

# Coltan Scrivner

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Fellow

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## EDUCATION

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| <b>2022</b> | <b><i>PhD Comparative Human Development – Behavioral Biology</i></b><br>The University of Chicago.                     |
| <b>2016</b> | <b><i>MS Forensic Science – Biology/Chemistry with Honors</i></b><br>University of Central Oklahoma.                   |
| <b>2014</b> | <b><i>BA with Honors in Anthropology,</i></b><br>Minors in Biology and Natural Science<br>Oklahoma Baptist University. |

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## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS & POSITIONS

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| <b>2021</b>       | <b><i>Facebook</i></b><br>User Experience Research Graduate Intern – <i>Mental Health Team</i> .  |
| <b>2021</b>       | <b><i>Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology, Oxford University</i></b><br>Research Consultant – <i>Ritual Intuitions project</i> . |
| <b>2017–22</b>    | <b><i>Institute for Mind and Biology, The University of Chicago</i></b><br>Fellow.  |
| <b>2017, 2020</b> | <b><i>Interacting Minds Centre / Recreational Fear Lab,</i></b><br><b><i>Aarhus University, Denmark</i></b><br>Visiting Researcher.               |

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## BOOKS

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| <b>2023</b> | <b><i>Scrivner, C.</i></b> Morbidly Curious: The Science Behind Our Fascination With The Mysterious And Macabre. <i>Penguin Random House</i> . |
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## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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### Journal Articles

- Preprint**      **Scrivner, C.**, Andersen, M., Schjoedt, U., & Clasen, M. The psychological benefits of scary play in three types of horror fans.
- Preprint**      **Scrivner, C.** & Christensen, K. A. Scaring Away Anxiety: Therapeutic Avenues for Horror Fiction to Enhance Treatment for Anxiety Symptoms.
- Accepted**      **Scrivner, C.** & Clasen, M. Why Frightening Imaginary Worlds? Behavioral and Brain Sciences.
- 2021**          **Scrivner, C.** The Psychology of Morbid Curiosity: Development and Initial Validation of the Morbid Curiosity Scale. *Personality and Individual Differences*.
- 2021**          Rim, N.W., Choe, K.W., **Scrivner, C.**, & Berman, M.G. Introducing Point-of-Interest as an alternative to Area-of-Interest for fixation duration analysis. *PLoS One*.
- 2021**          **Scrivner, C.**, Johnson, J.A., Kjeldgaard-Christiansen, J., & Clasen, M. Pandemic Practice: Horror Fans and Morbidly Curious Individuals Are More Psychologically Resilient During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Personality and Individual Differences*.
- 2021**          **Scrivner, C.** An Infectious Curiosity: Morbid Curiosity and Media Preferences During a Pandemic. *Evolutionary Studies in Imaginative Culture*.
- 2020**          Andersen, M., Schjoedt, U., Price, H., Rosas, F., **Scrivner, C.**, & Clasen, M. Playing with Fear: A Field Study in Recreational Horror. *Psychological Science*
- 2020**          Taji, W., **Scrivner, C.**, & Maestripieri, D. Toward a general theory of human individual differences: Can evolutionary psychology meet the challenge? *Evolutionary Behavioral Sciences*.
- 2020**          **Scrivner, C.**, Holbrook, C., Fessler, D.M.T., & Maestripieri, D. Gruesomeness conveys formidability: Perpetrators of gratuitously grisly acts are conceptualized as larger, stronger, and more likely to win. *Aggressive Behavior*.
- 2019**          **Scrivner, C.**, Choe, K.W., Henry, J., Lyu, M., Maestripieri, D., & Berman, M.G. Violence reduces attention to faces and draws attention to points of contact. *Scientific Reports*.
- 2018**          **Scrivner, C.** & Maestripieri, D. Creativity patterns in the production of scientific theories and literary fiction. *KNOW: A Journal on the Formation of Knowledge*.

### **Book Chapters**

- In Press**     **Scrivner, C.** Curiosity: A Behavioral Biology Perspective. In T. Shackelford & L. Al-Shawaf (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Evolution and the Emotions*.
- In Press**     **Scrivner, C.**, Sznycer, D., Lukaszewski, A., and Al-Shawaf, L. Social emotions are governed by a common grammar of social valuation: Theoretical foundations and applications to human personality and the criminal justice system. In T. Shackelford & L. Al-Shawaf (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Evolution and the Emotions*.
- In Press**     Sell, A., **Scrivner, C.**, Landers, M. & Lopez, A. The Neutralization Theory of Hatred. In T. Shackelford & L. Al-Shawaf (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Evolution and the Emotions*.
- 2018**     Marvel-Coen, J., **Scrivner, C.** & Maestripieri, D. Morningness-eveningness and sociosexuality from a life history perspective. In V. Zeigler-Hill & T. Shackelford (Eds.), *The SAGE Handbook of Personality and Individual Differences*.

