

Messages to Potential Thesis Students
for 2013-14 Academic Year

Arnell, Karen

Associate Professor
Office: MC B333 Phone: 3225
E-mail: Karen.Arnell@brocku.ca

Message to potential thesis students:

Dr. Arnell will not be supervising thesis students in 2013-14.

Ashton, Michael

Associate Professor
Office: MC B316 Phone: 3993
E-mail: mashton@brocku.ca

Message to potential thesis students:

I supervise students who would like to study research questions about personality characteristics in relation to other variables that are of interest to them and to me. Students who have taken PSYC 2P25 are preferred.

Belicki, Kathryn

Professor
Office: MC B314/B307 Phone: 3873
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Message to potential thesis students:

I may be on sabbatical in 2013/14, and if I am will not be taking students. Hopefully by March I will know my plans. My primary research is in the area of forgiveness and forgiveness seeking. In particular I have focused in recent years on the question of why people forgive and how different reasons for forgiving relate to personality and well-being.

Bogaert, Anthony

Professor
Office: MC AS321 Phone: 4085
E-mail: tbogaert@brocku.ca

Message to potential thesis students:

My research interests centre around human sexuality. In particular, my recent research has focused on sexual orientation development, asexuality, and sexual desire and arousal.

Book, Angela

Assistant Professor

Office: MC B330

Phone: 5223

E-mail: abook@brocku.ca

Message to potential thesis students:

The goal of my research is to examine the relationship between psychopathy and victim selection. Students who are interested in completing a thesis under my supervision can contact me by email and we can meet to discuss specific research interests.

Brudzynski, Stefan M.

Professor

Office: MC B335 Phone: 4653

E-mail: sbrudzyn@brocku.ca

Message to potential thesis students:

Dr. Brudzynski will not be supervising thesis students in 2013-14.

Busseri, Michael

Assistant Professor

Office: MC B316 Phone: 4798

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Message to potential thesis students:

Dr. Busseri will not be supervising thesis students in 2013-14.

Cote, Kimberly

Associate Professor

Office: MC B319

Email: kcote@brocku.ca

Message to potential thesis students:

Dr. Cote will not be supervising thesis students in 2013-14.

Dane, Drew

Assistant Professor

Office: MC B332 Phone: 4805

E-mail: adane@brocku.ca

Message to potential thesis students:

If you are interested in completing a thesis under my supervision, please contact me by e-mail and we can set up an appointment to discuss your research interests. Students completing their thesis with me would be able to analyze data from one of several databases, all of which address the issue of how parenting, peer factors, temperament, and other psychological factors combine to predict the development of emotional and behavioural difficulties in children and adolescents.

DeCourville, Nancy

Professor

Office: MC B313 Phone: 4084

E-mail: Nancy.DeCourville@BrockU.CA

Message for potential thesis students:

I would welcome Honours students interested in doing either an empirical thesis or a literature review thesis on issues related to forgiveness. If you already have a forgiveness-related question that interests you, we can work together to develop that question into a thesis. If you are just interested in the topic but have no question in mind, we can work together to focus your interest. The best way to contact me is by e-mail.

DiBattista, David

Professor

Office: MCB 307 Phone: 3467

E-mail: David.DiBattista@BrockU.CA

Message for potential thesis students:

I am open to supervising theses that relate to almost any aspect of teaching and learning. My primary area of interest is multiple-choice testing. Students do not need to have a specific thesis plan in mind when they first come to see me. However, it helps a bit if they have some general idea about what type of problem they wish to tackle in the thesis as a starting point for our initial discussions.

Dwivedi, Veena

Associate Professor, Applied Linguistics
Office: MCD 350H Phone: 5389
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Message for potential thesis students:

Dr. Dwivedi's research programme is designed to understand how human language is processed by both younger and older adults. Her current work focuses on semantic ambiguity in English, via the examination of quantifier phrases such as "every tree" and "each kid". She investigates the role of heuristic (real-world experience biases) vs. algorithmic (grammatical rules) processing in language processing in real-time. Her methods include the neurophysiological tool of EEG, as well as behavioural measures such as self-paced reading. She also has research interests in the processing of Hindi, as well as the role of structure in processing language and music.

