

LAUREN ALEXANDRA HOMANN

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

Expected: 2027

Supervisor: Dr. Morgan Barese

Honours Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Biology Minor

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada

2022

Thesis: "The effects of self-selected background music and task difficulty on task engagement and performance in a visual vigilance task"

Thesis Advisors: Dr. Daniel Smilek and Allison Drody

Graduated with Dean's Honours

PUBLICATIONS

Homann, L. A.*, Roberts, B. R. T.*, Ahmed, S., Fernandes, M. A. (2022). Are emojis processed visuo-spatially or verbally? Evidence for dual codes. *Visual Cognition*, 30(4), 267–279.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13506285.2022.2050871>

Articles in preparation

Homann, L. A., Drody, A. C., Smilek, D. The effects of self-selected music and task difficulty on task engagement and performance in a visual vigilance task.

* Signifies shared first authorship

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Homann, L. A., Roberts, B. R. T., Ahmed, S., Fernandes, M. A. (2021, November 4-7). *Are emojis processed visuo-spatially or verbally? Evidence for dual codes* [Poster presentation]. Psychonomic Society 62nd Annual Meeting, Online.

FELLOWSHIPS

Canada Graduate Scholarship–Masters	\$17,500	2022–2023
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada		
Undergraduate Student Research Award	\$4,500	2020
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada		

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Recruitment Award	\$5,000	2022
University of Toronto, Department of Psychology		
Honours Thesis Award		2022
University of Waterloo, Department of Psychology		
University of Toronto Scholars Award	\$6,000	2016
University of Toronto		

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Honours Thesis Student and Research Assistant	Jan. 2021–
Vision and Attention Lab, University of Waterloo	present
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniel Smilek	

- Led a project investigating the effects of preferred background music and task difficulty on subjective attentional engagement (e.g., mind wandering) and task performance
- Created a novel thought-probe measure and a visual vigilance paradigm
- Programmed experiments for remote delivery using OpenSesame Experiment Builder, JavaScript, and JATOS Experiment Manager
- Cleaned and analyzed data with R
- Conducted literature searches in attention and music cognition
- Trained three research assistants in data collection

Research Assistant	Jan. 2020–
Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, University of Waterloo	May 2022
Principal Investigator: Dr. Myra Fernandes	

- Designed and implemented three experiments to infer the underlying episodic memory representations of emojis
- Programmed experiments using OpenSesame Experiment Builder and JATOS Experiment Manager and provided informal tutorials to graduate students on their usage
- Trained a research assistant in data collection and analyses using SPSS and Excel
- Used Open Science Framework to preregister studies and disseminate data and materials

- Collected behavioural and eye-tracking data in person and remotely and analyzed these data using jamovi, SPSS and Excel
- Conducted multiple literature searches in memory
- Coded autobiographical memories

Research Assistant

Psychological Interventions Research Team, University of Waterloo
Principal Investigator: Dr. Jonathan Oakman

May 2019–
Aug. 2020

- Created a coding manual for interviews surveying how musicians use imagery to alleviate performance anxiety
- Coded and analyzed interviews using NVivo and Excel

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

Department of Psychology, University of Toronto

- Statistics I (Professor: Dr. Molly Metz)

Sep. 2022–Dec. 2022

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Software: E-Prime, OpenSesame Experiment Builder, PsychoPy, JATOS Experiment Manager, SPSS, jamovi, NVivo, Excel

Apparatus: EyeLink eye-tracking system

Programming Languages: R (proficient), JavaScript (beginner)

MENTORSHIP AND SERVICES

Peer Mentor

Department of Psychology, University of Waterloo

Sep. 2021–
Apr. 2022

- Advised seven undergraduate psychology students

President

Undergraduate Psychology Society (PsychSoc), University of Waterloo

Jan. 2020–
Aug. 2021

- Oversaw day-to-day functioning of PsychSoc, its executive members, and the tuck shop

Vice President of Events

Undergraduate Psychology Society (PsychSoc), University of Waterloo

Sep. 2019–

Dec. 2020

- Led a group of volunteers in the planning and execution of academic and social events for undergraduate psychology students