

LORIELLE MARY FLORENCE DIETZE (M.Sc., Ph.D.)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ACADEMIC & TRAINING HISTORY

Postdoctoral Researcher The Neuro, MNI, McGill University, Montreal, QC	2025-PRESENT
• Supervisor: Dr. Alain Dagher	
Doctor of Philosophy, Medical Neuroscience Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS	2020-2025
• Doctoral Thesis: "Interplay between metabolic alterations, bipolar disorders, and white matter microstructure"	
• Supervisor: Dr. Tomas Hajek	
Certificate for University Teaching and Learning Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS	2023-2025
• Included successful completion of the CNLT5000 course, 20 professional development hours, three teaching observations, and a teaching dossier	
• Completed under the Center for Teaching and Learning	
Master of Science, Psychology, Behavioural Neuroscience Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON	2017-2019
• Master's Thesis: "Spatial Memory and Executive Functioning in the Goto-Kakizaki Rat Model of Diabetes"	
• Supervisors: Dr. Paul Mallet and Dr. Diana Marrone	
Bachelor of Arts, Honours Psychology Major, Classical Studies Minor University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON	2014-2017
• Graduated "With Distinction – Dean's Honours List"	
• Honours Thesis: "Memory in Bilingual Individuals: How Does the Type of Processing Engaged at Encoding Influence Memory?"	
• Supervisor: Dr. Myra Fernandes	

AWARDS, DISTINCTIONS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Best Presentation Award-Graduate Student DoP Research Day	November 2024
• Department of Psychiatry Research Day at Dalhousie University	

- Received for best oral presentation among graduate students, \$500 award

McNee Prize in Medical Neuroscience October 2024

- Department of Medical Neuroscience at Dalhousie University
- Awarded for academic excellence and ability to describe research contributions succinctly, \$3000 award

FGS Travel Grant September 2024

- Faculty of Graduate Studies at Dalhousie University
- Received for attending the ISBD Conference in Reykjavik, Iceland, \$500 grant

Hebb Student Award Best Oral Presentation CSBBCS Conference June 2024

- Received for best oral presentation among students, received a plaque, free membership for the following year, and a \$500 award

Dalhousie Graduate Scholarship 2020-2025

- Dalhousie University
- Received upon start of program, awarded yearly

Department of Psychology Graduate Travel Award Spring 2019

- Department of Psychology at Wilfrid Laurier University
- Awarded for attending SONA conference, \$350 award

FGPS Graduate Travel Award Spring 2019

- Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University
- Awarded for attending the CSBBCS conference, \$250 award

Laurier Graduate Scholarship 2017-2019

- Wilfrid Laurier University
- Awarded based on high academic standing in program

With Distinction – Dean's Honours List October 2017

- University of Waterloo
- Received at convocation

Dean's Honours List 2015-2017

- University of Waterloo
- Named to the Dean's Honours List for all three consecutive years

President's Research Award Fall 2016

- University of Waterloo
- Received at start of research assistantship in Dr. Fernandes' lab, \$1500 award

President's Research Award Spring 2016

- University of Waterloo

- Received at start of research assistantship in Dr. Friedman's lab, \$1500 award

Arts Alumni Entrance Scholarship 2014-2015

- University of Waterloo
- Awarded over Years One and Two based on performance in secondary school, with renewal in Year Two requiring an 80% average or higher, \$3000 award

University of Waterloo President's Scholarship of Distinction 2014-2017

- University of Waterloo
- Received upon entrance for 95%+ average into university, \$2000 award

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant July 2021 – PRESENT

Psychiatry, Medicine, Nova Scotia Health Authority, Halifax, NS

- Assisting in data collection and analysis of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and metabolic data.

Doctor of Philosophy Student November 2020 – August 2025

Dr. Tomas Hajek, Psychiatry, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS

- Examined the effects of metabolic markers and major psychiatric disorders on white matter structure.

Research Assistant January 2020 – May 2021

Dr. Paul Mallet, Psychology, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON

- Mentored eight Honours Thesis students and wrote four lab protocols on how to conduct Golgi-Cox staining and analysis.

Master of Science Student September 2017 – December 2019

Dr. Paul Mallet and Dr. Diana Marrone, Psychology, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON

- Used histology to investigate neuronal morphology in a model of type 2 diabetes.

Honours Thesis Student January – August 2017

Dr. Myra Fernandes, Psychology, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON

- Investigated levels of processing in young adult English-French bilinguals.

Research Assistant September – December 2016

Dr. Myra Fernandes, Psychology, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON

- Assisted in data collection and coding concerned with memory for maps.

