

COURTNEY R. GERVER
The Pennsylvania State University
441 Moore Building,
University Park, PA 16801
courtneygerver@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Cognitive Neuroscience (anticipated SU'22)	2019-
M.S., Cognitive Psychology <i>The Pennsylvania State University</i> Master's Thesis: Examining the effect of encoding-retrieval congruency on associative retrieval <u>Advisor:</u> Nancy A. Dennis, Ph.D.	2019
B.S., Psychology; Minor, Criminal Justice <i>St. Thomas Aquinas College</i> Summa Cum Laude, Honors Program distinction <u>Advisors:</u> Benjamin C. Wagner, Ph.D., Susan K. Marell, Ph.D.	2017
Visiting Student, Oxford Berkeley Program <i>University of Oxford</i>	SU 2016

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Dennis, N. A., Overman, A. A., Carpenter, C. M., & **Gerver, C. R.** (special issue acceptance). Understanding associative false memories in aging using multivoxel pattern analyses. *Aging, Neuropsychology, and Cognition*.

Gerver, C. R., Overman, A. A., Babu, H. J., Hultman, C. E., & Dennis, N. A. (2020). Examining the neural basis of congruent and incongruent configural contexts during associative retrieval. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 32(9), 1796-1812.
https://doi.org/10.1162/jocn_a_01593

Gerver, C. R., Neely, K. A., Kurkela, K. A., Diaz, M. T., Goodman, J. T., Blouch, S. L., Samimy, S., & Dennis, N. A. (2019). Shared neural recruitment across working memory and motor control tasks as a function of task difficulty and age. *Aging, Neuropsychology, and Cognition*. 27(6), 864-879. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13825585.2019.1700898>

Dennis, N. A., Overman, A. A., **Gerver, C. R.**, McGraw, K., Rowley, M. A., & Salerno, J. M. (2019). Different types of associative encoding evoke differential processing in both younger and older adults: evidence from univariate and multivariate analyses. *Neuropsychologia*, 135. 1-14.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2019.107240>

IN PREP AND SUBMITTED PUBLICATIONS

Gerver, C. R., Griffin, J. W., Dennis, N. A., & Beaty, R. E. (under review). A meta-analytic examination of the relationship between memory and creative cognition. Under review at *Psychological Bulletin*. [OSF materials](#).

Hakun, J. G., Roque, N., **Gerver, C. R.**, & Cerino, E. (revise & resubmit). Ultra-brief ambulatory assessment of working memory capacity via smart phones. Under review at *Assessment*.

Frith, E.*, **Gerver, C. R.***, Benedek, M., Christensen, A. P., & Beaty, R. E. (in prep). Neural representations of conceptual fixation during creative imagination.

Gerver, C. R., Dennis, N. A., & Beaty, R. E. (in prep). Rigid semantic network structure engenders false memory production.

*Note: * = Co-first authors.*

PREREGISTERED ONGOING STUDIES

Gerver, C. R. & Dennis, N. A. (in prep). Examining the effect of scene complexity on associative memory: An eye-tracking study. [Preregistration](#).

Gerver, C. R., Dennis, N. A., & Beaty, R. E. (in prep). Examining the relationship between false memory susceptibility and divergent creative thinking abilities. [Preregistration](#).

GRANTS & AWARDS

Grants

- Translational Science Fellowship 2021
Supported by NIH Grants TL1 TR002016 and UL1 TR002014
- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention 2019

Graduate Awards

- Psychology Department Research Funds 2021
- Psychology Department Travel Award 2018, 2019

Undergraduate Awards

- Gold Key Service Award 2017
- St. Thomas Aquinas College Travel Award (\$1,000) 2017
- Dean's List Recipient (all semesters) 2013-2017
- LEAD Level 2 STAC Student Leadership Series: Silver Award 2016
- St. Thomas Aquinas College Student Leadership Award Honorable Mention 2016
- NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates Scholar 2015
- Phoenix Award 2014
- Harry Golde and Terry McCoy Scholarship Award (\$150) 2014

INVITED TALKS

Gerver, C. R. The ins and outs of the graduate school application. Talk given at the Psi Chi Undergraduate Meeting on April 8, 2021.