Emrich, Stephen

Assistant Professor
Office: MC B336 Phone: 6181
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Message to potential thesis students:

I conduct research in the area of visual cognitive neuroscience. I employ both behavioural and neuroimaging (EEG, fMRI) methods to examine how the brain selects (attention), maintains (visual working memory) and ultimately perceives (consciousness) visual information. I am also interested in questions such as how personality or aging affect these different processes.

I anticipate that I will accept one or two undergraduate thesis students to conduct a study in my lab. Ideally, students will have taken either perception (PSYC 2P49) or cognition (PSYC 2P20). Additional knowledge of statistics, neuroscience, or computer programming will be helpful but not necessary. Students will be involved in all aspects of a study (either behavioral or with a neuroimaging component), including experiment design, data collection and analysis. My goal is to work closely with thesis students with the aim of completing a project that will provide students an opportunity to co-author a conference poster and/or journal article.

Evans, Angela

Assistant Professor

Office: MCB 321

Phone: 5367

E-mail: aevans@brocku.ca

Message to potential thesis students:

Dr. Evans will not be supervising thesis students in 2013-14.

Good, Dawn

Associate Professor

Office: MC B308 Phone: 3869

E-mail: dgood@brocku.ca

Message for potential thesis students:

I would welcome Honours students interested in doing an empirical thesis on issues related to cognitive neuropsychology (brain and behaviour/cognition). My lab has a particular emphasis on research that examines the relationships between cognitive capacity, decision making, social awareness, affect, emotional control (e.g. stress, underarousal), memory and functional independence (i.e. everyday decisions, choices and activities, school competence and reintegration) in identified populations (e.g. persons who have acquired a brain injury) using both behavioural and psychophysiological measures of behaviour. Students will find it helpful to have taken courses in related fields such as brain & behaviour, cognition, neuropsychology, and/or development.

Hafer, Carolyn

Associate Professor

Office: MC B331 Phone: 4085

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Message for potential thesis students:

I study a number of topics within the psychology of social justice. For example, we are currently investigating why people need to believe that the world is a just place, as well as the implications of this need for reactions to injustice. We are also studying the role that “deservingness” (a concept closely related to justice) plays in such diverse domains as advertising and human rights. Other topics include the factors predicting social action and implicit (versus explicit) beliefs about the world. Students do not need to have a thesis idea before they join the lab. Typically, I will explain the projects that we have planned for a given year, and students choose which project they would like to join. The student’s thesis will revolve around either the central question for the project or a related

question that that can be investigated by adding extra materials, focussing on a different aspect of the study, etc.

Hodson, Gordon

Assistant Associate Professor
Office: MC B324 Phone: 5127
E-mail: ghodson@brocku.ca

Message for potential thesis students:

My research interests involve stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination, with a particular focus on personality differences as causes of prejudice, and intergroup contact as a solution for reducing intergroup bias. I am also interested in emotions such as empathy and disgust as they relate to prejudice. The lab researches prejudice against a wide range of social groups (e.g., immigrants, homosexuals, the homeless, and nonhuman animals). I am normally interested in supervising students who have completed and excelled in Psyc 2P25 and/or 2P30 courses.

For more details, please visit the following websites:

<http://brocku.ca/psychology/people/hodson.htm>
<http://tinyurl.com/intergroup-lab>

Mantonakis, Antonia

Associate Professor, Marketing
Office: TA 446 Phone: 5383
E-mail: amantonakis@brocku.ca

To learn more about Dr. Mantonakis and her research please visit her website:

www.antoniamantonakis.com

Markiewicz, Dorothy

Professor
Office: MCB315 Phone: X5241
E-mail: dmarkiewicz@brocku.ca

Message for potential thesis students:

I would be happy to work with Honours students interested in studying close interpersonal relationships in adolescents and young adults. My recent work has focused on friendships and romantic relationships of adolescents and young adults, with a particular emphasis on how these are associated with attachment style, and general adjustment.

