

# Renana H. Ofan

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## ***EDUCATION***

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- Doctor of Philosophy** 2011 (expected)  
Center for Neural Science, New York University, New York, NY  
Emphasis: Face perception; GPA: 3.91.
- Master of Science in Brain and Behavior** June 2006  
Neurobiology department, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel  
Emphasis: Plasticity in the visual cortex; GPA: 3.73.
- Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience** June 2003  
Brain and behavior, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel  
Emphasis: Biology and Psychology. GPA: 3.69.

## ***RESEARCH EXPERIENCE***

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- New York University, Center for Neural Science, New York, NY** 2006-present  
*Graduate Research Assistant*  
Advisors: Professor David Amodio and Professor Nava Rubin  
Studying top-down influences on face perception. Using EEG and behavioral methods to examine how social group information is processed by the brain.
- Graduate Research Assistant*  
Advisor: Professor David Heeger  
Investigated cortical mapping of spatial attention in the parietal cortex using fMRI.
- The Hebrew University, Neurobiology Department, Jerusalem, Israel** 2004-2006  
*Graduate Research Assistant*  
Advisor: Professor Ehud Zohary  
Studied cortical plasticity in congenitally bilingual blind subjects using fMRI.
- Undergraduate Research Assistant, Honors Thesis* 2003  
Advisor: Professor Ehud Zohary  
Designed and run a behavioral study measuring verbal memory in blind participants.
- National Herbarium, Israel Plants Information Center, Jerusalem, Israel** 2002  
*Undergraduate Research Assistant*  
Collected and processed data in a national project of plant mapping.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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- New York University** 2007-2009  
*Teaching Assistant*  
Brain and Behavior: Prof. Paul Glimcher, Fall 2008  
Laboratory instructor of twenty non-science major undergraduate students.  
Behavioral & Integrative Neuroscience: Prof. Robert Shapley and Prof. Bijan Peseran, Fall 2009  
Teaching assistant for thirty neuroscience major undergraduate students.
- The Hebrew University** 2004-2006  
*Teaching Assistant*  
Brain and Behavior: Prof. Ehud Zohary, Spring 2004, 2005  
Teaching assistant for neuroscience major undergraduate students.  
Lab in Neuroscience: Prof. Marshal Devor, Spring 2005, 2006  
Tutor and laboratory instructor of undergraduate students.
- The Belmonte Science Center for Youth** 2003  
*Biology Teacher, 8<sup>th</sup> grade*  
Physiology class and lab instructor for high school students.

## **MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE**

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*Supervised and taught EEG data collection and analysis.* 2008-2010  
The following students have done research assistantship under my direction:

Devan Gotowka	(BA, Neuroscience, NYU)
Lisa Chen	(BA, Psychology, NYU)
Gina Myers	(BA, Psychology, University of Arizona)
Sejal Brahmhatt	(BA, Psychology, NYU)
Nina Becker	(MA, the Open University, Berlin)
Kaysi Franceus	(BA, Neuroscience, NYU)
Catharine Krebs	(BA, Psychology, NYU)
Marlene Bonnelly	(BA, Psychology, NYU)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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- Member of Association for Psychological Science, 2011-present
- Member of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology, 2009-2010
- Member of the Society for Neuroscience, 2005-2007, 2009-2010
- Member of the Organization for Human Brain Mapping, 2006

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

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- The UJA-Federation Selim and Rachel Benin Scholarship, 2010
- McCracken Fellowship, New York University, 2006-2011
- Dean's Travel Award, Graduate School of Arts and Science, New York University, 2009
- M.Sc. awarded magna cum laude, The Hebrew University, 2006
- B.Sc. awarded magna cum laude, The Hebrew University, 2003
- Dean's list, Graduate School of Arts and Science, The Hebrew University, 2003

## ***PUBLICATIONS***

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### *PEER REVIEWED*

- **Ofan R.**, Amodio D., & Rubin, N. (in preparation). The ‘Other-Race Advantage’ in White, Black and Asian students.
- **Ofan R.**, Rubin, N., & Amodio D. (in preparation). Social anxiety modulates face processing: an EEG study in a real-life social situation.
- **Ofan R.**, Rubin, N., & Amodio D. (In press). N170 responses to race and their relation to automatic and controlled responses to race. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*.
- **Ofan R.**, & Zohary E. (2007). Visual cortex activation in bilingual blind individuals during use of native and second language. *Cerebral Cortex*, 17(6):1249-1259.

### *CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS*

- **Ofan, R.**, Rubin, N., & Amodio, D. (2010). *Seeing Race: Top-Down Influences on Early Visual Processing of Faces*. Poster presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Las Vegas, NV.
- **Ofan, R.**, Rubin, N., & Amodio, D. (2009). *Top-Down Influences on Early Visual Processing of Different Race Faces*. Poster presented at the 39<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Chicago, IL.
- **Ofan R.**, & Zohary E., (2006). *Cortical plasticity in the occipital cortex of bilingual blind*. Poster presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of Organization for Human Brain Mapping, Florence.
- **Ofan (Spiegler), R.**, & Zohary E. (2005). *Is there a critical period for the massive reorganization in the visual cortex apparent in blind subjects?* Poster presented at the 35<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Washington DC.
- **Spiegler (Ofan) R.**, & Zohary E. (2004). *Cortical plasticity in the visual cortex of the bilingual blind: an fMRI study*. Talk presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Israeli Society for Neuroscience, Eilat, Israel.