Gerver, C. R. Memory, aging, & all about graduate school. Invited to speak at Psi Chi Undergraduate Meeting on March 17, 2020. Event cancelled due to COVID-19.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Gerver, C. R., Overman, A. A., Carpenter, C. M., Cowan, J., Jenkins, C., & Dennis, N. A. (2021). Encoding-retrieval congruency affects the neural processing of associative recollection in young and older adults. Virtually presented at the 2021 Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting.

Gerver, C. R., Overman, A. A., Cowan, J., Jenkins, C., Kautz, B., Long, M., Seo, M. S., & Dennis, N. A. (2020). Manipulating associative encoding strategy impacts neural discriminability at encoding and retrieval. Presented virtually at the 2020 Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting.

Gerver, C. R., Overman, A. A., Cowan, J., Jenkins, C., & Dennis, N. A. (2020). Encoding-retrieval congruency affects the neural processing of associative recollection in older adults. Poster accepted for presentation at the 2020 Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA. Event cancelled due to COVID-19.

Note: Gray = maiden name.

Gray, C. R., Chamberlain, J. D., McGraw, K. E., Babu, H., Overman, A. A., & Dennis, N. A. (2019). The influence of memory performance on neural representations supporting associative retrieval. Presented at: Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Gray, C. R., Overman, A. A., McGraw, K. E., Rowley, M. A., Salerno, J. M., Hultman, C. E., & Dennis, N. A. (2019). Neural encoding differences between younger and older adults in associative memory. Presented at: Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference, Dallas, TX.

- McCormick-Huhn, J. M., **Gray, C. R.**, Iriondo, H., Babu, H. J., Richardson, H., & Dennis, N. A. (2018). Using perceptual manipulations as a new approach for promoting unitization in older adults. Presented at: Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- McGraw, K. E., Rowley, M. A., Salerno, J. M., Giglio, A. P., **Gray, C. R.**, Overman, A. A., & Dennis, N. A. (2018). Neural Encoding Differences in Older Adults' Associative Memory. Presented at: Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Gray, C. R.**, Rowley, M. A., McGraw, K. E., Salerno, J. M., Giglio, A. P., Overman, A. A., & Dennis, N. A. (2018). Effect of Congruency Between Encoding and Retrieval on Associative Retrieval. Presented at: Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
- Gray, C. R.**, & Marell, S. K. (2017). Conscientiousness as a mediating variable of happiness and procrastination. Presented at Ignite: Second Annual St. Thomas Aquinas College Art, Design, & Scholarship Exhibition, Sparkill, NY.
- Gray, C. R.**, & Wagner, B. (2017). My news is important to share: Connections between narcissism and social media usage. Presented at: Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Antonio, TX.
- Gray, C. R.**, & Wagner, B. (2016). My news is important to share: Connections between narcissism and social media usage. Presented at: New England Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Worcester, MA.
- Femovich, M. R., **Gray, C. R.**, Hamdan, N., D'Esterre, A., & Gunderson, E. A. (2015). The role of gender in verbal versus spatial mental rotation strategies. Presented at: 9th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH.
- Hamdan, N., D'Esterre, A., Femovich, M. R., **Gray, C. R.**, Hildebrand, L., Black, C., & Gunderson, E. A. (2015). Fraction number line training leads to learning and transfer in early elementary students' fraction magnitude concepts. Presented at: 9th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH.
- Gray, C. R.**, Femovich, M. R., Hamdan, N., D'Esterre, A., & Gunderson, E. A. (2015). Developmental trajectory of fraction area model strategy use in second and third graders. Presented at: 9th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Experience

The Pennsylvania State University

Advisor: Nancy A. Dennis, Ph.D.

2017-

Lab Rotation Advisor: Roger E. Beaty, Ph.D.

2019-

Lab Rotation Advisor: Jonathan G. Hakun, Ph.D.

2018-2019

NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates Research Assistant

Temple University

Advisor: Elizabeth A. Gunderson, Ph.D.

