



Department of Psychology Spring 2022 Newsletter

WELCOME

Welcome back! The Department of Psychology's chair, Dr. Emily Elliott, and the rest of our faculty and staff look forward to another productive and educational semester. We are housed within the College of Humanities & Social Sciences. Our nationally recognized faculty conduct basic and applied research on a broad variety of topics in psychology and neuroscience. We provide a high-quality undergraduate education to over 1,000 majors, with a curricular focus on the science of the brain and behavior and its application. Admission to our PhD program is among the most competitive at LSU, and we have approximately 100 graduate students enrolled.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the psychology department at LSU is to educate the public about psychology, to advance the frontiers of psychological knowledge, and to provide psychological services to individuals, organizations, and the community. Our outstanding program has four distinct areas: clinical psychology, cognitive and brain sciences, industrial/organizational psychology, and school psychology. Furthermore, our psychological services center provides affordable mental health services to the local community.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Dr. Emily Elliott, Professor & Department Chair

“As we move into a new year, I look forward to the exciting and innovative research that is occurring across multiple areas of psychology at LSU. I am so grateful for the enthusiasm and energy of our talented undergraduate students, and the many ways that they are involved in research through our PSYC 2999 and 4999 classes, the McNair program, the honors thesis program, ASPIRE, LSU Discover, and other opportunities. In addition, I would like to extend a particular thank you to the family of Ernest and Miriam Gurman. With their support, we are launching a new scholarship program for graduate students in the Industrial and Organizational Psychology (I/O) Program. The challenges of the pandemic have not slowed down the dedication and drive of the students and faculty in the department. We continue to present cutting-edge research at conferences, to win awards, and to excel in the classroom. It is a true privilege to be able to teach and conduct research at LSU, and to work with such amazing colleagues.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Psychology Department is excited to announce the launch of our **online BS in Psychology** option through LSU Online starting Fall 2022!
- A **new concentration** in **Forensic Psychology** is being launched for the Fall of 2022 on the LSU campus and in the LSU Online environment! The name of the degree will be the BS in Psychology with a concentration in Forensic Psychology. We are very pleased to offer this concentration, as we have heard from a large number of our students about their interests in this area.
- A **new concentration** in **Cognitive Neuroscience** is being launched for the Fall of 2022 on the LSU campus as well! This is another very exciting opportunity, as we will be the first program to offer officially recognized training in Cognitive Neuroscience at LSU. The name of the degree will be the BS in Psychology with a concentration in Cognitive Neuroscience.
- **Two new courses** will also be offered, beginning in the Fall of 2022 on the LSU campus and in the LSU Online environment. These are: **PSYC 2080, Introduction to Forensic Psychology**, and **PSYC 4043, Race and Psychology**. PSYC 4043 will be the first course in our undergraduate curriculum specifically addressing issues related to race in the field.

NEW FACULTY



Vanessa Burke, ABD

Vanessa Burke earned her M.S. and is currently finishing her PhD in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from Pennsylvania State University. Her research examines the intersection between diversity and the hierarchical nature of organizations. Her work centers on how demographic (gender, age, race) and behavioral (sexual harassment, emotional displays, leader errors) indicators of power and social status determine who has access to opportunities.

vburke4@lsu.edu

213 Audubon Hall



Dr. Eric Wilkey

Dr. Wilkey earned his M. Ed. in Mind, Brain and Education from Harvard, his PhD in Neuroscience from Vanderbilt University, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Western University in London, Ontario. His research focuses broadly on the development of mathematical skills and the neurocognitive mechanisms that enable mathematical cognition using behavioral and neuroimaging methods, particularly structural and functional MRI.

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PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT STAFF

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LSU PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES CENTER (PSC)

The PSC is located on-campus and offers in-person and telehealth services.

Treatment services include:

- Individual and group therapy for depression, prolonged grief, trauma, and anxiety.
- Treatment of alcohol and drug related problems and treatment for smoking cessation.
- Interventions for students diagnosed with ADHD to improve executive functioning skills in daily life (e.g., time management and organization).
- Comprehensive psychoeducational and neuropsychological evaluations for ADHD, specific learning disorders, and concussion/traumatic brain injury.

Services are provided by graduate students under the supervision of licensed psychologists. Fees for service are based on a sliding scale with the lowest therapy costs for LSU students consistent with our mission to serve the LSU community.

