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Engineering & Scientific Consulting

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Professional Profile

Dr. Shepardson has expertise in cognitive neuroscience including perception, learning, memory, and behavior with an emphasis on how emotional states alter these processes. Her expertise allows her to provide analysis for projects involving safety information and warnings, driver and pedestrian behavior, visibility, memory recall, and long-term memory change.

Dr. Shepardson earned her Ph.D. in Psychology from Emory University. Her doctoral research focused on how emotional experiences impact memory for preceding information. She has experience with many experimental techniques including physiological recordings to assess emotional responses in the body, fMRI to track neural activity, and cognitive assessments to analyze memory performance. She is proficient in human subject testing, data and statistical analysis, scientific writing and communication, experimental design, literature review and synthesis, and project management. Additionally, she has examined how the capabilities and limitations of individuals change across the lifespan. Dr. Shepardson also instructed courses at Emory in cognition, memory and learning, experimental methodology in psychology, and cross-cultural cognitive development.

Academic Credentials & Professional Honors

M.A., Psychology, Emory University, 2021

Ph.D., Cognition and Neuroscience, Emory University, 2021

B.S., Psychology, University of Richmond, 2019

Laney Graduate School Research and Training Grant, Emory University, 2023

Magna Cum Laude Graduate with Psychology Highest Honors, University of Richmond, 2019

Presidential Scholar, University of Richmond, 2019

Prior Experience

Graduate Researcher, Emory University, 2019-2024

Program and Teaching Assistant, Emory University, 2020-2024

Teaching Fellow, University of Richmond, 2018-2019

Professional Affiliations

Cognitive Neuroscience Society, 2019-present

Cognitive Aging Society, 2017-2021

Publications

Shepardson, S., Dahlgren, K., & Hamann, S. (2023). Neural correlates of autobiographical memory retrieval: An SDM neuroimaging meta-analysis. *Cortex*, 166, 59-79.

Presentations

Shepardson N.K. and Shepardson S. Trauma, Memory, and Learning: Instructional Implications for the Student with Dyslexia. Presentation. Orton-Gillingham Conference, Atlanta, GA, 2024.

Shepardson N.K. and Shepardson S. Trauma, Memory, and Learning: Instructional Implications for the Student with Dyslexia. Presentation. Everyone Reading Conference, New York, NY, 2024.

Shepardson N.K. and Shepardson S. Trauma, Memory, and Learning: Instructional Implications for the Student with Dyslexia. Presentation. International Dyslexia Association Conference, Columbus, OH, 2023.

Shepardson, S, Dahlgren, K, and Hamann, S. Neural Correlates of Autobiographical Memory Retrieval: A Meta-Analysis Using Seed-based d Mapping. Virtual Presentation, Cognitive Neuroscience Society Conference, 2020.

Shepardson, S and Berry, J. Do Younger and Older Adults Know What They Know? A Study of Valenced Word Pairs and Picture Pairs. Presentation, University of Richmond Arts and Science Symposium, Richmond, VA, 2019.

Shepardson, S. The Effect of Interdependence vs Independence on Feeling Disengaging and Engaging Emotions. Presentation, University of Richmond Science of Emotion Festival, Richmond, VA, 2018.