# Enhancing CogSci training to strengthen our field Matt Goldrick

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**Cognitive Science Program** 

Northwestern University

Unidisciplinary training makes our field less interdisciplinary

#### The Opportunity:

Building a stronger discipline by preparing students for challenge of integration

Cognitive Science falls short of its interdisciplinary goals

#### Cognitive psychology is over-represented

Cooper, 2019; Gentner, 2010; Leydesdorff & Goldstone, 2014; Nuñez et al., 2019; Schunn et al., 1998

#### Data dominates over theory

Adolfi et al., 2024; Goldrick, 2022; Guest & Martin, 2021; van Rooij & Baggio, 2021

#### Unidisciplinary training



Unidisciplinary training A fact of life for non-departmental programs

# Northwestern | Cognitive Science

Total Number of CogSci-Specific Faculty: 0.5

#### Total number of courses required for the major14

**Required** courses specifically for CogSci students 2

#### *Optional* courses specifically for CogSci students ~2

Building a stronger discipline by preparing students for challenge of integration

Introductory Course(s)

Emphasize disciplinary diversity Practice shifting between different disciplines Appreciate benefits of integrating them

Advanced Course(s)

All of the above Challenging students to integrate insights

### Preparing students for challenge of integration

**Introductory Course Examples** 

Northwestern

**Trends in Cognitive Sciences** 

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Opinion

Human Olfaction at the Intersection of Language, Culture, and Biology

Asifa Majid D<sup>1,\*</sup>

#### Preparing students for challenge of integration

# Introductory Course Examples Josh Rottman, Franklin & Marshall



Morality through the lens of philosophy, psychology, anthropology, neuroscience, and artificial intelligence.

#### Preparing students for challenge of integration

Advanced Course Example Erin Leddon, Northwestern



Student reactions to faculty speakers must explicitly connect to course readings, other courses

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