

## Sean Wenzel

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### Education

#### Columbia University

Candidate for Master of Science in Journalism

New York, NY

August 2026-August 2028

#### Northeastern University

Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology, Magna Cum Laude

Bachelor of Science Degree in Philosophy, Magna Cum Laude

Minor in Behavioral Neuroscience

Boston, MA

September 2020-May 2024

GPA: 3.74

#### Honors:

- *Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2023, Spring 2024 Dean's List (only terms possible)*
- *National Honor Society in Neuroscience, #2 Top Trainee Poster (35th annual AAAP Scientific Symposium. For MGH meta-analysis).*

#### Cornell University

Coursework: *Neural Circuits and Social Behavior*

Ithaca, NY

January-May 2022

GPA: 4.00

### Work Experience

#### Boston-Harvard Burn Injury Model System

##### Clinical Research Coordinator

Boston, MA

October 2025-January 2026

- Designed a qualitative study investigating gaps in burn care resource adoption.
- Validated study measures through iterative feedback.
- Recruited participants for a longitudinal study designed to improve long-term physical, social, and psychological outcomes.
- Wrote a manuscript investigating the association between itch, body image, and sleep disturbance in burn patients.

#### MGH Center for Addiction Medicine

##### Staff/Research Assistant

Boston, MA

June 2023-January 2024

- Conducted a meta-analysis investigating whether cue-elicited fMRI brain activation to illicit substances in substance use disorder populations can serve as a reliable predictive and response biomarker of treatment outcomes.
- Personally extracted study characteristics, participant attributes, details of the experimental design (e.g., task type, duration, stimuli), imaging parameters, and outcome measures (e.g., brain regions of interest, statistical values, substance use outcomes).
- Designed templates and tables for proper data extraction while maintaining conceptual consistency across multi-modal datasets.
- Extracted means, standard deviations, z scores, t scores, p values, and regression data.

- Sorted, cleaned, and categorized data for statistical analysis (effect size coding, quality assessments, multi-factorial contrast types).
- Helped draft inclusion and exclusion criteria.
- Reviewed and voted on inclusion for 1500 abstracts and 160 full-text reviews.
- Conducted literature searches and wrote synopses of various treatments, neural mechanisms, and disorders.
- Conducted clinical interviews/assessments for participants enrolled in a study on using medical cannabis and opioid tapering support for the reduction of chronic pain and opioid dosage.
- Transcribed and reviewed clinical data in Redcap and other data-based software.

**MGH Center for Addiction Medicine**  
**Staff/Research Assistant**

**Boston, MA**  
**January 2024-October 2025**

- Continued research on a part-time basis.

**MGH Martinos Center for Biomedical Imaging**  
**Research Assistant**

**Boston, MA**  
**August-December 2023**

- Collected neuroimaging (fMRI), physiological, and cognitive-behavioral data with patients with OCD, Depression, Anxiety, and healthy participants.
- fMRI included functional, structural, and diffusion tensor scans.
- Gained experience implementing neuromodulatory methods, including transcranial focused ultrasound (TFUS), using neuronavigational methods (Brainsight Neuronavigation).
- Shadowed clinical assessments (MINI, YBOCS, and MADRS) for OCD participants.
- Tested study procedures, including new MRI protocols and new clinical assessments.

**Boston Medical Center, Department of Psychiatry**  
**Research Assistant**

**Boston, MA**  
**August-December 2022**

- Conducted recruitment for two qualitative studies for Dr. German Velez examining implicit bias of medical providers, and commonalities of resilience among undocumented children ages 8-18 in the U.S.
- Led overall project management, including storing and organizing participant information, protecting participant confidentiality, and compensating participants.
- Drafted and submitted documentation for IRB review and approval.
- Consented participants through phone screenings and email.
- Scheduled participants for phone calls and in-person interviews.
- Conducted semi-structured interviews to collect data for subsequent coding.
- Provided weekly verbal synopses of study status to PI, ensuring organization and progress.
- Developed versatility in EPIC, RedCap, and Excel software.

**Au Pair**

**Birmingham, UK**  
**April-August 2025**

- Worked as an au pair for three boys aged 7, 10, and 14 years.

**Greenstar Food Cooperative**  
**Team Member and Manager on Duty**

**Ithaca, NY**  
**July-November 2024**

- Worked in a local community marketplace providing groceries and meals in a residential building unit mainly comprised of senior citizens.
- Built relationships with, supported, and prepared food for these senior customers.
- Assisted customers throughout the store.
- Managed and closed the store when needed.

***Volunteer Positions***

**Camp Harbor View**  
**General Tutor**

**Boston, MA**  
**September-December 2021**

- Tutored students in grades 6-12.

***Publications:***

- *Cue-elicited Activation as a Predictive and Response Biomarker for Treatment Outcomes among Adults with Substance Use Disorders: A Meta-Analysis.*
  - ❖ Reference: Evohr B, Wenzel S, Chen N, et al. *Cue-Elicited Brain Activity and Treatment Outcomes in Substance Use Disorders: A Meta-Analysis. JAMA Netw Open.* 2025;8(12):e2548809. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2025.48809

***Relevant Coursework:***

**Advanced Writing in the Sciences:** Discussed the value, structure, and methods that make effective science writing. Wrote essays, articles, and stories to communicate science to a broad audience.

**Science and Pseudoscience:** Explored ways in which scientific revolutions impacted core themes in philosophy of science, including debates about how to define science and how to characterize scientific inference, explanation, theory change, and understanding of evidence.

**Theory of Knowledge:** Read and discussed epistemological theories relating to rationality, justification, evidence, deduction/induction, perception, externalism, a priori beliefs, and fallibilism.

**Philosophy of Mind:** Discussed topics including dualism, reduction of the mental to the physical, the nature of consciousness, the nature of mental content, and questions of mental causation.

**Clinical Neuroscience:** Approached mental disorders from both a biological and clinical psychological perspective.

**Neuropsychology:** Investigated structure and disorder in cortico-hippocampal, striatal, and limbic circuits. Wrote article analyses.

**Neurobiology of Learning and Memory:** Learned synapse-level and neural systems support of emergent memory function.

**Laboratory in Biological Psychology:** Investigated the behavioral and neurobiological effects of anabolic steroid use.

**Seminar in Cognitive Neuroscience:** Read 40 peer-reviewed articles mainly pertaining to adolescent development.

**Laboratory in Research Design:** Gained versatility in SPSS software. Independently developed novel research investigating the relationship between emotional regulation and religiosity through surveys.

**Statistics in Psychological Research:** Manually calculated correlations, regressions, ANOVAs, and Chi-Squares.