

Coltan Scrivner

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Fellow, Institute for Mind and Biology

The University of Chicago

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Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

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

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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| 2021 | Facebook
User Experience Research Graduate Intern |
| 2017-22 | Institute for Mind and Biology, The University of Chicago, USA
Fellow |
| 2017, 2020 | Interacting Minds Centre / Recreational Fear Lab,
Aarhus University, Denmark
Visiting Researcher |

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- In prep*** **Scrivner, C. & Christensen, K. A.** Scaring Away Anxiety: Therapeutic Avenues for Horror Fiction to Enhance Treatment for Anxiety Symptoms.
- Under Review*** **Scrivner, C.** The Psychology of Morbid Curiosity.
- R&R*** 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.
- 2021** **Scrivner, C.** An Infectious Curiosity: Morbid Curiosity and Media Preferences During a Pandemic. *Evolutionary Studies in Imaginative Culture*.
- 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*.
- 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., Maestriperi, D., & Berman, M.G. Violence reduces attention to faces and draws attention to points of contact. *Scientific Reports.*
- 2018** **Scrivner, C.** & Maestriperi, D. Creativity patterns in the production of scientific theories and literary fiction. *KNOW: A Journal on the Formation of Knowledge.*

Book Chapters

- Accepted** **Scrivner, C.** Curiosity: A Behavioral Biology Perspective. In T. Shackelford & L. Al-Shawaf (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Evolution and the Emotions.*
- Accepted** **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.*
- Accepted** 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.** & Maestriperi, 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*.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

Competitive Grants

- 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)
- 2019-20** Mary Anne and James L. Rynerson Research Grant (\$10,000)
- 2018-20** Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society Collaborative Research Project (\$35,433)
- 2018-19** 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)
- 2017** The University of Chicago Graduate Student Council Advanced Travel Fund (\$600)
- 2015** University of Central Oklahoma Student Research, Creative, & Scholarly Activities Grant (\$500)

Travel Grants

- 2019** Gianinno Conference Fund (\$1000)
- 2018** Institute for Mind and Biology Travel Fund (\$1000)

- 2018** Gianinno Conference Fund (\$750)
- 2018** Institute for Mind and Biology Travel Fund (\$750)

Fellowships

- 2020-21** Social Science Research Center Graduate Student Fellowship
- 2016-21** The University of Chicago Social Sciences Fellowship (\$31,000/Year)

Awards

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

INVITED TALKS

- 2021** Science on Screen. Colonial Theatre. Phoenixville, PA.
- 2020** Pomona College, Claremont, CA.
- 2020** Interacting Minds Centre, Aarhus University. Aarhus, Denmark
- 2019** Psychology Club. Carthage College. Kenosha, WI.
- 2019** Justice, Attention, and Motivation Lab. Department of Psychology, Loyola University Chicago. Chicago, IL.
- 2019** Social, Personality, and Organizational Brown Bag. Psychology Department, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Urbana-Champaign, IL.
- 2015** Tri-Beta Speaker Series at Oklahoma Baptist University. Shawnee, OK.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Organized Conferences, Workshops, & Symposia

- 2019** **Weekly Workshop:** *Social Cognition, Aggression, and Research in Evolution (SCARE)* at The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 2019** **Symposium:** *Cognitive Evolutionary Foundations of Conflict* 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

Campus and 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.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of Chicago

Lecturer

Mind II (Winter 2020)
Mind I (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 (Spring 2019; Dr. Jean Decety)
Mind II (Winter 2019; Dr. Katherine Krpan)
Mind I (Autumn 2018; Dr. Dario Maestriperi).
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)

PUBLISHED ESSAYS

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

SELECT MEDIA INTERVIEWS

"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*](#)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

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, EvoS Journal

Member

American Psychological Association (APA – Div. 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)