

DANIEL PEARSON

PERSONAL INFORMATION

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EDUCATION AND RELEVANT WORK HISTORY

2015–2019 <i>Thesis Submitted</i>	PhD/Master of Psychology (Clinical) , UNSW SYDNEY, Australia Thesis: “ <i>Learning to avoid looking: The effect of reward on attentional capture and control</i> ” Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Mike Le Pelley Co-supervisors: Prof. Simon Killcross & Assoc. Prof. Thomas Whitford Brief Synopsis: Stimuli paired with large reward are more likely to capture attention than stimuli paired with lesser (or no) reward, even when such capture is counter to an observer’s current goals. This phenomenon is known as <i>value-modulated attentional capture</i> . This thesis investigated the mechanisms underlying the influence of reward on attentional capture and control processes using behavioural and eye-tracking methods. The full abstract for this thesis is attached as an addendum.
2019–Present 2013–2015	Research Assistant , SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY, UNSW SYDNEY Worked on projects relating to <i>attention</i> , <i>cognitive neuroscience</i> , and <i>associative learning</i> , under the supervision of Assoc. Prof. Mike Le Pelley, Dr. Tom Beesley, and Assoc. Prof. Thomas Whitford.
2008–2011	Bachelor of Science (Advanced) in Psychology , UNSW SYDNEY, Australia <i>First Class Honours</i> 91/100 Thesis: “ <i>Sexual dimorphism in mechanisms of attentional control in the transmembrane domain Neuregulin 1 mouse model</i> ” Supervisors: Prof. Simon Killcross & Dr. Tim Karl

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

2019	Faculty of Science Writing Scholarship (\$6000), UNSW SYDNEY
2018	Best Clinical Research Presentation, FORENSIC AND CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH CONFERENCE, UNSW
2017	School of Psychology Award, UNSW POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH COMPETITION
2015	Best Human Research Presentation, AUSTRALIAN LEARNING GROUP CONFERENCE
2015–2019	Research Training Program Scholarship, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION & TRAINING, AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT
2008	Academic Achievement Award (\$4000) for most outstanding student, UNSW SYDNEY

TEACHING

2017–Present	Head Tutor , SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY, UNSW PSYC2001: Research Methods 2
2015–Present	Casual Tutor , SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY, UNSW PSYC2001: Research Methods 2 PSYC3361: Psychology Research Internship (MATLAB Programming Stream) PSYC2071: Perception & Cognition
2015	Eye-tracking Workshop , SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY, UNSW Attended by approximately 30 research staff within the School of Psychology, UNSW

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Albertella, L., Le Pelley, M. E., Chamberlain, S., Westbrook, F., Fontenelle, L. F., Segrave, R., Lee, R., **Pearson, D.**, & Yucel, M. (in press). Reward-related attentional capture is associated with severity of addictive and obsessive-compulsive behaviors.
- Watson, P., **Pearson, D.**, Wiers, R. W., Theeuwes, J., & Le Pelley, M. E. (in press). Capture and control: Working memory modulates attentional capture by reward-related stimuli. *Psychological Science*.
- Le Pelley, M. E., Watson, P., **Pearson, D.**, Abeywickrama, R. S., & Most, S. B. (2019). Winners and losers: Reward and punishment produce biases in temporal selection. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*, 45(5), 822–833.
- Watson, P., **Pearson, D.**, Wiers, R. W., & Le Pelley, M. E. (2019). Prioritizing pleasure and pain: Attentional capture by reward-related and punishment-related stimuli. *Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences*, 26, 107–113.
- Kennedy, B. L., **Pearson, D.**, Sutton, D. J., Beesley, T., & Most, S. B. (2018). Spatiotemporal competition and task-relevance shape the spatial distribution of emotional interference during rapid visual processing: Evidence from gaze-contingent eye-tracking. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 80(2), 426–438.
- Albertella, L., Copeland, J., **Pearson, D.**, Watson, P., Wiers, R. W., & Le Pelley, M. E. (2017). Selective attention moderates the relationship between attentional capture by signals of nondrug reward and illicit drug use. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 175, 99–105.
- Le Pelley, M. E., **Pearson, D.**, Porter, A., Yee, H., & Luque, D. (2017). Oculomotor capture is influenced by expected reward value but (maybe) not predictiveness. *The Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, Advance online publication.
- Le Pelley, M. E., Seabrooke, T., Kennedy, B. L., **Pearson, D.**, & Most, S. B. (2017). Miss it and miss out: Counterproductive nonspatial attentional capture by task-irrelevant, value-related stimuli. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 79(6), 1628–1642.
- Whitford, T. J., Jack, B. N., **Pearson, D.**, Griffiths, O., Luque, D., Harris, A. W., Spencer, K. M., & Le Pelley, M. E. (2017). Neurophysiological evidence of efference copies to inner speech. *eLife*, 6, e28197.

