



Department of Psychology

Department News

PSYC 4005 - Capstone Course

Beginning in Spring 2016, the department began offering PSYC 4005, designed as a capstone course targeted towards senior level students. In PSYC 4005, students prepare for the process of applying for either a career or graduate school through exercises designed to familiarize them with key parts of the process, such as applications, resumes, personal statements, and interviews.

Dr. Paula Geiselman Retires

After 25 years in the Department of Psychology, Dr. Paula Geiselman has retired. Much of Dr. Geiselman's research efforts over this time period have been supported by the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge. She has been a productive scholar and valued mentor in our department. She will be greatly missed.



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Awards

Dr. Cohen was awarded the 2016 LSU Rainmaker award for mid-career scholar.

Dr. Renshaw was awarded the 2016 LSU Rising Faculty Research Award.

Graduate student, Tony Ecker, was named Student of the Month for June 2016 by the Association for Behavioral & Cognitive Therapies Addictive Behaviors Special interest Group.

Dr. Davis was recognized at the Second Annual Inventorship Showcase by the Office of Innovation & Technology Commercialization for his edited volume on anxiety in those with autism.

Dr. Donaldson was appointed to the Board of Editors for the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis.



Department of Psychology

Grants

Graduate students John Bernstein, Laura Heisick, Emily Jeffries, Ilayna Mehrtens, Katie Stanko, Katherine Moen, Kacie Mennie, and Juan Ventura all received the LSU Psychology Department's Strategic Research Grant.

Dr. Davis and researchers in the U.K. received a \$2,000,000 grant from the National Institute for Health Research to study treatments for specific phobia for 4 years.

Dr. Davis received a \$100,000 Economic Development Assistantship award to recruit a strong graduate assistant to help further refine the treatment of child anxiety disorders.

Dr. Greening was awarded a 3-year Louisiana Board of Regents Research Competitiveness Subprogram grant.

Graduate student, Daniella Cash, was awarded an American Psychology and Law Society Student Grant.

Welcome!



Dr. Donaldson

My research takes a behavior analytic approach to examining treatments for problematic behavior in young children at both group and individual levels.

More specifically, I conduct problem behavior treatment research in the context of three themes: group-oriented contingencies, time-out from positive reinforcement, and token reinforcement.



Dr. Zhang

My research focuses on employment selection and assessment decisions. In particular, I'm interested in why managers resist evidence-based hiring practices in favor of subjective judgments. A second line of research is in the measurement of risk-taking attitude, and the nature of risk taking in the real world.

Faculty Members

Dr. Beck



Research focuses on visual memory, attention, and perception. Of particular interest is research that aims to understand everyday issues that involve visual attention and visual memory.

Dr. Brantley



Research focuses on surgical and nonsurgical weight loss techniques that promote long term weight management and their impact on biomarkers and health outcomes.

Dr. Buckner



Research concerns the role of anxiety and related psychological vulnerability factors in the development, maintenance, and treatment of substance-related problems.

Dr. Calamia



Research aim is to advance neuropsychological assessment through research on the measurement of cognitive abilities and emotional functioning.

Dr. Cherry



Research interests include post-Katrina resilience and long term recovery, interdisciplinary studies of healthy aging, and cognitive aging trends.

Dr. Cohen



Research focuses on adapting biobehavioral technologies for assessing a wide range of clinical issues, including suicidality, depression, psychosis, mania and anxiety.

Dr. Copeland



Research interests focus on cognitive and affective variables in substance use initiation, maintenance, cessation, and relapse. There is a primary interest in licit and illicit psychomotor stimulants.

Dr. Davis



Research interests focus on assessment, etiology, and treatment of anxiety disorders in children, adolescents, and young adults with a particular emphasis on specific phobias.

Faculty Members

Dr. Elliott



Research focus includes the areas of short term memory, working memory, and the interaction of attention with memory performance.

Dr. Frick



Research focuses on the dispositional and contextual factors that can place children at risk for developing severe antisocial, aggressive, and violent behavior.