Martini, Tanya

Assistant Professor

Office: MCB310 Phone: 3086

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Message for potential thesis students:

Dr. Martini will not be supervising thesis students in 2013-14.

McCormick, Cheryl

Professor

Office: B410 Phone: 3700

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Message for potential thesis students:

My research interests are in the fields of behavioural neuroscience and developmental neuroendocrinology using primarily animal models (including people). Examples of research topics that the people in my lab are working on are: the role of testosterone in aggressive behaviour and in competition, the relationship between facial masculinity and aggressive behaviour, the effects of stress on behaviour and cognitive function; the relationship between stress and drugs of abuse and the relevant neural systems underlying this relationship; the long-term effects of stress on the brain; sex differences in stress systems; age differences in the neural and behavioural effects of drugs of abuse. Students should have taken some courses in neuroscience, physiological psychology, or cognitive neuropsychology as preparation for thesis research with me. Students are encouraged to seek some experience in my lab before senior year as preparation for thesis.

Mondloch, Cathy

Assistant Professor

Office: B320 Phone: 5111

E-mail: cmondloch@brocku.ca

Message to potential thesis students:

Every day we see hundreds of faces. Even though all faces are very similar (they all have 2 eyes over a nose and mouth) we are able to recognize individual identities with ease. In addition, we are sensitive to a variety of other social cues (e.g., emotional expressions, direction of eye gaze). I investigate how this expertise develops. To do that my students and I develop child-friendly tasks designed to tell us how sensitive children are to facial information. For example, by morphing happy and sad faces we can ask how happy a face has to be for children to detect that emotion. We also investigate limitations in adults' expertise. For example, we tested adults in China and Pennsylvania on a series of

tasks that included both Caucasian and Asian faces. This work helps us explain why adults often make mistakes when recognizing other-race faces. We are also interested in children's ability to deceive and detect deceit when playing a game.

Students interested in doing a thesis in my lab should have taken some courses in developmental psychology in addition to PSYC 2F12 (2P12); courses in cognition/perception are an asset. Students in the neuroscience program also are welcome. Students are encouraged to learn more about my work by visiting <http://www.psyc.brocku.ca/research/infantchildlab>. Research in my lab will appeal most to students with an interest in social/perceptual development.

Muir, Cameron

Assistant Professor

Office: MC B334 Phone: 4681

E-mail: cmuir@brocku.ca

Message to potential thesis students:

I am interested in supervising thesis students who would like to learn about hormones and behaviour. Specifically, I have been investigating the role of several steroid hormones in aggression, sex and stress. I have developed an immunological measuring technique for screening and measuring steroid content in biological fluids such as urine, perspiration and saliva. This non-invasive method can be employed to measure ongoing behaviours associated with hormonal changes. Some specific projects include: the investigation of steroid hormones acting as pheromones in human perspiration, the role of role of cortisol and testosterone in people living in close quarters such as in a space flight simulation.

Murphy, Tim

Assistant Professor

Office: B336 Phone: 4639

E-mail: tmurphy@brocku.ca

Message to potential thesis students:

Ever pull and "all-nighter"? How did you feel? I am interested in performance under various adverse conditions (e.g. sleepiness) and how this relates to brain function as measured by the electroencephalogram and event-related potentials. Of special interest is performance and associated event-related potentials (ERPs) relating to attention, risk assessment, error detection and cognitive control. I am accepting honours students for the 13/14 year. My students will learn how to apply electrodes, collect and analyze EEG and relate these measures to performance. I typically like to have at least 2 students because of the nature of my research. Because half of the data is collected very late at night students usually work in pairs on one project; however, each student will obtain their own independent data set to analyze. I share a laboratory with professors Sid

Segalowitz and Jane Dywan (<http://www.brocku.ca/social-sciences/undergraduate-programs/psychology/research-labs/cognitive-affective-neuroscience>). This is a very collaborative lab so you will be exposed to the research of several other undergraduate and graduate students during lab meetings. We have large lab meetings as needed (usually 3-5 times per term) but I typically meet with honours students on a weekly basis. If you have any questions feel free to drop by my office (MCB325) or call me (ext 4639).

