24) | **Presidential Honors** ('20-'24) | **Harold John Ockenga (President's) Scholarship**[†] ('20-'24) | **Resident Advisory Grants**[†] ($20,390, '21-'24)