James P. Morris, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Psychology, The University of Virginia
PO Box 400400, Charlottesville, VA 22904
102 Gilmer Hall
434-924-1167
jpmorris@virginia.edu

Professional Experience

2016-Present	University of Virginia	Associate Professor, Dept. of Psychology
2009-2016	University of Virginia	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychology
2007-2009	Yale University	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (K99 Award)
2003-2007	Duke University	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (NIH NRSA)

Education

Ph.D.	Stony Brook University, 2003 Department of Psychology (Biopsychology Area)
M.A.	Stony Brook University, 2000 Department of Psychology (Biopsychology Area)
B.A.	University of Cincinnati, 1997 Psychology, Summa Cum Laude with High Honors

Honors and Awards

2019	University of Virginia Research Achievement Award, Research Collaboration
2018	University of Virginia Department of Psychology Outstanding Professor Award
2016	University of Virginia College Fellows – Select group of faculty appointed to redesign general education curriculum.
2016	American Psychological Association Edwin Newman Graduate Research Award (Awarded as Advisor to Meghan Puglia).
2013	International Society for Autism Research, Best Clinical Empirical Paper of 2013
2012	Society of Experimental Social Psychology, Member
2012	Associate, University Academy of Teaching, University of Virginia
2011	Mead Honored Professor, University of Virginia
2010	Faculty for the International Max Planck Research School on the Life Course
2007	NIH Pathway to Independence Career Development Award
2005	Cure Autism Now, Young Investigator Award
2005	National Research Service Award, Postdoctoral Fellowship
2000	Departmental Travel Award, Stony Brook University
1997	Summa Cum Laude Graduate, University of Cincinnati
1997	High Departmental Honors, University of Cincinnati
1997	Phi Beta Kappa Inductee, University of Cincinnati
1997	Arthur G. Bills Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research
1996	Psi Chi Outstanding Undergraduate Award, University of Cincinnati

Current Research Support

NSF1729289 (Grossman T., Morris, JP, and Connelly, JJ) 7/1/2017 – 6/30/2021 PI
NSF $560,415 total costs
"Epigenetic influences on the early development of social brain functions"
This project examines how variability in the epigenetically governed oxytocin system impacts social information during development in infancy. The project combines infant EEG and molecular epigenetic approaches with a longitudinal data collection.

NSF1657726 (Morris, JP and Connelly JJ) 2/1/2017 – 1/31/2021 PI
NSF $499,773 total costs
"Individual differences in endogenous oxytocin govern social cognition"
This project builds upon prior work that established a role for *OXTR* methylation on neural systems supporting social behavior. In this proposal we examine how *OXTR* methylation may variably impact attentional and perceptual systems and the consequences this interaction has for overt social behaviors.

Completed Research Support

UVA (Morris, JP, Connelly JJ, and Lillard, A) 1/1/2018 – 12/31/2018 PI
UVA Brain Institute $100,000 total costs
"Individual variability in the oxytocinergic system and the development of human sociality"
This project examines how *OXTR* methylation may impact neural systems supporting development of social cognitive ability. In this project, we will scan 6 children (ages 5-8) that have been enrolled in a longitudinal study of social development.

1F31HD090865 (Puglia, M) 9/1/2017 – 8/31/2019 Mentor
NIH/NICHD NRSA Predoc
"The noisy brain in infancy: A neurobiological marker of normative social development"
This NRSA project examines how neural and epigenetic variability contributes to social development over the first year of life. We will test the hypothesis that neural noise-or temporal variability in neural signaling- plays a predominant role in establishing the salience of social information early in life through a process governed by the endogenous oxytocin system.

1228522 (Morris, JP and Connelly JJ) 8/1/2012 – 7/31/2016 PI
NSF $675,905 total costs
"Examining an epigenetic biomarker of social perception"
The major goal of this project is to use the oxytocin receptor gene as a model epigenetically-regulated locus to demonstrate in humans that 1) variability in DNA methylation can predict neural endophenotypes of social perception, 2) the relationship between DNA methylation and neural endophenotypes can be dependent on genetic variability, and 3) genetic, epigenetic and neural interactions can predict complex social phenotypes and uncover co-regulated regions of the brain important for these phenotypes.