If you are interested, you can call the PSC at **(225) 578-1494** or email pscsheduling@lsu.edu.

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COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY & OUTREACH IN PSYCHOLOGY

LSU's Psychology Department is strongly committed to promoting diversity broadly defined, including but not limited to culture, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, age, etc. The Psychology Department formed the Committee on Diversity and Outreach in Psychology (CDOP) to foster an atmosphere that values diversity and encourages open dialogue about cultural issues.

CDOP organizes and facilitates departmental workgroups in which students and faculty work together on specific topic areas to achieve meaningful changes to departmental activities. CDOP also serves as the liaison between these workgroups and departmental faculty to ensure activities and changes are promoted beyond the workgroups themselves, and to translate words into actions.

To learn more about CDOP, please see: <https://www.lsu.edu/hss/psychology/diversity/diversity.php>

PAUL C. YOUNG AWARD



Mia Goodson

The recipient of this year's Paul C. Young Award is senior Mia Goodson. Mia is a Psychology major with a double minor in Health Science and Sociology. She has been a Supplemental Instruction (SI) Leader since her sophomore year for both PSYC 2000 and PSYC 2016. She is currently working on an honors thesis through Dr. Paul Soto's Behavioral Psychopharmacology Lab looking at the effects of olanzapine on weight gain and sucrose preference in mice. Mia is a MARC Scholar, and through this opportunity, was able to work on her first publication this past summer in the Reproductive Endocrinology and Women's Health Lab at Pennington Biomedical Research Center.

What is the Paul C. Young Award?

The Psychology Department gives this award annually to honor the most outstanding senior in psychology. The winner will be celebrated during the Psi Chi Induction ceremony.

Who is eligible for this award?

- Anyone who graduates in the preceding semesters (Fall, 2021; Spring/Summer, 2022).
- Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or better.
- Must have a GPA of 3.50 or better in Psychology courses.

To be considered:

Any Psychology major (B.A. or B.S.) meeting the eligibility requirements should submit the following information, including a faculty letter of support, in electronic form (i.e. email) to Dr. Don Zhang (zhang1@lsu.edu) by 4:30 PM, March 4th.

1. Current, official copy of LSU transcripts.
2. One letter of support from a member of the Psychology Faculty (emailed to Dr. Zhang).
3. Personal statement of no more than two double-spaced pages (describing honors, research experience, and career goals).
4. A resume or CV, including contact information.

What will the awardee receive?

The recipient's name will be placed on a plaque in Audubon Hall. Additionally the winner will receive a certificate of recognition and a \$100 award.

STUDENT RESEARCH



Abigail Brien presents research poster and abstract for the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Convention

Abigail Brien is a third-year student majoring in Psychology and is an undergraduate research assistant in Dr. Julie Buckner's Anxiety and Addictive Behaviors Research Laboratory. In November 2021, she presented a research poster and abstract for the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Convention. Her research discussed racial discrimination and hazardous drinking, with a focus on the role of social anxiety in the Minority Stress Model among Black drinkers.

DISTINGUISHED UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

The LSU Distinguished Undergraduate Researcher designation recognizes the achievements of outstanding LSU undergraduates who participate in a track of educational and research activities leading to a final and public presentation or publication of a faculty-mentored undergraduate scholarly project. An LSU Distinguished Undergraduate Researcher is a student who has demonstrated outstanding ability as an advanced student researcher in their discipline. Distinguished Researchers will be honored at a special medal ceremony in their graduating semester and the designation will be noted on their transcripts.

FALL 2021 AWARD WINNERS



Kiara Warren

Kiara is a senior Psychology major. Her future plans include continuing her research in Dr. Cohen's Affective Science and Psychopathology lab, and enrolling into a Clinical Psychology program.



Eve Gautreaux

As an undergraduate at LSU, Eve was a member of two research labs including Dr. Soto's lab and Dr. Lattin's lab. This fall Eve will begin pursuing a PhD in Neuroscience. In the meantime, she is working at Pennington Biomedical Research Center in the lab of Dr. Morrison.