2015

Undergraduate Research Experience

Nathan S. Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research

Advisor: Anna Mackay-Brandt, Ph.D.

2015-2017

St. Thomas Aquinas College

Advisor: Susan K. Marell, Ph.D.

2016-2017

Advisor: Benjamin C. Wagner, Ph.D.

2015-2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

The Pennsylvania State University, World Campus

- Elementary Statistics in Psychology (PSYCH200)

SP 2021

Lab Instructor

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park

- Basic Research Methods in Psychology (PSYCH301W)
- Basic Research Methods in Psychology (PSYCH301W)

SP 2020

FA 2019

Invited Lecturer

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park

- Introduction to Psychology for Honors Students (PSYCH100)
 - Topic: Associative and false memories
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 - Topic: Associative and false memories
- Neurobiology of Human Behavior (PSYCH260)
 - Topic: Biological basis of episodic memory impairments
- False Memory & Eyewitness Testimony (PSYCH490)
 - Topics: Weapon focus effect, false memories, and their application to eyewitness testimony
- Cognitive Development (PSYCH413)
 - Topic: Environmental influences on cognitive development

FA 2020

FA 2019

SP 2019

FA 2017

FA 2017

Elon University

- fMRI Workshop
 - Topics: 3-day workshop on memory, aging, & fMRI basics

SU 2020

St. Thomas Aquinas College

- Introduction to Psychology (PSY100)
 - Topic: Research Foundations

SP 2017

Teaching Assistant

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

- Neurobiology of Human Behavior (PSYCH260) FA 2020
- Basic Research Methods in Psychology (PSYCH301W) SP 2020
- Basic Research Methods in Psychology (PSYCH301W) FA 2019
- Neurobiology of Human Behavior (PSYCH260) SP 2019
- Senior Seminar in Cognitive Neuroscience (PSYCH490) SP 2019
- Introduction to Psychology (PSYCH 101) FA 2018
- Cognitive Development (PSYCH413) SP 2018
- Psychology of Adjustments and Social Relationships (PSYCH471) SP 2018
- False Memory and Eyewitness Testimony (PSYCH490) FA 2017
- Cognitive Development (PSYCH413) FA 2017

Tutoring

- St Thomas Aquinas College Center for Academic Excellence 2015-2017
- Chegg Online Tutor 2016-2017

LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

The Pennsylvania State University

- Graduate Women in Science Panelist 2020
- Penn State Undergraduate Research Exhibition Judge 2020, 2021
- Social Life, Engineering, and Imaging Center Student Advisory Committee Member 2019-
- Junior mentor, Penn State Psychology Graduate Mentoring Program 2018
- Academic and Experimental Organization for Neuroscience Student Member 2017-
- Participants Across the Lifespan (PALs) Database Graduate Coordinator 2017-

Duke University

- Summer School in Social Neuroscience and Neuroeconomics attendee 2019

Harvard Medical School

- National Student Leadership Conference Psychology & Neuroscience Team Advisor 2016

St. Thomas Aquinas College

- Researching Research Chair 2016-2017
- Psychology Club Vice President 2014-2017
- Yearbook Editor-In-Chief 2014-2017
- Random Acts of Kindness Vice President 2014-2017
- St. Thomas Aquinas College Ambassador 2014-2017
- History Club Treasurer 2014-2016

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Golden Key Honor Society	2019-
Cognitive Neuroscience Society	2017-
Alpha Phi Sigma National Honor Society	2017-
Psi Chi International Honor Society	2016-
Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society	2016-
Alpha Chi National College Honor Society	2015-
Cognitive Development Society	2015

AD HOC REVIEWER

Cerebral Cortex; Neuropsychologia; Neurobiology of Aging; Aging, Neuropsychology, and Cognition; Creativity Research Journal; Basic and Applied Social Psychology.

POPULAR PRESS

Ward, P. & Hughes, E. (2 March, 2020). TidyX Review of the San Francisco Tree data set from TidyTuesday. [Article](#).

RELEVANT SKILLS

[Github](#), R, MATLAB, PsychoPy, E-Prime, SPM, FSL, SPSS, Microsoft Office Suite

Last updated: June 8, 2021