Dr. Greening



Research focuses on the neurocognitive mechanisms both involved in controlling and adapting to emotions, and involved in affective disorders

Dr. Gresham



Research focuses on measuring and promoting integrity of school-based interventions and designing interventions to promote social skills and measuring the related outcomes.

Dr. Harman



Research focuses on how the human mind makes decisions and how understanding memory, attention, and learning can help us make better decisions.

Dr. Hicks



Research focuses on long-term recognition memory, source memory, and prospective memory, including attention and decision processes.

Dr. Kelley



Research focuses on the behavioral assessment and treatment of children and adolescents. Main topics include ADHD and home & school interventions for children with externalizing problems.

Dr. Lane



Research focuses on understanding how memory and cognitive processes are used in real-world events. Topics include source monitoring, emotion and memory, and eyewitness memory.

Faculty Members

Dr. Long



Research focuses on promoting the adoption and treatment integrity of empirically-supported practices in schools and on culturally competent psychoeducational practice.

Dr. Matson



Research focuses on the development of assessment and treatment methods for intellectual disabilities and autism spectrum disorder.

Dr. McDonald



Research focuses on first and second language acquisition, bilingualism and language comprehension.

Dr. Noell



Research focuses on interventions for children with challenging behaviors, academic problems, and social/adaptive behavior concerns.

Dr. Papesh



Research focuses on investigating human perception and memory, using converging techniques to study multiple, interrelated phenomena.

Dr. Renshaw



Research aims to advance the basic and applied science underlying school mental health services, including testing interventions for reducing mental health problems.



Graduate Students

Cognitive Psychology

Dr. Beck

Katherine Moen
Sunghyun Kim

Dr. Hicks

Bryan Franks
Samantha Spitler
Bethany Lyon

Dr. Elliott

Corey McGill
Juan Ventura

Dr. Greening

Lauryn Burleigh
Tyler Robinson

Dr. Cherry

Katie Stanko

Dr. Lane

Kacie Mennie
Daniella Cash

Dr. McDonald

Ian Comeaux
Lisa Kemp

Dr. Papesh

Dina Acklin
Juan Diego-
Guevara-Pinto
Laura Heisick

Clinical Psychology

Dr. Buckner

Sonia Shah
Emily Jeffries
Kimberlye Dean
Austin Lemke
Katherine Walukevich

Dr. Cohen

Jessica McGovern
Kyle Mitchell
Elana Schwartz
Thanh Le
Taylor Fedechko
Kelsey Taylor

Dr. Copeland

Melanie Roys
Aaron Waters

Dr. Calamia

John Bernstein
Alyssa DeVito
Scott Royce

Dr. Frick

Julia Clark
Tatiana Matlasz
Emily Robertson

Dr. Davis

Megan Lilly
Franziska NoackLeSage
Maysa Kaskas
Paige Ryan
Peter Castagna
Georgia Shaheen

Dr. Matson

Jennifer Beighley
Claire Burns
Paige Cervantes
Jasper Estabillo
Rachel Goldin
Abigail Issarraras
Jina Jang
Xinrui Jiang
Maya Matheis
Jason Peters

Dr. Kelley

Adrienne Anderson
Seandra Cosgrove
Ryan Cummins
Ashley Galsky
Sabrina Gretkierewicz
Shannon Harbin
Ilayna Mehrtens
Jennifer Piscitello
Kasia Plessy

School Psychology

Dr. Gresham

Shelby Byrd
Megan Erickson
Rachel Olinger Steeves
Sarah Metallo
Elizabeth Wilson
Kaitlin Cassidy

Dr. Long

Aijah Goodwin
James Upright
Sarah Fletcher
Melissa Hamilton

Dr. Noell

Ashley Bordelon
Rachel Bradley
Meredith Harris
Catherine Lark
Emma Larson
Elise McIver
Katie Moore
Philip Richard

Dr. Renshaw

Sarah Bolognino
Tony Roberson
Shelley Upton

Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Dr. Harman

Chelsea Hightower
John-Luke McCord

Team Updates

Buckner Team

The Buckner team finished a NIH-funded treatment and development study. They found that their newly developed integrated treatment resulted in better treatment outcomes than the gold-standard substance use disorder treatment (MET-CBT) for patients with cannabis use disorder and anxiety. Specifically, at post-treatment, participants in the treatment were significantly less likely to test positive for THC and reported less past-month cannabis use. The treatment also reduced anxiety, coping-motivated cannabis use, and depression.