GURMAN SCHOLARSHIP

We are excited to announce the establishment of the **Earnest and Miriam Gurman Psychology Scholarship** made possible by the generous donation from Miriam Gurman in honor and memory of Dr. Earnest B. Gurman, a '62 Alumnus of the **Industrial and Organizational (I/O) program** at LSU.

Dr. Gurman's dissertation examined task characteristics and brainstorming. After graduating from LSU, Dr. Gurman had an illustrious career at the University of Southern Mississippi where he taught and researched topics such as leadership, personality, and work performance. He also championed the ethical treatment of human subjects with his publication in the journal *Psychological Science*. Dr. Gurman was a model researcher, teacher, and advocate for ethical research.

This award will support substantive research activities of graduate students in the I/O Psychology Program at LSU. The award aims to facilitate scholarship that could lead to significant contributions to the science and practice of I/O Psychology.

For more information, please contact Dr. Don Zhang, at zhang1@lsu.edu.

To access the RFP, please click here: https://www.lsu.edu/hss/psychology/about/gurman_rfp.pdf

PSYCHOLOGY CLUB AND PSI CHI



Interested in connecting with your peers in your field?
Come join us!

Email us at psichi@lsu.edu and follow us on Instagram [@lsupsichi](https://www.instagram.com/lsupsichi) for more information!

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CURRENT GRADUATE STUDENTS

CLINICAL

- Cristina Abarno
- Paige Adenuga
- Michaela Brown
- Megan Callahan
- Hannah Chapman
- Lindsay Marie Clark
- Kelsey Coulthard
- Tovah Marie Cowan
- Katrail Davis
- Ross Divers
- Kimberly Ellison
- Jessica Gerner
- Nina Glover
- Courtney Goetz
- Ole Edvard Granrud
- Jerrica Renee' Guidry
- Madeleine Hansen
- Kristen Hollas
- Esther Hong
- Emily Kemp
- Christian Ledet
- Elizabeth Mara Lewis
- Michael Masucci
- Kaitlyn McCauley
- Luke Miller
- Joshua Montrenes
- Paige Morris
- Emma Moscardini
- D Nicholas Oakey-Frost
- Sarah Pardue-Bourgeois
- Paige Picou
- Jeffrey Powers
- Erika Pugh
- Christopher Reed
- Emily Robertson
- Anthony Robinson
- Caroline Scherzer
- Allison Claire Smith
- JoHannah Smith
- Paul Spano
- Julianne Speck
- Shelby Alexandra Stewart
- Faith Stoneking
- Celeste Tevis
- Erin Vaughan
- Toni Walker
- Paige Weir
- Daniel Scott Weitzner

COGNITIVE AND BRAIN SCIENCES

- Lauryn Burleigh
- Brianna Cairney
- Felicia Chaisson
- Brandon Eich
- Rachel Evans
- Jessica Hacker
- Alan Harrison
- Megan Henshaw
- Matthew Jimenez
- Chloe Kindell
- Alexander Lawriw
- Stephanie Lopez
- Vincent Medina
- Stephanie Saltzmann
- Francis Torres
- Stan West

INDUSTRIAL/ORGANIZATIONAL

- Tyler Cowley
- Sydney Green
- Michael Mordechai Hay
- Chelsea Hightower
- Gino Howard
- John-Luke McCord
- Hannah Perkins

SCHOOL

- Sam Allouche
- Madeline Blocker
- Grace Blyth
- Grace Chen
- Jensen Chotto
- Jacob Landon DeBoer
- Cassie Feck
- Sarah Holmes (nee Christian)
- Mary Snellings Inabnett
- Parker Levins
- Elizabeth Linton
- Erica Lozy
- Jessie Munson
- Kristen Newell
- Rochelle Picardo
- Alison Ruby
- Oceann Stanley
- Jennifer Inmaculada Vasquez
- Jodie Waits
- Ar'Reon Watson
- Meagan Zeitvogel

FACULTY ADMINISTRATION

**Psychology Department
Chair**

Dr. Emily Elliott

**Psychology Department
Associate Chair**

Dr. Janet McDonald

**Director of
Undergraduate Studies**

Dr. Katie Cherry

**Director of
Graduate Studies**

Dr. Melissa Beck

Director of CBS Training
Dr. Melissa Beck

Director of Clinical Training
Dr. Paul Frick

Director of I/O Training
Dr. Don Zhang

Director of School Training
Dr. Anna Long