

Aaron Lenihan
Curriculum Vitae (revised 20 August 2023)

Current position:

Research Scientist 2
Institute for Social Research
Center for Applied Research and Analysis
University of New Mexico

Home Address:

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EDUCATION

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| 2012 – 2021 | University of Georgia, Athens
PhD, Department of Anthropology
Dissertation Title: <i>How does evolved psychology shape legal behavior? Evidence from a cognitive experiment and an ethnographic case study of cannabis law in Uruguay.</i> |
| 2004-2008 | University of California, Santa Barbara
Study abroad at University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa
B.A., Physical Anthropology |

AREAS OF THEORETICAL SPECIALIZATION

- Drug control policy –
 - Comparison of the effectiveness of drug prohibition vs. drug legalization policies in shaping drug users' attitudes and behaviors in the desired directions.
 - Uruguayan drug laws and history.
- Legal anthropology –
 - The cross-cultural study of institutions regulating entitlement and obligation.
 - Cognitive and behavioral models of how people respond to legal rules.
 - Ethnography of the local experience of cannabis laws in Uruguay.
- Economic anthropology –
 - Psychological models of economic decision-making.
 - Behavioral economics.
- Evolutionary psychology –
 - The psychological foundations of justice intuitions and institutions.
 - Evolved psychological mechanisms governing social exchange and threat.
 - Evolutionary game theory of positive and negative sum resource negotiation strategies.

RESEARCH SKILLS

- Mixed qualitative and quantitative social science research methods –
 - Semi-structured interviews and focus groups analyzed using thematic text analysis with MaxQDA and ATLAS.ti software.
 - Questionnaire design, pre-testing, and administration in paper or electronic form using Qualtrics software.
 - Scale construction and validation.
- Hypothesis testing using frequentist statistics –
 - Chi square tests for independence, t-tests, multiple linear regression, logistic regression, and factor analysis using R programming language.
- Designing, conducting, and analyzing controlled cognitive and behavioral experiments –
 - The Wason selection task for studying reasoning on conditional rules.
 - Economic games for studying fairness preferences in small scale societies.
- Fluent in Spanish –
 - I lived over two years in Spanish speaking countries and conducted a year of ethnographic fieldwork in Uruguay exclusively in Spanish.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Scientist II, Institute for Social Research, Center for Applied Research and Analysis, University of New Mexico. 10/2022 – present. Full-time staff. Job duties include using mixed qualitative and quantitative social science methods to conduct research and write reports about the needs and concerns of local New Mexican communities regarding issues of criminal justice and public health and to evaluate the effectiveness of government programs and initiatives designed to achieve specific health and justice outcomes.

Dissertation research in Montevideo, Uruguay from 11/2016 – 10/2017. Project title – “*Perceptions of Law and Marijuana Use in Uruguay*.” Served as Co-Principal Investigator. Duties included designing the study and coordinating all data collection and analysis activities. These activities included participant observation, semi-structured interviewing (n=27), and creating and validating a scale of Perceptions of Legal Unfairness (PLU) and administering this scale to a new sample (n=111). All data collection was done in Spanish.

Pre-dissertation research in Rocha, Uruguay from 05/2013-08/2013. Project title -- “*Historical Ecology of Conservation in Uruguay*.” Served as Co-Principal Investigator. Research activities included participant observation and semi-structured interviewing with stakeholders of coastal lands about the conflicts between habitat conservation and economic development and potential land-management solutions to these issues.

Archeological Technician Diver. National Park Service, Submerged Resources Center, Santa Fe, NM, 04/2008-06/2008. Full-time. Employed by the National Park Service in underwater survey operations of submerged archeological sites in Lake Meade and Lake Mohave, Nevada.

Field Biology and Archaeology Assistant. Ecology Division of Los Alamos National Labs, Los Alamos, NM, 06/2005-08/2005 and 06/2006-08/2006. Full-time. Small mammal trapping and Archaeological excavation on laboratory lands.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Lenihan, A. (submitted). Do humans have cognitive adaptations for reasoning about threats? Evidence from the Wason selection task. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, X:XX-XX.
- Lenihan, A. (in prep). Do cannabis users in Uruguay judge the fairness of cannabis laws in terms of self-ownership? *Law and Behavior*, X:XX-XX.
- Lenihan, A. (in prep). The concept of self-ownership shapes cannabis users' cultural models of the law's fairness in Uruguay. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, X:XX-XX.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Lenihan, A., Wilkins, K., Guerin, P., and Bernard, M. (2023). *Rural Senior Food Box Program Process Evaluation*. University of New Mexico Center for Applied Research and Analysis.
- Wilkins, K., Lenihan, A., and Guerin, P. (2023). *New Mexico Older Adult Needs Assessment – Phase I*. University of New Mexico Center for Applied Research and Analysis.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- 10/2019 4th Annual Southeastern Evolution and Human Behavior (SEEHB) Meeting, Atlanta – paper presentation titled: “Cognitive Adaptations for Reasoning About Threat.”
- 05/2019 Human Behavior and Evolution Society Annual Meeting, Boston -- paper presentation titled: “Do humans have cognitive adaptations for reasoning about threat? Evidence from the Wason selection task.”
- 04/2019 European Evolution and Human Behaviour Association Annual Conference, Toulouse, France -- poster presentation titled: “Do humans have cognitive adaptations for reasoning about threat? Evidence from the Wason selection task.”
- 02/2019 Society for Economic Anthropology Annual Conference, Orlando – poster presentation titled: “What can economic games tell us about group norms and cooperation? Evidence from ultimatum game experiments in Madagascar.”
- 04/2016 The Society for Economic Anthropology Annual Conference, Athens, Georgia – poster presentation titled: “Questioning the effects of law on marijuana use.”
- 02/2016 Graduate School Interdisciplinary Research Council, University of Georgia. Policy and Practice Panel – paper title: “The effects of law on marijuana use in Uruguay.”

