

# Laura L. Grima, D.Phil.

Research Scientist  
HHMI Janelia

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## Research Positions

May 2025 – present	<b>Research Scientist, HHMI Janelia</b> Dudman Lab, Mechanistic Cognitive Neuroscience
Sep. 2019 – April 2025	<b>Postdoctoral Associate, HHMI Janelia</b> Dudman Lab, Mechanistic Cognitive Neuroscience
Nov. 2018 – Aug. 2019	<b>Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Oxford</b> Walton Lab, Department of Experimental Psychology
July – Oct. 2016	<b>Visiting Scientist, Champalimaud Centre for the Unknown, Portugal</b> Paton Lab

## Education

2014 – 2018	<b>D.Phil. Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford</b> <i>Investigating the neurochemical basis of action initiation, selection, and inhibition</i> Supervised by Prof. Mark Walton and Prof. Masud Husain External examiner: Prof. Trevor Robbins (University of Cambridge) Internal examiner: Prof. Rafal Bogacz
2013 – 2014	<b>M.Sc. Psychological Research, University of Oxford</b> Supervised by Prof. Masud Husain and Dr. Matthew Apps
2010 – 2013	<b>B.Sc. Psychology, Royal Holloway University of London</b>

## Peer-reviewed publications

Asterisks (\*): co-first authors. Daggers (†): corresponding author(s).

Grima LL<sup>†</sup>, Guo Y, Narayan L, Hermundstad AM, & Dudman, JT<sup>†</sup> (2026). A global dopaminergic learning rate enables adaptive foraging across many options. *Neuron*, *in press*. [bioRxiv](#)

Grima, LL<sup>†</sup>, Haberkern H, Mohanta R, Morimoto MM, Rajagopalan AE, & Scholey EV (2025). Foraging as an ethological framework for neuroscience. *Trends in Neurosciences*, *48*(11), 877-890.

Grima LL<sup>†</sup>, Panayi MC, Harmson O, Syed ECJ, Manohar SG, Husain M, & Walton ME<sup>†</sup> (2022). Nucleus accumbens D1-receptors regulate and focus transitions to reward-seeking action. *Neuropsychopharmacology*, *47*, 1721-1731.

Harmson O<sup>\*†</sup>, Grima LL<sup>\*†</sup>, Panayi MC, Husain M, & Walton ME<sup>†</sup> (2022). 5-HT<sub>2C</sub> receptor perturbation has bidirectional influence over instrumental vigour and restraint. *Psychopharmacology*, *239*, 123-140.

Chong TJ, Apps M, Giehl K, Sillence A, Grima LL, & Husain M (2017). Neurocomputational mechanisms underlying subjective valuation of effort costs. *PLoS Biology*, *15*(2), e1002598.

Syed ECJ, [Grima LL](#), Magill PJ, Bogacz R, Brown P, & Walton ME (2016). Action initiation shapes mesolimbic dopamine encoding of future rewards. *Nature Neuroscience*, 19(1), 34-36.

Apps MAJ, [Grima LL](#), Manohar S, & Husain M (2015). The role of cognitive effort in subjective reward devaluation and risky decision-making. *Scientific Reports*, 5, 16880.

## Conference talks

July 2026	Barrels meeting, Barcelona, Spain
March 2026	'Algorithms for learning from scratch' workshop, CoSyNe, Lisbon
March 2025	'Reimagining reinforcement learning' workshop, CoSyNe, Montreal
May 2024	Monitoring Molecules in Neuroscience, UNC Chapel Hill
February 2024	Janelia conference: the Mechanistic Basis of Foraging
June 2020	FENS 2020, Virtual Forum
May 2019	9 <sup>th</sup> International Symposium on the Biology of Decision-Making, Oxford

## Invited seminars

March 2026	Bordeaux Neurocampus seminar, University of Bordeaux
November 2025	Sussex Neuroscience seminar, University of Sussex
August 2025	Movement & Learning Journal Club, Carnegie Mellon & University of Pittsburgh
January 2025	BEACON Seminar, University of Oxford
January 2025	Emerging Neuroscientists Seminar Series (ENSS), Sainsbury Wellcome Centre
October 2023	School of Psychology & Neuroscience Seminar, University of Glasgow
January 2023	Physiology, Pharmacology, & Neuroscience Seminar, University of Bristol
November 2022	SLAB Lab seminar, University of California, Santa Barbara
January 2019	Department of Psychology Seminar Series, Royal Holloway
October 2018	Dudman Lab, HHMI Janelia
July 2018	MSD D.Phil. Day, University of Oxford
July 2017	Department of Psychology Seminar Series, University of York

## Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

*Please note that as researchers working at Janelia are not permitted to receive grant funding, I have not submitted any grants during my current position.*

July 2018	Presentation Prize, MSD D.Phil. Day, University of Oxford
Jan. – June 2018	Goodger & Schorstein Scholarship (£6,000), University of Oxford
August 2017	Research Training Support Grant (£1,300), ESRC
August 2017	Travel Grant (£1,000), Guarantors of Brain
July 2017	Special Grant (£630), St. John's College, Oxford
July 2017	Best Poster Award, FENS/SfN Summer School
September 2016	Special Grant (£620), St. John's College, Oxford
September 2016	Competitive Travel Grant (€500), Dopamine 2016
July 2016	Academic Travel Award (£500), Santander
July 2016	Research Training Support Grant (£170), ESRC
July – Oct. 2016	Overseas Institutional Visit Grant (£1,900), ESRC
October 2015	Travel Grant (£800), Guarantors of Brain
October 2015	Special Grant (£800), St. John's College, Oxford
May 2015	Research Training Support Grant (£600), ESRC
2014 – 2017	Full D.Phil. funding (£61,800), ESRC & St. John's College, Oxford

## Teaching and Supervision

July 2025 – present	Co-mentorship of PhD student
2025	Scientists Teaching Science – 10 week online course
2021	Co-mentor, Janelia-Meyerhoff Undergraduate Summer Program
2017 – 2019	Visiting Lecturer, <i>Brain and Behaviour</i> , Royal Holloway University of London
2017 – 2018	Supervision of Sebastian Andersson and Freya Marijatta, M.Sc. Neuroscience projects
2015 – 2019	Tutor, <i>Brain Anatomy Practical</i> , Royal Holloway University of London
2015 – 2016	Supervision of visiting student Oliver Harmson
2015	Teaching and Learning Skills Course, University of Oxford

## Professional Service

March 2026	Workshop co-organiser: ‘Algorithms for learning from scratch’, CoSyNe, Lisbon, Portugal
November 2025	Conference co-organiser: ‘Mechanistic basis of foraging’, University of Birmingham
Aug. 2025 – present	CoSyNe Program Committee member
February 2024	Conference co-organiser: ‘Bridging diverse perspectives on the mechanistic basis of foraging’, HHMI Janelia
2021 – 2023	Co-organiser of The Future of Foraging seminar series (online)
2016 – 2017	President of the Bryant Society for Experimental Psychologists, Oxford
2016 – 2017	ESRC doctoral training centre Scholars’ Association Secretary, Oxford
2015 – 2017	Vice Chair of Graduate Joint Consultative Committee, Department of Experimental Psychology, Oxford
2011 – 2013	Psychology Student Representative, Royal Holloway University of London
Journal review	<i>Ad hoc</i> reviewer for 10 journals and 2 funding agencies, including Nature Neuroscience, eLife, Neuropsychopharmacology, PLoS Biology, iScience. Completed HHMI’s <i>Transparent and Accountable Peer Review Workshop</i> (Sept. 2025)
Conference review	CoSyNe (2025)