Research Assistant May – December 2016

Dr. Ori Friedman, Psychology, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON

- Conducted background research and developed stimuli regarding ownership of property.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer Fall 2024
PSYR 6002 Fundamentals of Psychiatry Research, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS

- Neuroimaging in Psychiatry lecture; Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI) in the brain
- Facilitated part of the neuroimaging lecture, physics of DTI MRI, applications to psychiatry

Graduate Teaching Assistant Winter 2024
DENT 1113 Neuroanatomy, Medicine, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS

- Human brain and spinal cord neuroanatomy using donor brains
- Aided in identification of brain structures with functions, and guided dissections.

Graduate Teaching Assistant Fall 2023
MED2 Unit Neuroanatomy, Medicine, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS

- Human brain neuroanatomy using donor brains and stained slides from Aiforia
- Assisted small groups of students in a weekly lab how to dissect and identify brain structures.

Teaching Assistant with Graduate Fellowship Fall 2018; Fall 2019
PS394 Linear Models, Psychology, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON

- Multiple regression and correlation using SPSS
- Facilitated a weekly lab of 20 students how to analyze data using SPSS, write-up results using APA format, and evaluated coursework.

Teaching Assistant with Graduate Fellowship Winter 2019
PS395 Analysis of Variance, Psychology, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON

- Complex analysis of variance designs using SPSS
- Demonstrated data analysis and write-up of complex research designs to a weekly lab of 28 students, as well as assessed coursework.

Teaching Assistant with Graduate Fellowship Fall 2017; Spring 2018
PS295 Research Methods, Psychology, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON

- Research design and how to conduct research
- Instructed a weekly lab of 20 students and evaluated coursework.

Teaching Assistant with Graduate Fellowship Winter 2018
PS296 Introduction to Statistics, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON

- How to conduct statistical analyses on data using SPSS and hand calculations
- Demonstrated statistical analyses to a weekly lab of 20 students and assessed coursework.

ACADEMIC & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE (SERVICE)

GSSC President Graduate Student Social Club, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS	September 2022-2024
• Represented graduate students campus-wide and provided a safe space to network with other students by coordinating events.	
MNGSS Co-President Medical Neuroscience Graduate Student Society, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS	April 2022-2023
• Planned department events and represented the interests of graduate students in Medical Neuroscience.	
MNGSS Department Representative for FMGSS Medical Neuroscience Graduate Student Society, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS	April 2021-April 2022
• Represents the members of MNGSS and the Department of Medical Neuroscience to the Faculty of Medicine.	
Accessibility Plan Focus Group Member Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS	March 2021
• Helped provide feedback and ideas for how to make campus more inclusive and accessible for students with disabilities.	
DDAS Graduate Student Representative Dalhousie Disability Advocacy Society, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS	January 2021-2025
• Informs and communicates awareness of disabilities to graduate students, including events and fundraisers held by DDAS.	
DDAS General Member Dalhousie Disability Advocacy Society, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS	November 2020-2025
• Discusses strategies to improve advocacy and how education of disabilities to the general public can be improved.	
FMGSS Department Representative Faculty of Medicine Graduate Student Society, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS	September 2020-April 2022
• Represents graduate students in the Department of Medical Neuroscience and disseminates information regarding the Faculty of Medicine.	
GSA Research Committee Member Graduate Studies Association, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON	September 2019-December 2019
• Planned and implemented activities for engagement in graduate student research within the university and the community.	
WinS Advanced STEM Database Review Panel Member Women in Science, Science, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON	November 2018-May 2019
• Reviewed articles for use in a STEM online database project.	

Women in Science General Member

December 2017-May 2019

Science, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON

- Discussed the achievements and difficulties of women in STEM related fields of work and study.

AccessAbility Services Advisory Committee Member

April 2016-August 2017

AccessAbility Services, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON

- Provided feedback on campus accessibility and inclusion.

PUBLICATIONS

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Favre P, ... Andreassen OA, Ching CRK, Thompson PM, Houenou J, Hajek T, for the ENIGMA Bipolar Disorder and BMIx Working Groups. Distinct profiles of white matter microstructure in obesity and bipolar disorders: an ENIGMA bipolar disorder working group study in 2166 individuals. 2025. Submitted.

van Velzen LS, Colic L, Ceja Z, Dauvermann M, Villa L, ... **Dietze LMF**, ...for the ENIGMA Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviours Consortium, Schmaal L. Transdiagnostic alterations in white matter microstructure associated with suicidal thoughts and behaviours in the ENIGMA Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviours consortium. 2025. *Transl Psychiatry* 15, 429 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41398-025-03602-1>.

Selitser M, **Dietze LMF**, McWhinney SR, Hajek T. Cardiometabolic Risk Factors and Brain Age: a meta-analysis to quantify the brain structural differences related to diabetes, hypertension, obesity. *J Psychiatry Neurosci* 2025 Mar 11;50(2):E102-E111. doi: 10.1503/jpn.240105.

