

## Jona M. Ragona, *Academic Curriculum Vitae*

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CONTACT	Website: <a href="http://jonaragona.com">jonaragona.com</a> Citizenship: German & Italian	E-Mail: <a href="mailto:contact@jonaragona.com">contact@jonaragona.com</a> YouTube: <a href="https://youtube.com/@jonaragona">youtube.com/@jonaragona</a>
INTERESTS	Need for cognition, effort and motivation, meaning in life, moral judgment, conspiracy beliefs, and the impact of AI on cognition and learning	
EDUCATION	<b>Macalester College</b> , St. Paul, MN Bachelor of Arts in Psychology & Economics (GPA: 4.0/4.0) Advisor: <a href="#">Dr. Steve Guglielmo</a>	2024–2028
	<b>University of Oxford</b> , Oxford, United Kingdom Incoming visiting student at St. Catherine’s College	Spring & Summer 2027
	<b>UWC Mahindra College</b> , Pune, India International Baccalaureate Diploma	2021–2023
GRANTS & FUNDING	The ‘Good Life’ Data Challenge <i>LIVES Centre, University of Lausanne, &amp; University of Geneva</i>	2026–2027
<i>Totaling &gt; \$15,000</i>	Live-It Fund <i>Macalester College, Department of Entrepreneurship &amp; Innovation</i>	Summer 2026
	Mink Fund <i>Macalester College, Department of Psychology</i>	Spring 2026
	Macalester Summer Internship Grant (MSIG) <i>Macalester College, Department of Career Exploration</i>	Summer 2025
SCHOLARSHIPS & HONORS	Davis UWC Scholarship <i>Promoting global understanding and cultural exchange</i>	2024–2028
<i>Totaling &gt; \$320,000</i>	Kofi Annan Scholarship <i>Excellence in internationalism and civic engagement</i>	2024–2028
	Turck Honor Scholarship <i>Demonstrating special academic potential</i>	2024–2028
	UWC Scholarship <i>Merit scholarship; selected as 1 of 9 students in Austria</i>	2021–2023
	Center for Applied Rationality (CFAR) Scholarship <i>Full scholarship for applied rationality workshop</i>	November 2025
	Psi Chi, The International Honor Society in Psychology Dean’s List, Macalester College	2026–Present 2024–Present
WORKS IN PROGRESS	<b>J. M. Ragona</b> , B. Hovet, T. Schnell, & L. J. Danbolt. <i>Where Do We Turn When Meaning Crumbles? Worldview as a Moderator Between Crisis of Meaning and Conspiracy Beliefs.</i> Manuscript in preparation.	2026
TEACHING	<b>Preceptor for ECON119</b> , Macalester College <i>Principles of Economics</i> , Instructor: Dr. Maren Young.	Spring 2026
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	<b>J. M. Ragona</b> , B. Hovet, T. Schnell, & L. J. Danbolt. <i>Where Do We Turn When Meaning Crumbles? Worldview as a Moderator Between Crisis of Meaning and Conspiracy Beliefs.</i> Poster presentation at the Nordic Exis Conference 2026, Biri, Norway. [Conference Website]	May 2026
	K. Yang, L. Hunwicks, S. Robinson, A. Lyu, <b>J. M. Ragona</b> , & S. Guglielmo. <i>Moral leadership and the black sheep effect: Encouraging collective responsibility after ingroup transgressions.</i> Poster presentation at the 98th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL. [Program PDF]	April 2026

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	<b>Macalester College</b> Research Assistant, Morality & Social Cognition Lab (PI: Dr. Steve Guglielmo) <i>Moral leadership and the black sheep effect</i>	Spring 2026
	<b>Macalester College</b> , Independent Research (PSYC614) Supervised by Dr. Steve Guglielmo <i>Meaning, cognitive effort, and need for cognition, funded by Mink Fund</i>	Spring 2026
	<b>LIVES Centre</b> , University of Lausanne & University of Geneva Collaborator: Dr. Tatjana Schnell <i>Predicting a 'good life' using data from the Swiss Household Panel with 15,000+ respondents</i>	2026–2027
	<b>MF Specialized University Oslo &amp; University of Oslo</b> First Author & Corresponding Author Collaborators: Bendik Hovet, Dr. Tatjana Schnell & Dr. Lars J. Danbolt <i>Crisis of meaning, conspiracy beliefs, and worldviews among 1,000+ participants</i>	Fall 2025–Spring 2026
	<b>Macalester College</b> , In-Class Research (PSYC301) Supervised by Dr. Steve Guglielmo <i>Impact of AI use on critical thinking dependent on need for cognition</i>	Fall 2025
SCIENCE COMMUNICATION	YouTube Channel Video essays on psychology and philosophy; 18,000+ subscribers.	2023 – Present
OUTREACH & SERVICE	Incoming Residential Assistant, <b>Macalester College</b> Selected for the 2026/27 academic year; responsible for 50+ residents	Fall 2026
	Deradicalization Curriculum Project, “Reach Them First” Leading deradicalization project for German secondary schools Advisor: Dr. Maren Young.	2026
	Leader of Fire & Rescue Service, <b>UWC Mahindra College</b> Led 40+ member emergency response team through 9 wildfire missions	2021–2023
	Peer Support Group Facilitator, <b>UWC Mahindra College</b> Led workshops on mental health and provided individual mentoring for 40+ students	2022–2023
	Instructor for Fitness For The Future, <b>UWC Mahindra College</b> Led workshops on exercise and nutrition for children in rural villages (ages 5–10)	2021–2022
Peer Support Group Facilitator, <b>BRG Innsbruck</b> Led mental health & bonding sessions with 25+ freshmen (ages 10–12)	2019–2021	
FURTHER TRAINING & SKILLS	<b>Statistical Analysis:</b> R Studio (tidyverse, ggplot2, psych), multiple regression, ANOVA, mixed-effects models, power analysis (G*Power) <b>Tools:</b> Qualtrics, Prolific, Zotero, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X <b>Languages:</b> German (native), Italian (native), English (fluent), Latin (reading proficiency) <b>Artistic:</b> Classical guitar; three-time 1st place, Prima La Musica (Austria’s state & national youth music competition)	
SELECTED COURSEWORK	Independent Research Project (PSYC614), Research in Psychology I & II (PSYC201/301), Cognitive Neuroscience (PSYC244), Circuits of Motivation & Movement (PSYC394), Behavioral Economics (ECON294), Developing Healthy Skepticism in the Age of “Fake News” (PSYC394), Applied Multivariable Calculus (MATH135)	