### **Book Reviews**

- 2017**     **Scrivner, C.** Human Behavioral Biology: It's Complicated [Review of the book *Behave: The Biology of Humans at Our Best and Worst*]. *Human Ethology*.

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## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS**

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### **Competitive Grants (\$72,933 total)**

- 2021**     Mary Anne and James L. Rynerson Research Grant (\$10,000)
- 2020**     Gianinno Graduate Research Grant (\$1500)
- 2019**     Gianinno Graduate Research Grant (\$2000)
- 2019**     Human Behavior and Evolution Society, student funding grant (\$1600)
- 2019**     Pozen Family Center for Human Rights symposium event co-sponsorship (\$400)
- 2019**     Mary Anne and James L. Rynerson Research Grant (\$10,000)
- 2018**     Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society Collaborative Research Project (\$35,433)
- 2018**     Mary Anne and James L. Rynerson Research Grant (\$10,000)
- 2018**     Pozen Family Center for Human Rights Graduate Student Master Class and Workshop Fund (\$1500)
- 2015**     University of Central Oklahoma Student Research, Creative, & Scholarly Activities Grant (\$500)

### Travel Grants

<b>2019</b>	Gianinno Conference Fund (\$1000)
<b>2018</b>	Institute for Mind and Biology Travel Fund (\$1000)
<b>2018</b>	Gianinno Conference Fund (\$750)
<b>2018</b>	Institute for Mind and Biology Travel Fund (\$750)
<b>2017</b>	The University of Chicago Graduate Student Council Advanced Travel Fund (\$600)

### Fellowships

<b>2020-21</b>	Social Science Research Center Graduate Student Fellowship
<b>2016-22</b>	The University of Chicago Social Sciences Fellowship

### Awards

<b>2020</b>	SPSP Graduate Registration Award
<b>2015</b>	University of Central Oklahoma Student Research, Creative, & Scholarly Activities Award (\$1000)
<b>2015</b>	ARL/DNA Solutions Endowed Scholarship Award (\$1000)
<b>2015</b>	Forensic Science Institute Endowed Scholarship Award (\$1000)
<b>2015</b>	TA Tuition Waiver Award, UCO Department of Biology (\$1129)

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## **INVITED TALKS**

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<b>2021</b>	Chicago Center for Practical Wisdom. The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
<b>2021</b>	Science on Screen. Colonial Theatre. Phoenixville, PA.
<b>2020</b>	Pomona College. Claremont, CA.
<b>2020</b>	Interacting Minds Centre. Aarhus University. Aarhus, Denmark
<b>2019</b>	Psychology Club. Carthage College. Kenosha, WI.
<b>2019</b>	Justice, Attention, and Motivation Lab. Department of Psychology, Loyola University Chicago. Chicago, IL.
<b>2019</b>	Social, Personality, and Organizational Brown Bag. Psychology Department, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Urbana-Champaign, IL.

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## **CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

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### Organizer

<b>2019</b>	<b>Weekly Workshop:</b> <i>Social Cognition, Aggression, and Research in Evolution (SCARE)</i> at The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
<b>2019</b>	<b>Symposium:</b> <i>Cognitive Evolutionary Foundations of Conflict</i> at the Institute for Mind and Biology, The University of Chicago. Chicago, IL.

- 2019**      *Symposium: Experiencing Violence: From Laboratory to Community* at the Midwestern Psychological Association Conference. Chicago, IL.
- 2018**      *Conference: The Allure of Violence: Bridging Perception, Cognition, and Culture* at The Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, The University of Chicago. Chicago, IL.

**Conference Presentations (first author & presenter only)**

- 2021**      *Scrivner, C. The Psychology of Morbid Curiosity* at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention.
- 2020**      *Scrivner, C. Morbid Curiosity and Monsters* at the Zombie Apocalypse Medicine Meeting.
- 2020**      *Scrivner, C. The Psychology of Morbid Curiosity: Development of the Morbid Curiosity Scale and its Relationship to Behavior* at the Evolutionary Psychology Preconference at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- 2020**      *Scrivner, C. The Psychology of Morbid Curiosity* at the Association for Psychological Science. Chicago, IL. (cancelled due to COVID-19).
- 2020**      *Scrivner, C., Holbrook, C., Fessler, D.M.T., & Maestripieri, D. Gruesomeness Conveys Formidability* at the Midwestern Psychological Association Conference. Chicago, IL. (cancelled due to COVID-19).
- 2020**      *Scrivner, C. The Psychology of Morbid Curiosity* at the European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association Conference. Krakow, Poland (cancelled due to COVID-19).
- 2019**      *Scrivner, C., Choe, K.W., Henry, J., Lyu, M., Maestripieri, D., & Berman, M.G. Watching People People Watch: Using Eye Tracking to Study the Perception of Violent Social Interactions* at the International Society for Human Ethology Summer Institute. Zadar, Croatia.
- 2019**      *Scrivner, C., Choe, K.W., Lyu, M., Maestripieri, D., & Berman, M.G. Fixating on Violence: Visual assessment of violent social interactions* at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference. Boston, MA.
- 2019**      *Scrivner, C., Choe, K.W., Lyu, M., Maestripieri, D., & Berman, M.G. Taking a Look at Violence* at the Midwestern Psychological Association Conference. Chicago, IL.
- 2018**      *Scrivner, C., Choe, K.W., Maestripieri, D., & Berman, M.G. Visual Attention Biases in Viewing Scenes of Violence* at the International Society for Human Ethology Congress. Santiago, Chile.