Fetzer (Morris, JP) 2/01/2014 – 4/30/205 PI
"Neurobiological basis of loving relationships" $110,000
The purpose of this study was to investigate the role of the endogenous oxytocin system on social regulation of emotion in loving relationships.

K99/R00MH079617 (Morris JP) 2007-2012 PI

NIH/NIMH Pathway to Independence Award $906,977
"Neuroimaging of social perception"
This Pathway to Independence Award was concerned with the role of occipitotemporal cortex during social perception.

Cure Autism Now (Morris, JP) 2005-2007 PI
"Functional neuroimaging studies of social perception in autism spectrum disorder"
This award supported research employing functional magnetic resonance imaging to test for neural deficits on a population of individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders.

F32MH07367 (Morris JP) 2004-2006 PI
NIH/NIMH NRSA Postdoctoral
"Imaging the social brain"
This postdoctoral fellowship supported research using functional magnetic resonance imaging combined with natural social displays of biological motion

Publications

Impact (H_{index} = 24; $i10_{index}$ = 32)

The papers below have been cited over 3500 times (as of November 2020; Google Scholar)

§ *Authors contributed equally to work*

Krol, K.M., Puglia, M.H., **Morris, J.P.,** Connelly, J.J., and Grossmann T. (2019). Epigenetic modification of the oxytocin receptor gene is association with emotion processing in the infant brain. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, 37.*

Lancaster, K., Goldbeck, L., Puglia, M.H., **Morris, J.P.** §, and Connelly, J.J§. (2018) DNA methylation of *OXTR* is associated with parasympathetic nervous system activity and amygdala morphology. *Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience.*

Puglia, M.H., Connelly, J.J. §, and **Morris, J.P.** § (2018). Epigenetic regulation of the oxytocin receptor is associated with neural response during selective social attention. *Translational Psychiatry.*

Gonalez, M., Puglia, M.H, **Morris, J.P.,** and Connelly, J.J. (2017). Oxytocin Receptor Genotype and Low Economic Privilege Reverses Ventral Striatum-Social Anxiety Association. *Social Neuroscience.*

Lancaster, K., Goldbeck, L., Pournajafi-Nazarloo, H., Connelly, J.J., Carter, C.S., and **Morris, J.P. (**2017). The role of endogenous oxytocin in anxiolysis: structural and functional correlates. *Biologcial Psychiatry: Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging.*

Puglia, M.H., and **Morris, J.P.** (2017). Neural response to biological motion in healthy adults varies as a function of autistic-like traits. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience.*

Lancaster, K., **Morris, J.P.,** and Connelly, J.J. (2017). Neuroimaging epigenetics: Challenges and recommendations for best practices. *Neuroscience. In Press.*

Garman, H.D., Spaulding, C.J., Webb, S.J., Mikami, A.Y., **Morris, J.P**., and Lerner M.D. (2016). Wanting it too much: An inverse relation between social motivation and facial emotion recognition in autism spectrum disorder. *Child Psychiatry and Human Development. 47 (6), 890-902.*

Lancaster, K., Carter, C.S, Nazarloo, H.P., Karaoli, T., Lillard, T.S., Jack, A., Davis, J.M., **Morris, J.P**. §, and Connelly, J.J. § (2015). Plasma oxytocin predicts individual variability in social cognition. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience,* 1-7.

Puglia, M.H, Lillard, T.S., **Morris, J.P**. §, and Connelly, J.J. § (2015). Epigenetic modification of the oxytocin receptor gene influences the perception of anger and fear in the human brain. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 112* (11), 3308-3313.

Jack, A. and **Morris, J.P.** (2014). Neocerebellar contributions to social perception dysfunction in adolescents with autism spectrum disorder. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience,* 10, 77-92.

Smith E.D., Englander, Z.A., Lillard, A.S., and **Morris, J.P.** (2013). Cortical mechanisms of pretense observation. *Social Neuroscience,* 356-368

Beckes, L., Coan, J.A., and **Morris, J.P.** (2013) Implicit conditioning of faces via the social regulation of emotion: ERP evidence of early attentional biases for security conditioned faces. *Psychophysiology,* 734-742.