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Favre P, ... Andreassen OA, Ching CRK, Thompson PM, Houenou J, Hajek T, for the ENIGMA Bipolar Disorder and BMIx Working Groups. White matter microstructure in obesity and bipolar disorders: an ENIGMA bipolar disorder working group study in 2186 individuals. *Mol Psychiatry* (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41380-024-02784-2>

McWhinney SR, Hlinka J, Bakstein E, **Dietze LMF**, Corkum ELV, Abé C, ... Thompson PM, Andreassen OA, Ching CRK, Hajek T, for the ENIGMA Bipolar Disorders Working Group. Principal component analysis as an efficient method for capturing multivariate brain signatures of complex disorders-ENIGMA study in people with bipolar disorders and obesity. *Hum Brain Mapp*. 2024 Jun 1;45(8):e26682. doi: 10.1002/hbm.26682. PMID: 38825977; PMCID: PMC11144951.

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Radua J, Hajek T. Extended and replicated white matter changes in obesity: Voxel-based and region of interest meta-analyses of diffusion tensor imaging studies. *Front. Nutr.*, 2023 March 7(10). Sec. Nutrition, Psychology and Brain Health. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnut.2023.1108360>.

McWhinney S, Abé C, Alda M, Benedetti F, Bøen E, del Mar Bonnin C, ... **Dietze LMF**, ... Thompson PM, Ching CRK, Andreassen OA, Hajek T, for the ENIGMA Bipolar Disorders Working Group. Mega-analysis of association between obesity and cortical morphology in bipolar disorders – ENIGMA study in 2 832 participants. *Psychological Medicine*. 2023 Feb 27;1-11 doi: 10.1017/S0033291723000223.

McWhinney SR, Abé C, Alda M, Benedetti F, Bøen E, Del Mar Bonnin C, ... **Dietze L**, ... Ching CRK, Andreassen OA, Thompson PM, Hajek T; ENIGMA Bipolar Disorders Working Group. Diagnosis of bipolar disorders and body mass index predict clustering based on similarities in cortical thickness-ENIGMA study in 2436 individuals. *Bipolar Disord*. 2022 Aug;24(5):509-520. doi: 10.1111/bdi.13172. Epub 2021 Dec 16. PMID: 34894200; PMCID: PMC9187778.

McWhinney SR, Brosch K, Calhoun VD, Crespo-Facorro B, Crossley NA, Dannlowski U, ... **Dietze LMF**, ... Thompson PM, van Erp TGM, Turner JA, Hajek T. Obesity and brain structure in schizophrenia - ENIGMA study in 3021 individuals. *Mol Psychiatry*. 2022 Jun 14. doi: 10.1038/s41380-022-01616-5. Epub ahead of print. Erratum in: *Mol Psychiatry*. 2022 Jul 20; PMID: 35739320.

CONFERENCES

Oral Presentations:

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Favre P, Abé C, Andreassen OA, Benedetti F, ... Hajek T, for the ENIGMA Bipolar Disorder and BMIx Working Groups. White matter diffusion metrics are differentially sensitive to obesity and bipolar disorders: An ENIGMA bipolar disorders study in 2166 individuals. PowerPoint Presentation at: 35th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Science; July 8-11, 2025; Dundee, Scotland.

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Favre P, Abé C, Andreassen OA, Benedetti F, ... Hajek T, for the ENIGMA Bipolar Disorder and BMIx Working Groups. White Matter Diffusivity Measures Are Differentially Sensitive to Extra-Diagnostic Factors: ENIGMA Bipolar Disorders Study in 2166 Individuals. PowerPoint Presentation at: 34th Annual Department of Psychiatry Research Day; November 1, 2024; Halifax, NS.

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Favre P, Abé C, Andreassen OA, Benedetti F, ... Hajek T, for the ENIGMA Bipolar Disorder and BMIx Working Groups. White Matter Microstructure in Obesity and Bipolar Disorders: An ENIGMA Bipolar Disorder Working Group Study in 2186 Individuals. PowerPoint Presentation at: 34th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science; June 25-27, 2024; Edmonton, AB.

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Radua J, Hajek T. Extended and replicated white matter changes in obesity: Voxel-based and region of interest meta-analyses of diffusion tensor imaging studies. Online PowerPoint Slideshow Poster Presentation at: Society for Neuroscience 2022; November 11-15, 2022; San Diego, CA, USA.

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Radua J, Hajek T. Extended and replicated white matter changes in obesity: Voxel-based and region of interest meta-analyses of diffusion tensor imaging studies. PowerPoint presentation at: 32nd Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science; July 18-20, 2022; Halifax, NS.

