

Ava Piper

Behavioral Neuroscience Ph.D. Student

Contact: (239)-357-3561 | ampiper@uab.edu

Education

The University of Alabama at Birmingham 2024-Present
Behavioral Neuroscience Doctoral Program

The University of Tampa 2021- 2023
Bachelor of Science in Psychology
History Minor

Research Experience

Emotion, Cognition, and Neuromodulation Lab (PI: Adam Goodman, PhD.) 2024
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
 Lab rotation student

- Currently studying emotional regulation using iEEG stimulation in epilepsy patients with comorbidities such as anxiety and depression
- Working 20 hours a week on an independent project for the fall semester investigating skin conductance response and amygdala activity during acquisition in fear conditioning across anxiety severity.

Language, Culture, and Cognition Lab (PI: Benjamin Uel Marsh, PhD.) 2021-2023
The University of Tampa
 Lab Manager 2023

- Studied the cross-race effect and factors that impact memory such as attraction, politics, and messages using eye-tracking technology
- Trained research assistants to collect data from participants, including tasks such as:
 - Properly aligning the eye-tracker
 - Getting written consent from participants
 - Beginning data collection in iMotions on a new participant
- Managed 14 research assistants by scheduling and troubleshooting lab technology
- Collected data and monitored participants as they performed tasks for multiple studies
- Designed a study to analyze how agreement with political messages affects the cross-race effect
- Conducted literature reviews
- Represented the lab at various events on and off campus

Teaching Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant

2024 - Present

The University of Alabama at Birmingham - Department of Psychology

Grading and assisting in teaching undergraduate psychology coursework alongside professors for the following courses:

- PY253 In-person
 - Leading 6+ lectures going over concepts such as neuroanatomy with an additional 5 review lectures
- PY253 Online
 - Grading mini-essay neuroscience assignments for 100+ students

Substitute Teacher

2024

The School District of Lee County, FL

Led lectures and administered classwork in the absence of the original teachers for AP and IB high school, middle school, and elementary level courses.

Private Psychology Tutor

2023-2024

Private tutor for students in the International Bachelorette program in AP psychology, IB psychology, and PSY101

Peer Tutor

2022-2023

The University of Tampa's Academic Success Center

Assisted students with understanding concepts and working through problems in the following courses:

- PSY 101: General Psychology
- PSY 211: Statistics and Experimental Methods I

Boys and Girls Club Tutor

2022

Joe & Anne Garcia Salesian Youth Center, Tampa FL

Taught children grades K-8 in subjects including reading comprehension, spelling and algebra

Poster Presentations

- Eiland, I., **Piper, A.**, & Marsh, B.U. (2023). *Just another pretty face? How physical attractiveness affects memory of same-race and other-race faces*. Poster Presented at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in Eau Claire, WI

- **Piper, A.,** Maher, L., Barnes, M., Stillman, M., Gatchalian, K., Vargo, S.B., & Marsh, B.U. (2023). *Remembering the people you meet: The cross-race effect during introductions*. Poster Presented at the 69th Southeastern Psychological Association in New Orleans, LA
- **Piper, A., & Marsh, B.U.** (2023) *Political Messages and the Cross-Race Effect*. Poster Presented to the University of Tampa Board of Trustees in Tampa, FL
- **Piper, A.,** Eiland, I., & Marsh, B.U. (2023). *Remembering the People You Meet: The Cross-Race Effect During Introduction*. Poster Presented at Florida Undergraduate Research Conference in Miami Gardens, FL
- **Piper, A., & Marsh, B.U.** (2022). *Potential allure of attractive faces: Gaze during face memory test affected by face attractiveness*. Poster Presented at the College of Social Science, Mathematics, and Education Fall Undergraduate Research Forum at the University of Tampa in Tampa, FL

Grant

The University of Tampa's Undergraduate Research and Inquiry Grant

2022-2023

The Impact of Messages on Face Memory

Role: Principal Investigator

Co-PI: Benjamin Uel Marsh, PhD.

Amount awarded: \$4,588.30

Skill Highlights

- RAVEv2 and iEEG data analysis
 - iMotions Biometric Research Platform with Eye Tracker and Facial Expression Analysis
 - Static and dynamic areas of interests
 - Built an experiment
 - Gaze mapping
 - Data analysis in SPSS and Excel
 - Qualtrics
-

University Service

Graduate School Q&A Panels

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Invited guest for panel sessions answering undergraduates' answers about graduate school

- PY490 Psychology Senior Level Capstone
- GRADient LGBTQ+ Panel

Faculty Search Assistant*The University of Tampa*

Selected to serve as a student representative in two faculty searches for a visiting professor position:

- Met with all candidates during the interview process and provided feedback to University of Tampa's search committee
- Participated in a course presentation and provided feedback to University of Tampa's search committee

Honors and Awards

The University of Tampa

2021-2023

- Dean's Merit Scholarship
- International Baccalaureate Scholarship
- Florida Bright Futures Academic Scholars
- Undergraduate Honors Program Acceptance