Earls, H.A., Englander, Z.A., and **Morris, J.P.** (2013). Perception of race-related features modulates neural activity associated with action observation and imitation. *Neuroreport,* 410-413.

Ng, B.W., **Morris, J.P.,** and Oishi, S. (2013). Cultural Neuroscience: The current state of affairs. *Psychological Inquiry, 24*, 1-5.

Jack, A., Connelly, J.J. §, and **Morris, J.P.** § (2012). DNA methylation of the oxytocin receptor gene predicts the neural response to ambiguous social stimuli. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience,* 6:280.

Lerner, M.D., McPartland, J., and **Morris, J.P.** (2012). Multimodal emotion processing in autism spectrum disorders: An event-related potential study. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, 11-21*

Englander, Z.A., Haidt, J., and **Morris, J.P.** (2012). Neural basis of positive social emotions demonstrated through inter-subject synchronization of cortical activity during free-viewing. *PLoS One.*e39384

Jack, A, Englander, Z.A., and **Morris, J.P.** (2011). Subcortical contributions to effective connectivity in brain networks supporting imitation. *Neuropsychologia,* 49, 3689-3698.

Zucker, N, Green, S.R., **Morris, J.P.,** Kragel, P., Pelphrey, K.A., Bulik, C.M., and LaBar, K.S. (2011). Hemodynamic signals of mixed messages during a social exchange. *Neuroreport,* 22, 413-418.

Heyda, R.D., Green, S.R., Wyk, B.C., **Morris, J.P**. and Pelphrey, K.A. (2010). Brain mechanisms for representing what another person sees. *Neuroimage,* 50, 693-700.

Pelphrey, K.A., Lopez, J., and **Morris, J.P.** (2009). Developmental continuity and change in responses to social and nonsocial categories in human extrastriate cortex. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience,* 3:25.

Perlman, S.B., **Morris, J.P.,** Vander Wyk, B.C., Green, S.R., Doyle, J.L., and Pelphrey, K.P. (2009). Individual differences in personality predict how people look at faces. *PLoS ONE,* 4, 1-6.

Haidt, J. and **Morris, J.P** (2009). Finding the self in self-transcendent emotions. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciencnes,* 106, 7687-7688.

Morris, J.P., Green, S., Marion, I., and McCarthy, G. (2008). Guided saccades modulate face- and body-sensitive activation in the occipitotemporal cortex during social perception. *Brain and Cognition*, 3, 16-25.

Morris, J.P., Pelphey, K.A., and McCarthy, G. (2007). Face processing without awareness in the right fusiform gyrus. *Neuropsychologia*, 45, 3087-3091.

Morris, J.P., Pelphrey, K.A., and McCarthy, G. (2007). Perceived causality influences brain activation evoked by biological motion. *Social Neuroscience*, 3, 16-25.

Pelphrey, K.A., **Morris, J.P**, McCarthy, G., and LaBar, K.S. (2007) Perception of dynamic changes in facial affect and identity in autism. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 2, 140-149.

Morris, J.P., and McCarthy, G. (2007). Guided saccades modulate object and face-specific activity in the right fusiform gyrus. *Human Brain Mapping*. 28, 691-702.

Morris, J.P., Pelphrey, K.A., and McCarthy, G. (2007). Controlled scanpath variation alters fusiform face activation. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*. 2, 31-38.

Pelphrey, K.A., and **Morris, J.P.** (2006). Brain mechanisms for interpreting the actions of others from biological motion cues. *Current Directions in Psychological Science, 15*, 136-140.

Morris, J.P., Pelphey, K.A., and McCarthy, G. (2006). Occipitotemporal activation evoked by the perception of human bodies is modulated by the presence or absence of the face. *Neuropsychologia*, 44, 1919-1927.

Morris, J.P., Pelphrey, K.A., and McCarthy, G. (2005). Regional brain activation evoked by approaching virtual characters on a virtual walk, *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, 17*, 1744-1752.

