Curriculum Vitae

Brendan Conway-Smith   brendan.conwaysmith@carleton.ca

Ottawa, ON   www.brendanconwaysmith.com

Citizenship: Canadian   (613) 897-4373

Education

2025 (expected) Ph.D. in Cognitive Science, Carleton University
Thesis: Metacognitive Skill Learning: A Computational Account

2020   Master of Cognitive Science, Carleton University
Thesis: Clarifying Metacognition Through Computational Modeling

2014   B.A. in Psychology, *Cum Laude,* Ottawa University
Major Psychology, Major Political Science

Employment

Contract Instructor, Carleton University

2024/25 Fall/Winter: Thinking and Knowing - FYSM 1607

2024 Summer: Theories in Cognitive Science - CGSC 2001

2023/24 Fall/Winter: Thinking and Knowing – FYSM 1607

2023 Winter: Theories in Cognitive Science - CGSC 2001

2022 Fall: Theories in Cognitive Science - CGSC 2001

2021 Summer: Theories in Cognitive Science - CGSC 2001

Teaching Assistant, Carleton University

2022   Methods in Cognitive Science - CGSC 2002B

2021   Theories in Cognitive Science - CGSC 1001B

2018-21 Mysteries of the Mind - CGSC 1001

2017   Cognitive Psychology - PSYC 2700

Awards

2025 Teaching Achievement Award - Instructor (Carleton University)

2024 SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship
   Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council ($40,000)

2023 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) ($15,000)

2023 Travel Award ($1,000)

2023 Lew Stelmach memorial scholarship - awarded to students who
   demonstrate excellence in the area of cognition ($1,400.00)

2022 Cognitive Science Graduate Scholarship
   Awarded annually to outstanding graduates in Cognitive Science.

2021 Lew Stelmach memorial scholarship - awarded to students who
   demonstrate excellence in the area of cognition ($1,400.00)

2020 Kevin Sampson Graduate Scholarship - awarded annually to students
   doing research in Human or Artificial Cognition.

2019 Hamlin graduate scholarship (nominated) - awarded annually by the Dean
   of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs to outstanding students.

2018 Award for Excellence - Teaching Assistant (Carleton University)

2018 The Mindtrust Leadership Development Program - leadership certificate

Publications

Conway-Smith, B. (2025 in press). Metacognition as a domain of skill. In
   Proceedings of the Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.

Conway-Smith, B., & West, R. L. (2025 in press). Metacognition in HCI:
   Designing Systems for Planning and Flexibility. In *Proceedings of the 27th HCI
   International Conference,* HCII 2025.

Conway-Smith, B., & West, R. L. (2024). The computational mechanisms
   of detached mindfulness. In *Proceedings of ICCM 2024, 22nd International
   Conference on Cognitive Modelling.*

Conway-Smith, B., & West, R. L. (2024). Toward autonomy: metacognitive learning for advanced AI performance. In *AAAI Spring Symposium: Human-like learning*.

West, R., Eckler, S., Conway-Smith, B., Turcas, N., Tomkins, E., Kelly, M. (2023). Bridging generative networks with the common model of cognition. In *AAAI Fall Symposium*.

Conway-Smith, B., & West, R. L. (2023). Metacognitive threshold: a computational account. In *Proceedings of ICCM 2023, 21st International Conference on Cognitive Modelling*.

Conway-Smith, B., West, R. L., & Mylopoulos. (2023). Metacognitive skill: how it is acquired. In *Proceedings of the Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Conway-Smith, B., & West, R. L. (2022). System-1 and System-2 realized within the Common Model of Cognition. In *AAAI Fall Symposium: Thinking Fast & Slow and Other Cognitive Theories in AI*.

Conway-Smith, B. & West, R. (2022). Clarifying System-1 & 2 through the common model of cognition. In *Proceedings of ICCM 2022, 20th International Conference on Cognitive Modelling*.

West, R., & Conway-Smith, B. (2019). A computational theory of feeling. In *Proceedings of ICCM 2019, 17th International Conference on Cognitive Modelling*.

Conferences & Presentations

2025
"Metacognition as a domain of skill." Carleton University graduate conference. Ottawa, Canada.

2024
"Toward Autonomy: Metacognitive Learning for Enhanced AI Performance." Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI). Stanford, USA.

"The Computational Mechanisms of Detached Mindfulness." 22nd International Conference on Cognitive Modelling (ICCM). Tilburg, Netherlands.

2023

"Metacognitive threshold: a computational account." 21st International
  Conference on Cognitive Modelling (ICCM). Amsterdam, Netherlands.

"Metacognitive skill: how it is acquired." Carleton University graduate conference.
  Ottawa, Canada.

2022

"Meta-reasoning and the influence of culture." Meta-reasoning conference.
  Jerusalem, Israel.

"System-1 and System-2 realized within the Common Model of Cognition."
  Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI),
  Fall Symposium: Thinking Fast & Slow and Other Cognitive Theories in AI.
  Virginia, USA.

"ACT-R workshop presentation." (ICCM 2022) The 20th International
  Conference on Cognitive Modelling, Toronto, Canada.

 "Clarifying System 1 & 2 through the Common Model of Cognition." The 20th
  International Conference on Cognitive Modelling (ICCM), Toronto, Canada.

2021

"The Proceduralization of Metacognitive Skills." Proceedings of the Annual
  Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society. Virtual.

"Metacognitive Skill Acquisition." presentation at the annual Conference at
  Carleton University, Ottawa, ON.

2020

"A Hierarchical Model of Metacognition." The 42th Annual Meeting of the
  Cognitive Science Society.

"Modeling Metacognition." Departmental Colloquium, Carleton, ON

2019

"Metacognitive Modeling; using cognitive modeling to clarify philosophical
  metacognitive concepts." Annual conference CogSci. Mtl, QB

Technical Skills

Statistical Analysis & Modeling: SPSS for statistical analysis and data interpretation.

Cognitive Modeling: Experienced with ACT-R for cognitive modeling.

Programming & Development: Skilled in Python for data analysis, and scripting.

Graphic Design & Video Editing: Adobe Photoshop and DaVinci Resolve.

Additional Professional Experience

2021-25 YouTube content creator on metacognition @Meta-Think (2K+ subscribers)

2025 Project leader - Student Partnership Program (Carleton University)

2022-25 Member of AAAI the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence

2021-24 Submission reviewer for the International Conference on Cognitive Modeling (ICCM)

2023 ACT-R workshop presentation - International Conference on Cognitive Modeling (ICCM)

2023 Consultant on metacognition e-learning modules FUSION, Carleton University.

2023 TEDx "Metacognition: an important skill for modern times"

2022 Re-branding and marketing for AI Guides company.

2021 The Conversation (article) "How metacognition can improve the mental-health crisis."

2018-24 Graduate Student Association - Councillor

2018 The Mindtrust Leadership Development Program

2017 Stanford "Writing in the Sciences," with distinction

2016 Director of Media Operations, Global Dignity Canada

2012 Participant, Dr. David Vago, Neuroimaging Laboratory, Harvard