Poster Presentations:

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Favre P, Abé C, Andreassen OA, Benedetti F, ... Hajek T, for the ENIGMA Bipolar Disorder and BMIx Working Groups. White matter diffusivity measures are differentially sensitive to extra-diagnostic factors: ENIGMA bipolar disorders study in 2166 individuals. Poster presentation at: International Society for Bipolar Disorders; September 29 – October 1st, 2024. Reykjavik, Iceland.

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Favre P, Abé C, Andreassen OA, Benedetti F, ... Hajek T, for the ENIGMA Bipolar Disorder Working Group. Compromised White Matter Microstructure in Obesity and Bipolar Disorders: ENIGMA-BD Study in 2186 Individuals. Poster presented at: 33rd Annual Department of Psychiatry Research Day, Dalhousie University; October 27, 2023. Halifax, NS.

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Favre P, Abé C, Andreassen OA, Benedetti F, ... Hajek T, for the ENIGMA Bipolar Disorder Working Group. Compromised White Matter Microstructure in Obesity and Bipolar Disorders: ENIGMA-BD Study in 2186 Individuals. Poster presented at: Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology; September 21-23, 2023. Toronto, ON.

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Radua J, Hajek T. Extended and replicated white matter changes in obesity: Voxel-based and region of interest meta-analyses of diffusion tensor imaging studies. Poster presented at: Society for Biological Psychiatry; April 27-29, 2023; San Diego, CA, USA.

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Favre P, Abé C, Andreassen OA, Benedetti F, ... Hajek T, for the ENIGMA Bipolar Disorder Working Group. Diffusion tensor imaging fractional anisotropy associated with body mass index in bipolar disorders: ENIGMA study in 2249 individuals. Poster presented at: Society for Biological Psychiatry; April 27-29, 2023; San Diego, CA, USA.

Dietze LMF, McWhinney SR, Radua J, Hajek T. Extended and replicated white matter changes in obesity: Voxel-based and region of interest meta-analyses of diffusion tensor imaging studies. Poster presented at: 32nd Annual Department of Psychiatry Research Day, Dalhousie University; October 21, 2022; Halifax, NS.

Dietze, L. M. F., Toameh, L., Vivian, C. D., Mallet, P. E., & Marrone, D. F. (2019, June). *Spatial memory in the Goto-Kakizaki rat model of diabetes*. Poster presentation for the 29th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science, Waterloo, ON.

Dietze, L. M. F., Toameh, L., Peticca, S. K., Mallet, P. E., & Marrone, D. F. (2019, May). *Prefrontal Morphology and Cognition in the Goto-Kakizaki Rat Model of Diabetes*. Poster presentation for the 2019 Meeting of the Southern Ontario Neuroscience Association, Windsor, ON.

Aernoudts, A., **Dietze, L.**, & Fernandes, M. (2018, May). *The influence of levels of processing on memory retrieval in French-English bilinguals*. Poster presentation for the 3rd International Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Dietze, L. M. F., Esposto, J. C., Laird, N. G., & Marrone, D. F. (2018, May). *Normal Cognitive Flexibility in the Goto-Kakizaki Rat Model of Diabetes*. Poster presentation for the 2018 Meeting of the Southern Ontario Neuroscience Association, Guelph, ON.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

CSBPCS Associate Departmental Representative August 2025-PRESENT
Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science (CSBPCS)

- Represents students at CSBPCS and communicates relevant events.

ICAM Conference Health Sciences Poster Judge April 2025
International Congress on Academic Medicine, Halifax, NS

- Judged posters from undergraduate and graduate students at the health research poster day and provided positive encouraging feedback to students.

Invited Contributor for FOCUS: TA Edition Journal June 2024
Center for Teaching and Learning, Dalhousie University, NS

- Wrote a blog post for the Dalhousie FOCUS journal published in print and online about imposter phenomenon in teaching assistants.

Waterloo Wellington Science and Engineering Fair Judge April 2018-April 2023
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON

- Judged annual science fair projects for the previous four years and providing constructive positive feedback to junior participants in the physical and mathematical sciences area.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Headlines Issue November 2024, page 9
Newsletter for Dalhousie Department of Psychiatry

- “Students representing the Department of Psychiatry home and abroad”
- <https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/faculty/medicine/departments/department-sites/psychiatry/headlines-november-2024.pdf>

Bipolar Network News Online, July 7, 2023

- “Both Obesity and Bipolar Disorders in 2249 Individuals Show White Matter Microstructure Abnormalities”
- <https://bipolarnews.org/?p=5178>

Headlines

Issue April 2023, page 6

Newsletter for Dalhousie Department of Psychiatry

- “Research Report: Publications”
- <https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/faculty/medicine/departments/department-sites/psychiatry/headlines-april-2023.pdf>