Pelphrey, K.A., **Morris, J.P.**, Michelich, C.R., Allison, T., and McCarthy G. (2005) Functional anatomy of biological motion perception in posterior temporal cortex: An fMRI study of eye, mouth, and hand movements. *Cerebral Cortex , 15*, 1866-1876.

Pelphrey, K.A., **Morris, J.P.**, and McCarthy, G. (2005). Neural basis of eye gaze processing deficits in autism. *Brain, 128,* 1038-1048

Pelphpey, K.A., Adolphs, R., and **Morris, J.P.** (2004). Neuroanatomical substrates of social cognition dysfunction in autism. *Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Research Reviews, 10*, 259-271.

Pelphrey, K.A., **Morris, J.P.**, and McCarthy G. (2004). Grasping the intentions of others: The context of a perceived action influences activity in the superior temporal sulcus during social perception. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, 10,* 1706-1716.

Morris, J.P., Squires, N.K., Taber, C.S., and Lodge, M. (2003). The activation of political attitudes: A psychophysiological examination of the hot cognition hypothesis. *Political Psychology. 24*: 727-745.

University and Department Service

2019-2020	General Education Advisory Committee, CAS
2018-2019	Director of Graduate Admissions, Department of Psychology
2018-2019	Departmental P&T Committee
2018-2019	Social Psychology Search Committee
2016-2018	Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
2016-2019	College Fellows
2016-2019	Social Sciences IRB
2016-2017	Cognitive Faculty Search Committee
2015-2016	Jefferson Endowed Professor of Neuroscience Search Committee
2015-2016	Human Subjects Committee, member
2014-2015	Department Colloquium Committee, Chair
2013-2015	Department of Radiology, MRI Service Committee
2014-2015	Department Steering Committee, member
2014-2015	Human Subjects Committee, member
2013-2014	Human Subjects Committee, member
2013-2014	Department Steering Committee, member
2013-2014	Department Computer Committee, member
2012-2013	University Academy of Teaching, associate

2011-2012	Department Colloquium Committee, Chair
2011-2012	Department Steering Committee, member
2010-2011	Social Lunch Coordinator (Spring Semester)
2010-2011	Human Subjects Committee, member
2010-2011	Department Colloquium Committee, member
2009-2010	Human Subjects Committee, member
2009-2010	Human Neuroscience Working group, member

Teaching Experience

Stony Brook University

Statistical Methods in Psychology	Summer 2001, Spring 2002, Fall 2002
Research Methods and Writing in Psychology	Summer 2002, Summer 2003

Duke University

Social Neuroscience Seminar	Spring 2006, Fall 2006, Fall 2008

University of Virginia

Social Neuroscience Undergraduate Seminar	Spring 2009, Fall 2010, Spring 2014, Spring 2015
Social Neuroscience Graduate Seminar	Fall 2011
Research Methods and Data Analysis	Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2020, Fall 2020
Human Neuroscience Graduate Seminar	Spring 2015
Research Methods in Human Neuroscience	Spring 2016
Psychobiology Lab	2016-2019
Thinking Like a Scientist – Empirical Engagement	2017-2018