- Beesley, T., Vadillo, M. A., **Pearson, D.**, & Shanks, D. R. (2016). Configural learning in contextual cuing of visual search. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*, 42(8), 1173.
- Pearson, D.**, Osborn, R., Whitford, T. J., Failing, M., Theeuwes, J., & Le Pelley, M. E. (2016). Value-modulated oculomotor capture by task-irrelevant stimuli is a consequence of early competition on the saccade map. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 78(7), 2226–2240.
- Beesley, T., Nguyen, K. P., **Pearson, D.**, & Le Pelley, M. E. (2015). Uncertainty and predictiveness determine attention to cues during human associative learning. *The Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 68(11), 2175–2199.
- Beesley, T., **Pearson, D.**, & Le Pelley, M. (2015). Implicit learning of gaze-contingent events. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 22(3), 800–807.
- Beesley, T., Vadillo, M. A., **Pearson, D.**, & Shanks, D. R. (2015). Pre-exposure of repeated search configurations facilitates subsequent contextual cuing of visual search. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*, 41(2), 348.
- Failing, M., Nissens, T., **Pearson, D.**, Le Pelley, M., & Theeuwes, J. (2015). Oculomotor capture by stimuli that signal the availability of reward. *Journal of Neurophysiology*, 114(4), 2316–2327.
- Le Pelley, M. E., **Pearson, D.**, Griffiths, O., & Beesley, T. (2015). When goals conflict with values: Counterproductive attentional and oculomotor capture by reward-related stimuli. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 144(1), 158.
- Pearson, D.**, Donkin, C., Tran, S. C., Most, S. B., & Le Pelley, M. E. (2015). Cognitive control and counterproductive oculomotor capture by reward-related stimuli. *Visual Cognition*, 23(1-2), 41–66.

PREPRINTS

- Pearson, D.**, Watson, P., Cheng, P. X., & Le Pelley, M. E. (2019). Overt attentional capture by reward-related stimuli overcomes inhibitory suppression. *PsyArXiv*.
doi:[10.31234/osf.io/db9hg](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/db9hg)

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Beesley, T., **Pearson, D.**, & Le Pelley, M. E. (2019). Eye-tracking as a tool for examining cognitive processes. In G. Foster (Ed.), *Biophysical measurement in experimental social science research*. Oxford, UK: Elsevier.
- Pearson, D.**, Beesley, T., & Le Pelley, M. E. (2019). Getting started with eye-tracking. In G. Foster (Ed.), *Biophysical measurement in experimental social science research*. Oxford, UK: Elsevier.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS (FIRST AUTHOR)

- Pearson, D.**, Albertella, L., Le, J., Porter, A., & Le Pelley, M. (2018). Examining the test-retest reliability of reward-modulated attentional biases. International Meeting of the Psychonomic Society. Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

- Pearson, D. & Le Pelley, M. (2018).** Learning to avoid looking: The effect of reward on attentional capture and control. 16th Annual Forensic & Clinical Psychology Research Conference. UNSW Sydney, Sydney.
- Pearson, D., Watson, P., Cheng, P., & Le Pelley, M. (2018).** Investigating attentional suppression of reward-related distractors. Australian Learning Group Christmas Workshop. UNSW Sydney, Sydney.
- Pearson, D., Watson, P., Cheng, P., & Le Pelley, M. (2018).** Investigating attentional suppression of reward-related distractors. 58th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society. New Orleans, LA, USA.
- Pearson, D., Albertella, L., Le, J., Porter, A., & Le Pelley, M. (2017).** Examining the test-retest reliability of value-modulated attentional capture. Australian Learning Group Christmas Workshop. University of Sydney, Australia.
- Pearson, D. & Le Pelley, M. (2017).** Looking to avoid looking: Evidence for limited goal-directed control over value-modulated oculomotor capture. 58th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society. Vancouver, Canada.
- Pearson, D. & Le Pelley, M. (2017).** Rewarding outcomes can influence both attentional capture and suppression. Selective Attention and Individual Difference in Motivation and Emotion Forum [Meeting at the 2017 Experimental Psychology Conference]. Shoal Bay, Australia.
- Pearson, D., Hall, G., & Le Pelley, M. (2016).** Looking to attend and ignore: Opposing influences of reward learning on attentional capture and suppression. 57th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society. Boston, USA.
- Pearson, D. & Le Pelley, M. (2016).** Looking to avoid: Instrumental control in value-modulated attentional capture [invited talk]. How applicable are models of animal conditioning to human associative learning? [Symposium at the Combined Meeting of the International Society for Comparative Psychology and the Australian Learning Group]. University of Sydney, Australia.
- Pearson, D., Whitford, T., & Le Pelley, M. (2016).** Learning to attend and ignore: The influence of reward learning on attentional capture and suppression. European Conference on Visual Perception. Barcelona, Spain.
- Pearson, D. & Le Pelley, M. (2015).** Reward learning influences electrophysiological correlates of attentional capture and suppression. Associative Learning Symposium XIX. Gregynog Hall, Wales.
- Pearson, D. & Le Pelley, M. (2015).** Training, not volitional cognitive control, affects the magnitude of value modulated attentional capture. Australian Learning Group Midyear Conference. Blue Mountains, Australia.
- Pearson, D. & Le Pelley, M. (2014).** Don't look at the red circle: Instrumental, but not volitional, inhibition of value-modulated attentional capture. Australian Learning Group Christmas Workshop. UNSW Sydney, Australia.
- Pearson, D. & Le Pelley, M. (2013).** Productive and counterproductive attention: Learning about signals of value. Australian Learning Group Christmas Workshop. University of Sydney, Australia.

INVITED REVIEWER:

Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics
Psychological Research