



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Psychology

## Core Psychology Department Members

### [Alexander, Gene](#)

The study of brain-behavior relationships in the context of aging and age-related, neurodegenerative disease, the use of univariate and multivariate network analysis techniques with multiple neuroimaging methods and measures of neuropsychological function, health status, and genetic risk to understand how these factors interact to influence cognitive function as we age

### [Allen, John J.B.](#)

Autonomic and central psychophysiological approaches to the study of emotion, depression risk, psychopathology, and performance monitoring. Time-frequencies investigations of brain electrical activity, concurrent EEG/fMRI methods, cardiac vagal control. Joint appointments with Cognitive Science and Neuroscience

### [Barnes, Carol A.](#)

Behavioral and systems neuroscience, aging, memory, hippocampus. Joint appointments with the Department of Neurology, Bio5, ARL Division of Neural Systems, Memory and Aging and Evelyn F. McKnight Brain Institute.

### [Beck, Connie J.A.](#)

Effects of law on individuals, alternative dispute resolution, psychology and public policy relating to divorce, gender issues in psychology and law, forensic assessment and law, ethics of psychological research and practice.

### [Becker, Judith V.](#)

Research on adult and juvenile sex offenders, Forensic assessment and Forensic Treatment

### [Bever, Thomas G.](#)

Language and Cognition, including Learning, Music, Sentence Processing, Reading and Cerebral Asymmetries in humans and animals. Joint appointment with Cognitive Science, Linguistics and Neuroscience.

[Bowen, Anne](#)

The Health Psychology lab is broadly focused the application of health behavior change theories and practices to reducing health risk behaviors and increasing wellness activities. Areas of HIV prevention that are of special interest include prevention with drug users and men who have sex with men, and eHealth interventions for HIV prevention in general. Other areas of interest in the lab are focused on health access issues for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, pregnant women, and elderly. Finally, eHealth interests focus around how people use the Internet and Phone Apps to improve health access and interventions.

[Chou, Ying-hui](#)

Investigating human brain connectivity and its relation to behavior. Developing image-guided transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) protocols for clinical populations (e.g. Parkinson's disease).

[Cowen, Stephen](#)

The neurophysiological investigation of decision making, memory, and navigation.

[Croft, Alyssa](#)

Understanding how the self-concept is changed by social roles and societal expectations. Examining the effects of group membership on perceptions and evaluations of the social world. Identifying ways to promote positive and productive interactions within and between social groups.

[Edgin, Jamie](#)

Memory development and disorders of memory, neurodevelopmental syndromes, sleep and cognitive development, ERP and EEG approaches to the study of memory, Down syndrome.

[Fellous, Jean-Marc](#)

Neural bases of emotion and motivation, role of neuromodulator substances in changing the processing and flow of information in large neural networks, use of rat in vitro and in vivo behaving preparation and computational models to assess the potential neural mechanisms underlying the reinforcing role of rewards.

[Fernandez, Fabian](#)

Identifying circadian factors during middle age that increase risk for later-life cognitive impairment. Developing novel, light-based treatments to stem loss of cognition during aging. Establishing basic principles for how circadian function shapes memory processing.

[Figueroa, Aurelio J.](#)

Evolutionary psychology, psychometrics, and behavioral genetics of life history strategy, personality, sex, aggression, and predation in human and nonhuman animals, especially insects, birds and primates; Behavioral development and evolution, behavioral ecology and sociobiology, research and quantitative methodology.

[Gerken, LouAnn](#)

Language mechanisms in early cognitive development, with special emphasis on language and music. Language production in normally developing children and children with language impairment.

[Glisky, Elizabeth L.](#)

Memory processes in normal and brain-damaged individuals, rehabilitation of memory disorders, frontal lobe/executive function, and cognitive aging. Joint appointment with Cognitive Science.

[Gomez, Rebecca](#)

Infant learning, infant cognitive and memory development, infant language development, effects of sleep on infant learning.

[Greenberg, Jeff](#)

Social psychology, self—esteem, prejudice, aggression, political attitudes, self—awareness and depression. Joint appointment with Communication.

