

# LAUREN HOMANN

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## EDUCATION

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**Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology** Expected: 2027  
University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

Supervisor: Dr. Morgan Barense

**Honours Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Biology Minor** 2022  
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada

Advisors: Dr. Daniel Smilek and Allison Drody

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

Graduated with Dean’s Honours

## PUBLICATIONS

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Supervised students/research assistants are underlined | \* Denotes shared first authorship

**Homann, L. A.**, Drody, A. C., Smilek, D. (2023). The effects of self-selected music and task difficulty on task engagement and performance in a visual vigilance task. *Psychological Research*, 87, 2460–2476. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00426-023-01836-6>

**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>

## MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

**Homann, L. A.**, Jahed, M., Barense, M. D. (2025). Putting the testing effect to the test in the wild: Retrieval enhances real-world memories and promotes their semantic integration while preserving episodic integrity. *PsyArXiv*. [https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/923rj\\_v2](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/923rj_v2)

## PRESENTATIONS

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Supervised students/research assistants are underlined | \* Denotes shared first authorship | (v) Denotes a virtual presentation

**Homann, L. A.**, Barense, M. D. “Testing the testing effect for real-world memories”.

**Talk:** Toronto Area Memory Group (TAMeG) Annual Meeting, May 2025 (Toronto, ON, Canada)

**Homann, L. A.**, Jahed, M., Sun, J., Gu, J., Grewal, S., Barense, M. D. “When practice doesn’t make perfect: Retrieving real-word memories strengthens reviewed content and semantic links without broader episodic changes”.

**Poster:** Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS) Annual Meeting, Mar. 2025 (Boston, MA, USA)

**Data blitz:** Ebbinghaus Empire Talk Series, Dec. 2024 (Toronto, ON, Canada)

Jahed, M., Homann, L. A., Barense, M. D. “The influence of retrieval practice on real-life event memory”.

**Poster:** Lake Ontario Visionary Establishment (LOVE) Conference, Feb. 2025 (Niagara Falls, ON, Canada)

**Homann, L. A.,** Golestani, A., Bouffard, N. R., Moscovitch, M., Barense, M. D . “Novel dynamic autocorrelation measure (dAC) uncovers time-dependent changes in the organization of neural timescales along the hippocampal long axis”.

**Poster:** Society for Neuroscience (SfN) Annual Meeting, Oct. 2024 (Chicago, IL, USA)

Sacchi, S., Sisson, N., Chan, J., Hong, B., **Homann, L. A.,** Doyle, L., Galarneau, E., Vijayarajah, S., Yang, C., Yim, A., Page-Gould, E. “Building endurance to SPRINT: A longitudinal assessment of high school student outcomes after participating in a summer psychology outreach program.”

**25-Minute Symposia:** Society for the Teaching of Psychology’s (STP’s) Annual Conference on Teaching, Oct. 2024 (Louisville, KY, USA)

**Homann, L. A.,** Sun, J., An, J., Barense, M. D. “The influence of retrieval practice on real-life event memory”.

**Poster:** Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS) Annual Meeting, Apr. 2024 (Toronto, ON, Canada)

**Poster:** Lake Ontario Visionary Establishment (LOVE) Conference, Feb. 2024 (Niagara Falls, ON, Canada)

**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”.

**Invited Q & A:** Seminar in Attention and Multi-Tasking (taught by Dr. Nathan Ward) at Tufts University, Oct. 2023 (v)

**Talk:** Laboratory for Attention and Social Cognition at McGill University, Jan. 2022 (v)

**Homann, L. A.,\*** Roberts, B. R. T. \*, Ahmed, S., Fernandes, M. A. “Are emojis processed visuo-spatially or verbally? Evidence for dual codes”.

**Poster:** Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, Nov. 2021 (v)

## PUBLIC WRITING

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**Homann, L. A.,** (2025, April 21). Moving beyond traditional pathways in cognitive neuroscience. *Cognitive Neuroscience Society 2025 Blog*. <https://www.cogneurosociety.org/moving-beyond-traditional-pathways-in-cognitive-neuroscience/>

## FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

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<b>Canada Graduate Scholarship—Doctoral</b> Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada	\$115,000	2023–2026
<b>Canada Graduate Scholarship—Masters</b> Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada	\$17,500	2022–2023
<b>Undergraduate Student Research Award</b> Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada	\$4,500	2020

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

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<b>Conference Grant</b> School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto	\$620	2025
<b>Conference Travel Award</b> Department of Psychology, University of Toronto	\$500	2024
<b>Award of Academic Excellence</b> Canadian Psychological Association		2022
<b>Recruitment Award</b> University of Toronto, Department of Psychology	\$5,000	2022
<b>Honours Thesis Award</b> University of Waterloo, Department of Psychology		2022
<b>Term Distinction</b> University of Waterloo		2020–2022
<b>University of Toronto Scholars Award</b> University of Toronto	\$6,000	2016