Davis Team

Dr. Davis was recognized at the Second Annual Inventorship Showcase by the Office of Innovation & Technology Commercialization for his edited volume on anxiety in those with autism. The handbook called upon a slate of internationally renowned experts in the fields of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and anxiety to write chapters on the current state of assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of these disorders.



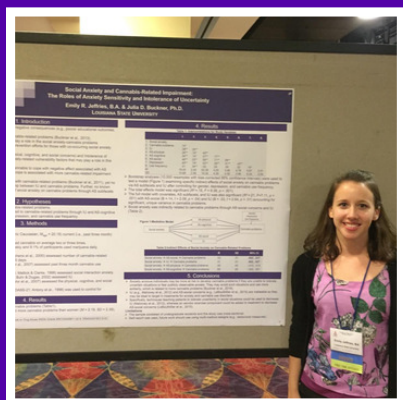
Frick Team

Dr. Paul J. Frick has been named the next Editor-in-Chief for the Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology. The Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology brings together the latest research on psychopathology in childhood and adolescence. It is the official journal of the International Society for Research in Child and Adolescent Psychopathology (ISRCAP), a multidisciplinary scientific society. Dr. Frick will serve as Incoming Editor during 2017 and then serve as Editor-in-Chief from 2018-2021.

Copeland Team

Graduate student, Aaron Waters, spent the summer at the Oklahoma Tobacco Research Center which offers a 12-week summer scholars program at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center. Aaron worked under the mentorship of Dr. Darla Kendzor and Dr. Michael Businelle. Their work focuses primarily on the development of tobacco cessation interventions for socioeconomically disadvantaged populations. Students in the program attended weekly seminars and completed a research project.

Featured Publications & Presentations



Burns, C. O., Matson, J. L., Cervantes, P. E., Jiang, X., & Estabillio, J. A. (2016). Hearing impairment, autism spectrum disorder, and developmental functioning in infants and toddlers. *Journal of Developmental and Physical Disabilities*, 28(4), 495-507.

Calamia, M., Bernstein, J.P.K., & Keller, J.N. (2016). I'd Do Anything for Research, But I Won't Do That: Interest in Pharmacological Interventions in Older Adults Enrolled in a Longitudinal Aging Study. *PLOS ONE*. 11(7): e0159664. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0159664

Cash, D., & Lane, S. M. (2016). Context Influences Interpretation of Eyewitness Confidence Statements. *Law and Human Behavior*.

Clark, J.E. & Frick, P.J. (in press). Positive parenting and callous-unemotional traits: Their association with school behavior problems in young children. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*.

Goldstein, R. R. & Beck, M. R. (2016). Inattention blindness: A combination of a relational set and a feature inhibition set? *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 78, 1245-1254.

Jeffries, E.R. & Buckner, J.D. (2016, March). Social anxiety and cannabis-related impairment: The roles of anxiety sensitivity and intolerance of uncertainty. Poster presented at the 35th annual meeting of the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, Philadelphia, PA.

Kaskas, M., Lilly, M., NoackLeSage, F., Ryan, P., Whiting, S., & Davis III, T. E. (2015, November). Confirmatory factor analysis of the Parental-Bonding Instrument—About My Child (PBI-AMC): A maternal perspective on parent-child bonding. Poster presented at the annual meetings of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Chicago, Illinois.

Lemke, A.W. & Buckner, J.D. (2016, March). Social anxiety and drinking problems: The roles of drinking to manage negative and positive affect in social situations. Poster presented at the 35th annual meeting of the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, Philadelphia, PA.

Renshaw, T. L., Bolognino, S. J., Roberson, A. J., Upton, S. R., & Hammons, K. N. (in press). Using Acceptance and Commitment Therapy to support bereaved students. In J. A. Brown & S. R. Jimerson (Eds.), *Supporting bereaved students at school*. New York, NY: Oxford.

