

# Ethan Hurwitz, M.A.

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Department of Psychology

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## Education

- Sep 2017 — Present **Ph.D., Experimental Psychology**, University of California, San Diego  
Supervisors: [Dr. Adena Schachner](#) & [Dr. Caren Walker](#)
- Dec 2019 **M.A., Experimental Psychology**, University of California, San Diego
- May 2013 **B.S., Psychology**, Towson University  
Summa Cum Laude | GPA: 3.92

## Grants and Funding

- 2023 **UCSD Center for Psychedelic Research's Research Excellence Fellowship** (\$31,000), Cognitive Development as a Model for the Effects of Psychedelics.  
Supervisor: Caren Walker
- 2021 **UCSD Chancellor's Interdisciplinary Collaboratories** (\$30,000), Cognitive and Neural Mechanisms Underlying Psilocybin-Assisted Therapy for Phantom Limb Pain.  
Supervisor: Caren Walker
- 2020 **UCSD Course Development and Instructional Improvement Program** (\$4,836), Enhancing the Psychology core methods curriculum: a new emphasis on computational literacy, open-science practices, and project-based collaboration.  
Supervisor: Drs. Judy Fan, Emma Geller, Celeste Pilegard

## Awards and Honors

- 2023 2023 UCSD Anderson Teaching Award
- 2022 Barbara and Paul Saltman Excellent Teaching Award for Graduate Students
- 2019 Norman Anderson Summer Research Fellowship  
Norman Anderson Graduate Travel and Research Award  
Cognitive Science Society Student Travel Award, The 41st Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society

## Publications

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2022 M. M. Sweeney, S. Nayak, **E. S. Hurwitz**, L. N. Mitchell, T. Cody Swift, R. R. Griffiths (2022). Comparison of Psychedelic and Near-Death or Other Non-Ordinary Experiences in Changing Attitudes About Death and Dying. *PloS one*, 17 (8), e0271926. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0271926>.

- 2020 A. K. Davis, J. M. Clifton, E. G. Weaver, **E. S. Hurwitz**, M. W. Johnson, R. R. Griffiths (2020). Survey of entity encounter experiences occasioned by inhaled N,N-dimethyltryptamine: Phenomenology, interpretation, and enduring effects. *Journal of Psychopharmacology*, 34 (9), 1008-1020. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0269881120916143>.
- 2019 R. R. Griffiths, **E. S. Hurwitz**, A. K. Davis, M. W. Johnson, R. Jesse (2019). Survey of subjective “God encounter experiences”: Comparisons among naturally occurring experiences and those occasioned by the classic psychedelics psilocybin, LSD, ayahuasca, or DMT. *PloS one*, 14 (4), e0214377. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0214377>.
- 2018 F. S. Barrett, T. M. Carbonaro, **E. S. Hurwitz**, M. W. Johnson, R. R. Griffiths (2018). Double-blind comparison of the two hallucinogens psilocybin and dextromethorphan: effects on cognition. *Psychopharmacology*, 235 (10), 2915-2927. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00213-018-4981-x>.
- T. M. Carbonaro, M. W. Johnson, **E. S. Hurwitz**, R. R. Griffiths (2018). Double-blind comparison of the two hallucinogens psilocybin and dextromethorphan: similarities and differences in subjective experiences. *Psychopharmacology*, 235 (2), 521-534. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00213-017-4769-4>.

## Peer-Reviewed Conference Publications

- 2019 **E. S. Hurwitz**, T. Brady, A. Schachner (2019). Detecting social transmission in the design of artifacts via inverse planning. *Proceedings of the 41st Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, 457-463. Montreal, CA: Cognitive Science Society.

## Conference Presentations

### Oral Presentations

- 2023 **E. S. Hurwitz** (2023). Positive Programming: Effective Course Design and Assignments for Accessible Programming Courses. *PsychTERMS 2023*, Virtual Meeting.
- 2019 **E. S. Hurwitz**, T. Brady, A. Schachner (2019). Detecting Social Transmission in the Design of Artifacts Via Inverse Planning. *Cognitive Science Society*, Montreal, QC.

### Poster Presentations

- 2024 **E. S. Hurwitz**, J. Dean, B. Farrell, A. Mckinty, E. Brockbank, A. Gopnik, C. Walker (2024). A Cognitive Development Model of the Effects of Psychedelics. *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, West Lafayette, IN.
- 2020 **E. S. Hurwitz**, A. Schachner (2020). People use inverse planning to rationally seek social information from objects. *Cognitive Science Society*, Virtual Meeting.
- 2018 A. K. Davis, J. M. Clifton, **E. S. Hurwitz**, R. R. Griffiths (2018). Examining the acute subjective and persisting effects occasioned by N,N-dimethyltryptamine (DMT): A latent class analysis. *Johns Hopkins Bayview Research Symposium*, Baltimore, MD.
- 2017 **E. S. Hurwitz**, R. Jesse, M. W. Johnson, R. R. Griffiths (2017). A comparison of psilocybin-occasioned vs. naturally-occurring experiences of personal encounters with the divine. *Psychedelic Science*, Oakland, CA.

## Invited Talks

## **Teaching Experience**

### **Instructor of Record**

Psyc 193L - Introduction to R for Social Sciences  
Summer 2022 x2, Fall 2022, Summer 2023 x2

Psyc 111a - Honors Research Methods  
Winter 2023

Psyc 111b - Honors Research Methods II  
Spring 2023

### **Teaching Assistanceships**

Psyc 60 - Introduction to Statistics  
Summer 2018, Fall 2018, Summer 2019, Fall 2019

Psyc 111a - Honors Research Methods  
Winter 2020, Winter 2021, Winter 2022, Winter 2024

Psyc 111b - Honors Research Methods II  
Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2024

### **Senior TA**

Sep 2019 —  
Jul 2023

University of California, San Diego  
Department of Psychology

#### **Summary of Responsibilities:**

- Be a source of information to the graduate community and to aid in any TA issues
- Coordinate departmental TA training each academic quarter and as needed
- Coordinate Mentor TAs and provide training on assisting their mentees on their lecture and providing feedback on the lecture
- Organize practice talks for first year graduate students
- Handle TA conflicts

## **Service, Outreach, and Professional Activities**

### **Reviewer:**

Cognitive Science Society; Journal of Psychoactive Drugs; John Templeton Foundation

## **Clinical Experience**

### **Research Program Coordinator**

Jan 2014 —  
Sep 2017

Johns Hopkins University Behavioral Pharmacology Research Unit

Supervisor: Dr. Roland Griffiths

[Effects of Hallucinogens and Other Drugs on Mood and Performance](#) (NCT02033707)

[Effects of Psilocybin-facilitated Experience on the Psychology and Effectiveness of Professional Leaders in Religion](#) (NCT02243813)

- Serve as Session Monitor, providing clinical support and administering cognitive tasks to participants during active psilocybin and placebo drug sessions
- Design novel study instruments
- Manage all data collection
- Coordinate all study related responsibilities including communication between participants, study team members, and different study sites
- Manage recruitment and advertising utilizing Google AdWords, Facebook Advertising, Website listings, Listervs, Magazine ads, and Radio ads