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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<b>Ph.D. Student</b> Memory and Perception Lab, University of Toronto <i>Principal Investigator:</i> Dr. Morgan Barese	Sep. 2022–present
<b>Honours Thesis Student and Research Assistant</b> Vision and Attention Lab, University of Waterloo <i>Principal Investigator:</i> Dr. Daniel Smilek	Jan. 2021–Aug. 2022
<b>Research Assistant</b> Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, University of Waterloo <i>Principal Investigator:</i> Dr. Myra Fernandes	Jan. 2020–May 2022
<b>Research Assistant</b> Psychological Interventions Research Team, University of Waterloo <i>Principal Investigator:</i> Dr. Jonathan Oakman	May 2019–Aug. 2020

## STUDENTS SUPERVISED

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▪ Jia Gu, <i>Volunteer</i>	Mar. 2023–Nov. 2023
▪ Simran Grewal, <i>Volunteer</i>	Mar. 2023–Nov. 2023
▪ Mursal Jahed, <i>Individual Project</i>	Jan. 2023–Apr. 2025
▪ Amir Samadi, <i>Individual Project</i>	Jan. 2023–Apr. 2024
▪ Janice An, <i>Research Opportunity Program</i>	Sep. 2023–Apr. 2024
▪ Jessica Sun, <i>Research Opportunity Program and Individual Project</i>	May 2023–Nov. 2023
▪ Shelby Davies, <i>Mini-Thesis</i>	Jan. 2023–Apr. 2023

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Programming languages and tools:** R, JavaScript, Python, Bash, Git, HTML, FSL, AFNI

**Data analysis programs:** SPSS, jamovi, NVivo, Taguette, Excel, JASP

Statistics:

**Experiment programming:** JSPsych, PsychoPy, E-Prime, OpenSesame, Qualtrics, JATOS  
Experiment Manager, cognition.run

**Apparatus:** EyeLink eye-tracking system

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Co-Lecturer for High School Workshop Series** Apr. 2024  
University of Toronto Faculty of Arts and Science

- Title of Lecture: “Highlights of Experimental Psychology from the Summer Psychology Research Initiative” (co-instructed with Logan Doyle and Catalina Yang)

**Guest Instructor for the Summer Psychology Research Initiative (SPRINT)** Jul. 2023  
Psychology Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee, University of Toronto

- Title of Lecture: “The Testing Effect: Applications to Real-World Event Memory”

**Research Advisor for the Summer Psychology Research Initiative (SPRINT)** Jul. 2023  
Psychology Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee, University of Toronto

- Taught high school students foundational research methods and advised them in developing a university-level written research proposal and accompanying presentation

**Direct Supervisor for Undergraduate Independent Research Course (ROP299/399 and PSY309/405/406)** Jan. 2023–Apr. 2025  
Department of Psychology, University of Toronto

- Taught undergraduate students research methods, scientific writing, oral presentation skills, and how to design and present academic posters

### **Teaching Assistant**

Department of Psychology, University of Toronto

- PSY201: Statistics I Fall 2022, 2023, 2024

## **MENTORSHIP AND SERVICES**

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### **Ad Hoc Reviewer**

Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, Learning and Memory, Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology

### **Chair of the Program Committee**

Sep. 2024–Jun. 2025

Toronto Area Memory Group (TAMeG)

- Leading a committee that recruits and organizes the panel, organizes the talks, and makes the schedule for an annual conference for memory researchers in southern Ontario

### **President**

Jul. 2024–present

Cognitive Neuroscience Society Trainee Association (CNSTA), Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS)

- Representing the trainee (graduate student and postdoctoral fellow) affiliates of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS) and serving in an advisory capacity to the CNS Executive Committee

### **Executive Member**

Sep. 2023–Sep. 2024

Summer Psychology Research Initiative (SPRINT), Psychology Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee, University of Toronto

- Planned SPRINT—an outreach program aimed to support high school students underrepresented in higher education in learning about psychology and gaining research experience

### **Orientation Coordinator**

Sep. 2023–Sep. 2024

Psychology Graduate Students Association, University of Toronto

- Organizing and executing events during recruitment and orientation weeks for incoming graduate students

### **Conference Co-organizer**

Sep. 2023–May 2024

Toronto Area Memory Group (TAMeG)

- Coordinated and planned an annual conference for memory researchers in southern Ontario

### **Graduate Mentor**

Jul. 2023

Summer Psychology Research Initiative (SPRINT), Psychology Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee, University of Toronto

- Mentored a group of six high school students and advised them on creating a university-level research proposal and presentation

### **Committee Lead**

Jan. 2023–May 2023

Workshop/Keynote Committee, Psychology Graduate Students Association,  
University of Toronto

- Led a committee that planned the keynote and workshop components of the annual symposium
- Created, organized, and moderated a panel on academic publishing

**Graduate Mentor**

Sep. 2022–Mar. 2023

Psychology Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee, University of  
Toronto

- Advised undergraduate students applying to research-based graduate programs and research assistant positions, provided feedback on application materials, and aided in facilitating CV and personal statement workshops

**Peer Mentor**

Sep. 2021–Apr. 2022

Department of Psychology, University of Waterloo

- Mentored seven undergraduate psychology students

**President**

Jan. 2020–Aug. 2021

Undergraduate Psychology Society (PsychSoc), University of Waterloo

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

**Vice President of Events**

Sep. 2019–Dec. 2020

Undergraduate Psychology Society (PsychSoc), University of Waterloo

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