

Curriculum Vitae of

**BENJAMIN J. GELBART**

New Haven, Connecticut | Ben.Gelbart@Yale.edu | (805) 206-4117



**EDUCATION**

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- PhD in Psychological and Brain Sciences** **2025**  
*Specialization: Evolutionary and Developmental Psychology*  
University of California, Santa Barbara
- BS in Psychological Science** **2017**  
*Minor: Anthropology*  
Arizona State University

**RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP**

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***Publications***

1. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Conroy-Beam, D., Walter, K.V. (2025). The function of love: A signaling-to-alternatives account of the commitment device hypothesis. *Evolution and Human Behavior*.
2. Conroy-Beam, D., **Gelbart, B.J.** (in press). Cognitive architecture for mating. In M. Fisher (Ed.), *APA Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology*.
3. Coventry, A., Mixner, S., **Gelbart, B.J.**, Walter, K.V., Conroy-Beam, D. (2025). De-Confounding Sex and Sex of Partner in Mate Preference Research. *Psychological Science*.
4. Kowal, M., Bode, A.,...**Gelbart, B.J.**, Sorokowski, P. (2025). Cross-cultural data on romantic love, mate preferences, and physical attractiveness from 117,293 participants across 175 countries. *Nature Scientific Data*.
5. Kowal, M., Bode, A.,...**Gelbart, B.J.**, Sorokowski, P. (2024). Love as a commitment device: evidence from a cross-cultural study across 90 countries. *Human Nature*.
6. Kowal, M., Sorokowski, P., Pisanski, K., Valentova, J. V., Varella, M. A., Frederick, D. A.,...**Gelbart, B.J.**...& Mišetić, K. (2022). Predictors of enhancing human physical attractiveness: Data from 93 countries. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 43(6), 455-474.
7. Soliman, T. M., Munion, A.K., Goodwin, B., **Gelbart, B.J.**, Blais, C., & Glenberg, A.M. (2021). Joint action enhances subsequent social learning by strengthening a mirror mechanism. In M. Robinson & L. Thomas (Eds.), *Embodied Cognition: Thinking, Feeling, and Acting*. New York, NY: Springer.

### ***Manuscripts Under Review and In Preparation***

1. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Salovey, P., Conroy-Beam, D. (manuscript under review at *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*). Do emotions show evidence of design? Adaptationism and the emotions debate.
2. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Krems, J.A., Pick, C. M., Ganesan, A., Thompson, M., & Cohen, A. B. (manuscript under review at *Emotion*). When less is more: Jealousy decreases as partner number increases.
3. Walter, K.V., **Gelbart, B.J.**, Coventry, A., Conroy-Beam, D. (co-first authorship) (manuscript under review at *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*). Mapping mating psychology across gender identity and sexual orientation in a large LGBTQ+ sample.
4. Coventry, A., **Gelbart, B.J.**, Walter, K.V., German, T., Conroy-Beam, D. (manuscript under review at *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*). Preferences and Polyamory: Investigating Ideal Mate Preferences for Concurrent Partners in Monogamous and Polyamorous Individuals.
5. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Conroy-Beam, D.,... (manuscript in preparation). Culturally variable or culturally invariant? Jealousy across 65 countries.
6. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Salovey, P., Conroy-Beam, D. (manuscript in preparation). What do green-eyed monsters see? Conceptualizing romantic jealousy as a bayesian infidelity-detector.

### **ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS**

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#### ***Conference Presentations***

1. **Gelbart, B.J.** & Conroy-Beam, D. (2025, June). *Jealousy and the emotions debate: Conceptualizing romantic jealousy as a bayesian infidelity-detector*. Talk presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Atlantic City, NJ.
2. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Walter, K., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2025, February). *Where does the green-eyed monster lurk? Jealousy across 37 cultures*. Talk presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Denver, CO.
3. Coventry, A., **Gelbart, B.J.**, Walter, K., German, T., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2023, June). *De-confounding sex and sex of partner in mate preference research*. Talk presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Denver, CO.
4. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Walter, K., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2024, October). *Love makes the hearts of alternatives less fond: A signaling-to-alternatives account of romantic love*. Talk presented at the Virtual Loveresearch.info Symposium.
5. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Walter, K., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2024, June). *Where does the green-eyed monster lurk? Jealousy across 37 cultures*. Talk presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Aarhus, Denmark.

6. Coventry, A., **Gelbart, B.J.**, Walter, K., German, T., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2023, June). *De-confounding sex and sex of partner in mate preference research*. Talk presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Aarhus, Denmark.
7. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Walter, K., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2024, May). *Where does the green-eyed monster lurk? Jealousy across 37 cultures*. Talk presented at the California Workshop on Evolutionary Social Science, Goleta, CA.
8. Coventry, A., Walter, K., **Gelbart, B.J.**, German, T., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2023, June). *Preferences and polyamory: Mapping ideal mate preferences for concurrent partners*. Talk presented at the California Workshop on Evolutionary Social Science, Goleta, CA.
9. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Walter, K., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2023, July). *The function of love: Assessing commitment device and relationship maintenance hypotheses of romantic love*. Data Blitz presented at the European Association of Social Psychology Conference, Krakow, Poland.
10. Coventry, A., Walter, K., **Gelbart, B.J.**, German, T., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2023, June). *Preferences and polyamory: Mapping ideal mate preferences for concurrent partners*. Talk presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Palm Springs, CA.
11. **Gelbart, B.J.** & Conroy-Beam, D. (2023, June). *Green-eyed monster or green-eyed mind reader? Jealousy tracks future vulnerability to infidelity*. Talk presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Palm Springs, CA.
12. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Walter, K., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2021, June). *The function of love: Assessing commitment device and relationship maintenance hypotheses of romantic love*. Talk presented at the Virtual Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference.
13. Ambrish, P., **Gelbart, B.J.**, & Conroy-Beam, D. (2021, June). *What the green-eyed monster sees: Jealousy tracks predictions of others' trait preferences*. Flash Talk presented at the Virtual Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference.
14. Tran, L., & **Gelbart, B.J.** (2017, April). *Integrating phenomenological and neurobiological models to enhance prediction of adult psychopathology and suicidality*. Talk presented at the American Association of Suicidology Conference, Phoenix, AZ.