- 2018**      *Scrivner, C., Ibarra, F., & Maestripieri, D. An Evolutionary Approach to Attentional and Emotional Biases in Coalitional Violence* at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference. Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- 2018**      *Scrivner, C., & Maestripieri, D., An Evolutionary Cost-Benefit Framework of Religious Beliefs and Behaviors* at Future Directions on the Evolution of Rituals, Beliefs, and Religious Minds. Erice, Sicily, Italy.
- 2016**      *Scrivner, C., Gibson, K., & Creecy, J. Beyond DNA: An Epigenetic Approach to Identical Twin Identification* at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Conference. Las Vegas, Nevada.
- 2016**      *Scrivner, C., Gibson, K., & Creecy, J. Twin Identification: Moving Beyond DNA* at Oklahoma Research Day. Talequah, Oklahoma

### **Departmental Talks**

- 2020**      Proseminar at the Institute for Mind and Biology, The University of Chicago. Chicago, IL.
- 2019**      Proseminar at the Institute for Mind and Biology, The University of Chicago. Chicago, IL.

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## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **The University of Chicago**

#### **Lecturer**

Mind II: Mechanisms of the Mind (Winter 2020)

Mind I: Historical and Philosophical Foundations of the Study of the Mind (Autumn 2020, 2 Sections)

#### **Teaching Assistant**

Habits of a Free Mind (Spring 2020; Dr. Pamela Paresky)

Computing for Social Sciences (Spring 2019; Dr. Ben Soltoff)

Mind III: The Mind in Context (Spring 2019; Dr. Jean Decety)

Mind II: Mechanisms of the Mind (Winter 2019; Dr. Katherine Krpan)

Mind I: Historical and Philosophical Foundations of the Study of the Mind (Autumn 2018; Dr. Dario Maestripieri).

Intro to Comparative Human Development (Autumn 2018; Dr. Eugene Raikhel)

### **The University of Central Oklahoma**

#### **Lecturer**

General Biology Laboratory (2014 – 2016; 9 Sections)

### Teaching Assistant

Embryology (Autumn 2015; Dr. Nikki Seagraves)

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### **PUBLISHED ESSAYS**

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<b>2021-</b>	Morbid Minds. <i>Psychology Today Blog</i>
<b>2021</b>	Why Horror Films Are More Popular Than Ever. <i>Nautilus</i> .
<b>2020</b>	Horror Fans Have More Fun During A Pandemic. <i>Nautilus</i> .
<b>2018</b>	Diversity and Inclusion vs Free Speech on Campus. <i>Quillette</i> .
<b>2017</b>	Guest Blogger at <i>Savage Minds/Anthrodendum</i> .
<b>2016</b>	When DNA Isn't Enough: Methylation, Forensics, and Twins – Part 2. <i>Forensic Outreach</i> .
<b>2016</b>	When DNA Isn't Enough: Methylation, Forensics, and Twins – Part 1. <i>Forensic Outreach</i> .
<b>2016</b>	Paleo Diet: Brilliantly Simple, or Simply Wrong? <i>Anthro/Zine</i> .
<b>2015</b>	Neanderthals: Were They “Human?” <i>Anthro/Zine</i> .

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### **SELECT MEDIA INTERVIEWS**

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“You know you want to look: University of Chicago grad student has made a specialty of morbid curiosity.” (Profile; front page of Sunday paper). [The Chicago Tribune](#)

“Horror movie fans are better at coping with the coronavirus pandemic.” [New Scientist](#)

“Why the zombie apocalypse prepared us for pandemic Coronavirus.” [Forbes](#)

“I feel fine: fans of world-ending films ‘coping better with the pandemic.’” [The Guardian](#)

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### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES**

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#### University and Departmental Service

**Dean’s Advisory Council, Division of Social Sciences.**

University of Chicago. 2019–20.

**Fellows Council, Institute for Mind and Biology.**

University of Chicago. 2019–21.

**Social Chair, Comparative Human Development Student Association.**

University of Chicago. 2017–18

#### Ad-Hoc Reviewer

*Personality and Individual Differences, Adaptive Human Behavior & Physiology, Evolutionary Studies in Imaginative Culture, International Journal of the Psychology of Religion, EvoS Journal*

**Member**

American Psychological Association (APA – Divisions 1, 3, 6, & 8)

Human Behavior and Evolution Society (HBES)

International Society for Human Ethology (ISHE)

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

Association for Psychological Science (APS)