[Grilli, Matthew](#)

Focus on understanding the reciprocal relations of self and memory. Uncovering the ways in which the self and memory interact may advance understanding of identity, elucidate the conditions and experiences that modify the self, and inspire clinical interventions that improve quality of life and wellbeing for people who have neurological or mental health conditions. How to improve memory through self-referential encoding strategies. Investigating how individuals with amnesia (a profound learning and memory impairment) construct a sense of self and experience a sense of continuity in life.

[Hamann, Heidi](#)

My research is broadly focused on psychological and behavioral aspects of cancer screening, diagnosis, and survivorship. I am interested in the psychosocial consequences of a cancer diagnosis and testing interventions to ameliorate significant concerns. My recent work has identified stigma as a considerable challenge for patients with lung cancer; our lab is developing an intervention to lessen stigma. Another recent focus is on cancer survivors, including efforts to improve their quality of life and physical activity levels.

[Jacobs, W. Jake](#)

Learning Rule Governance, Context (spatial and social), cognitive mapping, executive function, stress, fear, anxiety, and trauma; clinical neuropsychology; cognitive neuroscience; anxiety disorders; evolutionary psychology. Joint appointment with Psychiatry; Fellow in Sports Medicine; Directory Anxiety Research Group.

[Lai, Vicky](#)

My research investigates the cognitive processes and the neural basis of language in context. My primary work examines higher-level language meaning, including figurative language, lexical and combinatorial semantics, and social-affective factors in language. I am also interested in language and thought issues, especially in bilinguals who speak languages that are conflicting in a certain semantic constructs.

[Lawrence, Erika](#)

Clarifying the longitudinal development of healthy and dysfunctional couple and family processes (e.g., conflict, support, emotional intimacy, sexuality) and investigating the mechanisms underlying intimate partner violence (psychological, physical and sexual).

[Mehl, Matthias](#)

Psychological implications of our everyday lives; personality expression; person perception; social interactions, coping and health, naturalistic observation, psychological text analysis.

[Nadel, Lynn](#)

Neuroimaging of episodic and semantic memory, hippocampus, spatial behavior, normal and abnormal development of cognition, stress, trauma and memory.

[Nicol, Janet L.](#)

Comprehension and production of native and second languages, word learning, eye movements during reading. Joint appointments with Cognitive Science and Linguistics. Member of Graduate Program in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching.

[O'Connor, Mary- Frances](#)

Grief, loss and social stress research, using methods of psychoneuroimmunology, neuroimaging, autonomic physiology and virtual reality. Particular interest in aging and social isolation.

[Peterson, Mary A.](#)

Cognitive neuroscience of shape and object perception; face perception; context effects; attention; perceptual learning.

[Piatelli-Palmarini, Massimo](#) The interdependence of cognitive and normative approaches to decision making. Linguistic theory, notably lexical semantics, the theory of concepts and the biological foundations of language. Joint appointments in Cognitive Science and Linguistics.

[Ruiz, John](#) Investigate how our social lives constitute both risk and resilience for physical health with special emphasis on racial/ethnic and cultural differences in these effects. These efforts will use a variety of methods including community and hospital-based observational studies, surveys, ecological momentary assessment, ambulatory psychophysiology, and laboratory based paradigms. Prospective students with interests in cardiovascular disease, psychophysiology, social/interpersonal functioning, and/or racial/ethnic health disparities are encouraged to apply.

[Ryan, Lee](#) Neurological basis of memory and memory disorders, functional magnetic resonance imaging, aging and memory, risk for Alzheimer's disease.

[Sbarra, David A.](#) Social connectedness and health. Relationship dissolution, including divorce and non-marital breakups. Attachment processes. Experience sampling and quantitative methodology for the analysis of change.

[Schwartz, Gary E.](#) Psychophysiology of love and emotion, emotional and spiritual factors in health psychology, energy clinical psychology and energy medicine.

[Stone, Jeff](#) Cognitive dissonance theory, the self, stereotypes, attitudes and persuasion, person perception, social psychology applied to health, legal issues, and sports.

[Sullivan, Daniel](#) Suffering, anxiety, guilt, cultural differences, religion and terror management.

[Wilson, Robert](#) Computational, behavioral and neuroimaging studies of exploration, reinforcement learning and decision making. Joint appointment with Cognitive Science.