Social Neuroscience Lab Trainees

Graduate Students	**Graduation Year**	**Position at Graduation**	**Current Position**
Allison Jack	2012	Postdoc, Yale University	Assistant Professor, Psychology, George Mason
Matt Lerner (primary in clinical/Mikami lab)	2012	Assistant Professor, Psychology, Stony Brook	Associate Professor, Psychology, Stony Brook
Holly Earls	2013	Postdoc, University of Colorado	Senior Decision Scientist, Ibotta
Lane Beckes (primary in Coan lab)	2013	Assistant Professor, Psychology, Bradley University	Associatie Professor, Psychology, Bradley University
Eric Smith (primary in Lillard lab)	2014	Assistant Professor, Psychology, Murray State Univerity	Assistant Profesor of Practice, Arizona University
Tyler Santander (primary with Dodson)	2017	Postdoc, University of California, Santa Barbara	Postdoc, University of California, Sanat Barbara
Brandon Ng (primary in Trawalter)	2017	Postdoc, Texas A&M	Postdoc, University of Richmond
Katie Lancaster	2018	Postdoc, Kessler Foundation	Postdoc, Kessler Foundation/ Research Assistant Professor, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School
Meghan Puglia	2019	Assistant Professor, Neurology, UVA	Assistant Professor, Neurology, UVA
Amalia McDonald	Current		
Andrew Graves	Current		
Samantha Brindley	Current		
Minah Kim	Current		
Cabell Williams	Current		
Staff	**Position**	**Position after training**	**Current Position**
Meghan Cronk	Lab Manager	Nursing School	Senior Clinical Nurse, Johns Hopkins University
Zoe Englander	Engineer	PhD Program in Biomedical Engineering, Duke University	Completed PhD -- Current position unknown
Morgan Lynch	Lab Manager	Clinical Coordinator, BRAIN Institute, UVA	Graduate school clinical psychology, USC
Cabell Williams	Lab Manager	Cognitive PhD Program, UVA	Cogitive PhD program UVA
Undergraduates	**Funding/Award**	**Position at Graduation**	**Current Position**
Julian Wills	Harrison	Graduate School, Psychology, NYU	UX researcher, Facebook
George Knaysi	Harrison	Medical School, Dartmouth College	Medical School, Dartmouth College

Lauren Goldbeck	Harrison	National Center for Health Research	Medical School, University of Virginia
Brenda Straka		Graduate School, Psychology, Duke	Graduate School, Psychology, Duke
Rachel Dick		NIH Postbac Program	Graduate School in Neuroscience, ??
Brendan Baker	Distinguished Major	Research Associate, Penn State	Research Associate, Penn State
(Brad) Logan Horng		Graudate Student, Social Work, Columbia University	Graudate Student, Social Work, Columbia University
Teresa Elmore		Medical Assistant, Capital Dermatology	Medical Student, VCU School of Medicine
Ashton Leonard		Graduate Student, Systems Engineering, UVA	Graduate Student, Systems Engineering, UVA
Hazel Lindahl		Medical Scribe, UVA	Medical Scribe, UVA
Diogo Fortes	Echols Scholar, Harrison Award	Postgraduate Associate, Yale University	Postgraduate Associate, Yale University
Christina Galiano		NIH Postbac Program	Graduate School, Boston University
Jessica Phan		Graduate Student, Pharmacy, VCU	
John Costello	College Scholars	Medical Student, UVA	Medical Student, UVA
Christine Olson	USOAR	Harvard Law School	Harvard Law School
Matthew Barnes		Laboratory Technician, Neuroscience, UVA	Laboratory Technician, Neuroscience, UVA
Liv Hutton		Jr Research Associate, Gerson Lehrman Group	Account Manager, Gerson Lehrman Group
Hampton Leonard		Graduate Student, Data Science, UVA	Consultant, National Institute of Aging, NIH
Jenna Van Dyke	Double Hoo	Graduate Student, Phys Asst, MUSC	Graduate Student, Phys Asst, MUSC
Rachel Greene		NA	Neuroscience, Class of 2020
Crystall Gonzalez		NA	Religious Studies, Class of 2020
Christopher Hall	Distinguished Major	NA	Cognitive Science, Class of 2020
Aaria Malhotra	Harrison Award	NA	Neuroscience, Class of 2021
Emily Nguyen		NA	Psychology, Class of 2020
Allison Goldstein	Double Hoo	NA	Neuroscience, Class of 2021
Luke Cavanah	Harrison	NA	Biochemistry and Psychoology, Class of 2021
Jurie Han		Graduate Student, Organizational Behavior, USC	PhD expected May 2020
Lacy Jennings		Nursing School, VCU	RN, 2016

Sarah Craig		Leidos	Cognitive Science, Class of 2020
Jamie Levin		NA	Psychology, Class of 2021
Pam Beardsell		NA	Computer Science, Class of 2022
Taylor Phillips		NA	Biology, Class of 2021
Maya Sinchongo		NA	Psychology, Class of 2021
Samuel Wilson		NA	Cognitive Science, Class of 2020
Elizabeth Wat	DMP - Neuro	Medical School, University of Virginia	