### **Conference Posters**

1. Zhang, Q., **Gelbart, B.J.**, German, T.C. (2023, February). *Effects of cultural values and outness on psychological well-being among young, LGBTQ+ adults*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
2. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Yang, N., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2022, June). *Distinguishing partner-focused and rival-focused mate retention behavior*. Poster presented at the Virtual Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference.
3. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Yang, N., & Conroy-Beam, D. (2022, February). *Distinguishing partner-focused and rival-focused mate retention behavior*. Poster presented at the Virtual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference.

4. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Pick, C. M., Ganesan, A., & Cohen, A. B. (2018, March). *Ease your partner's jealousy by cheating again: Jealousy decreases as partner number increases*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Atlanta, GA.
5. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Pick, C. M., Ganesan, A., & Cohen, A. B. (2018, July). *Ease your partner's jealousy by cheating again: Jealousy decreases as partner number increases*. Poster presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
6. **Gelbart, B.J.**, & Krems, J. A. (2017, June). *Death management theory: An alternative explanation for terror management phenomena?* Poster presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Boise, ID.
7. **Gelbart, B.J.**, Tran, L. (2017, April). *Connecting ultimate and proximate explanations of suicide*. Poster presented at the American Association of Suicidology Conference, Phoenix, AZ.
8. **Gelbart, B.J.**, & Krems, J. A. (2017, January). *Death management theory: An alternative explanation for terror management phenomena?* Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, San Antonio, TX.

### ***Conference Organization***

Assisted in organizing the Arizona Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference, Tempe, AZ (2014, November).

### **TEACHING ACTIVITIES**

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#### **Instructor of Record**

*University of California, Santa Barbara*

Evolution and Cognition

**2022**

#### **Teaching Assistantships**

*University of California, Santa Barbara*

Human Relationships

**2020 – 2024**

Research Methods

**2020, 2025**

Psychological Statistics

**2019 – 2022, 2025**

Health Psychology

**2021**

Evolution and Cognition

**2020**

Psychopathology

2020

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT

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### *Professional Roles*

#### **Postdoctoral Investigator**

2025 – Present

Department of Psychology at Yale University

New Haven, CT

- Conduct research using cross-cultural data, dyadic data, and computational models examining the cognitive architecture of romantic jealousy and romantic love.

#### **Graduate Student Researcher**

2019 - 2025

Computational Mate Choice Laboratory | Advisor: Daniel Conroy-Beam

Santa Barbara, CA

- Conducted dissertation research testing the possibility that romantic jealousy may show evidence of mathematically optimal design for infidelity detection.

#### **Data Science Consultant**

2024 - 2025

Human Relations Area Files at Yale University

New Haven, CT

- Performed data analysis using R and RMarkdown on HRAF datasets for an NSF-funded study examining cultural responses to natural disasters.

#### **Laboratory Manager**

2019 - 2025

Decision Neuroscience Lab | Advisor: Samuel McClure

Phoenix, AZ

- Ran fMRI studies, interviewed and managed research assistants, and analyzed data using the statistical software STATA.

### *Technical Development*

#### **Shiny App Developer**

2023 - present

Link: <http://www.plotzingplots.com>

- Develop and manage an R package, *Plotzing*, and an associated Shiny app designed to streamline the creation of publication-ready plots.

### *Workshops and Training*

**Summer Research Institute Trainee** **2023**

Human Relations Area Files - Institute for Comparative Anthropological Research

Yale University | New Haven, CT

- Coded eHRAF data to examine conflict between co-wives across samples of societies in the Standard Cross-Cultural Sample and the Probability Sample Files.

**Agent-Based Modeling R Programming Workshop Trainee** **2019**

Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences

University of California, Santa Barbara | Santa Barbara, CA

- Acquired hands-on experience designing agent-based models in the R programming language for testing hypotheses relevant to mate choice, behavioral “fads,” and racial discrimination, among other topics, in an NSF-supported workshop.

### AWARDS

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University of Wroclaw Visiting Scholars Award	<b>2026</b>
Adam Bode Love Research Student Presentation Award	<b>2024</b>
Academic Senate Doctoral Student Travel Grant	<b>2023</b>
UCSB Conference Travel Award	<b>2022, 2023</b>

### ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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Society for Affective Science  
Human Behavior and Evolution Society  
Society for Personality and Social Psychology  
American Psychological Association

### ADDITIONAL SKILLS

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*Software and Tools:* R, RMarkdown, Quarto, eHRAF World Cultures, Qualtrics, STATA, PsychoPy