GRANTS AND FUNDING AWARDED

- 04/2019 Graduate School Student Travel Grant -- \$400 travel funding to attend academic conference in Boston, MA.
- 04/2019 Summer Doctoral Research Fellowship, The Graduate School, University of Georgia – \$3,500 funding to work on my dissertation.
- 03/2019 Foreign Travel Award, Office of Research Foreign Travel Assistance Program, University of Georgia – \$2,075 funding for international airfare to France.

- 04/2016 Fulbright U.S. Student Program – *Alternate*, meaning I was selected to attend the program in Uruguay, should either of the two principal awardees drop out.
- 07/2014 NSF Summer Institute in Research Design – fully-funded, three-week intensive course in anthropological methods and research design.
- 04/2013 Melissa Hague Field Study Award – \$600 pre-dissertation research travel funding to study coastal land use and resource management in Rocha, Uruguay.
- 05/2013 LACSI Graduate Field Research Award – \$1,200 pre-dissertation research funding to study coastal land use and resource management in Rocha, Uruguay.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record for Biology 1108L, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Georgia, Athens GA. 01/2018 - 05/2021. Part-time (18 hrs/week). Teaching duties included development of instructional materials, lecturing, grading, and leading class discussions. This course also involved training students to design, conduct and write a report about their own research project using organisms and measuring instruments in lab and in the field.

Teaching Assistant for the Department of Anthropology, University of Georgia, Athens GA. 08/2012 - 07/2021. Part time (13 hrs/week). Anthropology 1102 (Introduction to Anthropology), Anthropology 4225 (Mexican Civilization), Anthropology 3541 (Anthropology of Eating), Anthropology 4075 (Economic Anthropology), Anthropology 4100 (Evolution and Human Behavior). Teaching duties included leading class discussions, grading, and guest lecturing.

MENTORING

- Mentoring undergraduate student researchers and research scientist staff at the Institute for Social Research (ISR) at the University of New Mexico in research design, data collection, data analysis, and report writing.
- Mentoring undergraduate students in biology as an instructor of record at the University of Georgia. These efforts resulted in the publication of student research papers in the 04-2019 and 04-2020 editions of the on campus journal, *The Classic*. I further assisted one of these students in securing an internship in 2019 with the Summer Undergraduate Research Program at the University of Cincinnati researching causes of breast cancer under the guidance of Dr. Guan (Chair of Cancer Biology).

SERVICE

- I served on an NSF Cultural Anthropology panel reviewing Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement grant applications in the Spring of 2023.

HONORS

- 05/2016 The Department of Anthropology Charles Hudson Excellence in Teaching Award -- Departmental teaching award for activities as a Teaching Assistant.
- 06/2004 Los Alamos National Laboratories Foundation Scholarship – Bronze Scholarship.
- 06/2004 Los Alamos National Laboratories Foundation Scholarship – University of California Out-of-state Tuition Waiver.

05/2004 Santa Fe Institute Award for Scientific Excellence – Awarded to one student per high school per year in Northern New Mexico.

ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

International Textile Buyer/Website designer, Pandora's, Santa Fe, NM, 04/2010-05/2013. Part-time (10hrs/week). *Sourced textiles in Guatemala, Panama, Peru, Bolivia, Uruguay, Slovakia, India, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines, and Indonesia. Collaborated with artisan community in Ayacucho, Peru to form Co-op. Co-designed Pandora's online shopping website.*

English Teacher, Guildford English School, Montevideo, Uruguay, 02/2011-06/2011. Full-time. *Taught beginner-advanced level English lessons in private institute.*

SCUBA Diving instructor: Captain Gregg's Dive Resort, Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro, Philippines, 10/2009-3/2010. Full-time. *Taught SCUBA diving and served as underwater guide.*

English Teacher, Sunny's English Club, Sichuan, China, 02/2009-07/2009. Full-time. I taught English to *primary, middle, and secondary school students.*

CERTIFICATIONS

- 2010 EMT. Certified by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians via Pima Community College in Tucson, Arizona. Registry #: B2038061
- 2009 Teach English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) certified teacher. Certified by ITC Training Center in Prague, Czech Republic.
- 2008 PADI SCUBA Diving Instructor. Certified by Utila Dive Center, Utila, Honduras. Instructor certification # 240112.

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

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|---------------|---|--|
| Paul Guerin | Director of the Center for Applied Research and Analysis
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University of New Mexico | malachi@unm.edu
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| Bram Tucker | Associate Professor
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| James Donovan | Director of the Law Library
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| Larry Murphy | (former) Chief of the Submerged Resources Center
National Park Service | lmurphy56@comcast.net
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