Pickering, Gary

Professor, Biological Sciences and Psychology
Associate, Environmental Sustainability Research Centre
Office: MC F235 Phone: 4719
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Message to potential thesis students:

There are 2 quite different research programs in our lab for which I am interested in supervising thesis students. The first concerns how genetics influence taste and smell, and the associated behavioral consequences. We use 2 proxies for taste sensitivity (thermal taste and PROP status) to assess how individuals differ in their psychophysical response to various flavor stimuli – including food and alcoholic beverages – and relate this to liking scores (which are good predictors of dietary intake), health status, and various psychological measures. The second area concerns the psychological barriers that restrict individual action on climate change mitigation. We use various tools, including internet-based surveys, to investigate how factors such as risk perception, scepticism, powerlessness and the commons dilemma influence our attitude and behavior toward climate change and adaptation. Our research is very inter-disciplinary, and we work from a well-equipped, modern lab in Inniskillin Hall at Brock.

Rose-Krasnor, Linda

Professor Office: MC B311 Phone: 3870
E-mail: lrosekrasnor@brocku.ca

Message for potential thesis students:

In my research lab, we study links between child and youth relationships and adjustment, with a specific focus on shy/withdrawn children. We also research youth engagement and youth-adult partnerships, in which we explore how youth become involved in activities (e.g., volunteer work, sports, music), factors that sustain or discourage their involvement, and the outcomes of their engagement, as well as examining the effectiveness of programs designed to increase positive engagement. We are particularly interested in the activity-related experiences of shy/withdrawn youth. For more

information, please see our lab webpage at
<http://www.brocku.ca/psychology/research/socialdevelop/index.htm>

I meet with honours thesis students weekly and students also are expected to attend research lab meetings. By mid-September, we will have determined a schedule for submission of each section of the thesis. Students will submit a 2-3 page outline of each section before writing their first draft of that section and are allowed to re-submit sections until the thesis is completed at the end of April.

I would be happy to meet with potential honours students to talk about the process of doing a thesis, as well as potential research topics.

Segalowitz, Sidney J.

Professor

Office: MC B314 Phone: 3465

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Message to potential thesis students:

I have two streams of research:

(1) Perception of faces, words, objects, patterns as they relate to early brain responses using EEG and ERPs. Honours students may get involved in current projects investigating, for example, the effects emotional expression in faces on brain responses, or how faces and non-face stimuli promote different brain activation, or how expertise (practice with certain kinds of stimuli) affects brain responses. Concerning language processing, these may involve comparing brain responses to reading words as a function of fluency of the reader, e.g., in a first versus second language or as a function of frequent versus rarely read words.

(2) Responding to information concerning one's own performance, such as winning versus losing in a gambling task, or making an error in a stimulus-discrimination task. Honours theses may address how a person's personality affects brain responses, how age affects these responses, or how task parameters (e.g., size of reward or penalty) influence the activation of specific brain regions.

What you will learn: Honours students help collect data on EEG machines and learn to analyze brain wave patterns using our computer software, and then compare the patterns with the psychological characteristics of the participants. Some background in neuroscience is helpful, but not required. Comfort with computer-data processing is important. Some experience with programming is helpful but not required (we'll teach you what you need to know). All projects normally have multiple students (some undergraduate, some graduate students) involved to share the load and learning experiences.

Willoughby, Teena

Professor

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Lab: PL519 Phone: 5474

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Message to potential thesis students:

My research interests are in the field of developmental psychology. I conduct research on adolescent development, particularly with regard to risk taking, academic achievement, adjustment, non-suicidal self-injury, and video game play. As a student in my lab, you can conduct an empirical study within one of these research areas or you have the opportunity to use high school or Stressed@Brock databases, which are longitudinal surveys of the relation between adolescent/emerging adulthood lifestyle choices and psychosocial adjustment. Students are encouraged to learn more about my work by visiting www.brocku.ca/adolescentdevelopmentlab.