

Nikola N. Lucas (Saunders)

Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information

nlucas@seattleu.edu

Education

- Ph.D. Experimental Psychology/ Behavioral Neuroscience December 2013
Florida Atlantic University
Adviser: Nancy Aaron Jones, Ph.D.
- M.A. Psychology Research, California State University, Long Beach August 2004
Sub-specialization: Neuroscience and Physiology
Adviser: Diane W. Lee, Ph.D.
- B.A. Psychology, California State University, Long Beach May 2000
Minor: Comparative Literature

Educational Honors and Awards

- Dissertation Year Award (Grant) 2011 – 2012
Florida Atlantic University
- Outstanding Student Award for College of Science 2011 – 2012
Florida Atlantic University, Jupiter
- Nominated for Best Thesis Award 2004
- Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Spring 2003
- J. Robert Newman Scholar Award Fall 2001
California State University, Long Beach
- Outstanding Scholar in Psychology Spring 2000
California State University, Long Beach
- Graduated Cum Laude Spring 2000
California State University, Long Beach

Academic Employment

- Adjunct Professor, Seattle University, Psychology Jan 2022 to present
- Adjunct Professor, Indiana University East, Psychology Jan 2021 to present
- Adjunct Faculty, Southern New Hampshire University, Psychology Sept. 2020 to present
- Adjunct Faculty, University of Arizona Global, Psychology Dec. 2020 to present
- Online Associate Faculty, Ashford University, Psychology Jan. 2015 to Dec. 2020
- Adjunct Professor, Florida Atlantic University, Psychology Jan. 2014 to Aug. 2018
- Adjunct Professor, Palm Beach State College, Lake Worth Aug. 2008 to Aug. 2015
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Florida Atlantic University Aug 2010 to Dec. 2013
- Lecturer, California State University, Long Beach, Psychology Jan. 2006 to June 2008

Lecturer, California State University, Long Beach, Sociology
 Teaching Associate, Special Services Center, Orange Coast College

Jan. 2006 to June 2008
 Sept. 2001 to May 2002

Traditional Teaching Experience

Psychopharmacology	PSYC 4200	Winter 2022
Biological Bases of Learning	PSYC 3040	Spring 2022
Biological Bases of Behavior 1	PSB 3002	Fall 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 (2), 2017 (2); Spring 2014, 2015, 2016 (2), 2017 (2), 2018 (2); Summer 2016, 2017, 2018
Biological Bases of Behavior 2	PSB 4006	Fall 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017; Spring 2017, 2018
Hippocampus & Memory	PSY 4930	Fall 2013, 2015
Experimental Design & Statistical Inference	PSY 3234	Spring 2012
General Psychology	PSY 2012	Fall 2008, 2009; Spring 2009; Summer 2009, 2010
Sensation and Perception	PSY 331	Fall 2006, 2007; Spring 2007, 2008
Introductory Statistics	PSY 110	Fall 2007; Spring 2006
Elementary Statistics	SOC 250	Fall 2006, 2007; Spring 2006, 2007, 2008
Research Methods	PSY 200	Spring 2008
Quantitative Methods	SOC 355	Fall 2007
Introduction to University	University 100	Fall 1999
Reading for disabled students		Fall 2001; Spring 2002

Graduate Level Online Teaching Experience

Psychopharmacology	PSY 630	Fall 2016, 2017, 2020, 2021, 2022; Winter 2022 (2); Spring 2017(2), 2018, 2020, 2022; Summer 2020, 2021
Biological Bases of Behavior	PSY 625	Summer 2016, 2018,2019; Fall 2016, 2017, 2018 (2), 2019, 2021; Spring 2018, 2021 (2),
Principles of Biostatistics	HIA 625	Winter 2020; Spring 2021; Summer 2020, 2021; Fall 2020 (2), 2021

Undergraduate Level Hybrid & Online Teaching Experience

Behavioral Neuroscience	PSY 326	Summer 2021, 2022
Sensation and Perception	PSY 329/ PSY 307	Spring 2021(3), 2022 (4); Fall 2021 Summer 2022
Psychology of Learning	PSY 331	Summer 2015; Fall 2015; Spring 2016, 2017, 2019 (2)
Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	PSY 325	Spring 2015 (3 sections), 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 (2), 2022; Fall 2015, 2018 (3),2019 (2), 2020 (2); Winter 2016, 2018, 2019 (2), 2020; Summer 2018 (5), 2019 (4)
Statistical Literacy	PSY 260	Spring 2021, 2022 (2); Summer 2021 (2); Fall 2021 (2)
Research 1: Stats for Psych	PSY 223	Summer 2021
Research Methods	PSY 222	Spring 2021; Summer 2021
Lifespan Development	PSY 304	Fall 2019
General Psychology	PSY 2012	Spring 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015; Fall 2009, 2013, 2014; Summer 2011

Human Growth & Development DEP 2004

Spring 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013,
2014, 2015; Summer 2010, 2011,
2012, 2013, 2014, 2015; Fall 2011,
2012, 2013, 2014

Guest Lectures

Lecture on MRI Safety
Neuroimaging in Cognitive Neuroscience Course
Florida Atlantic University

February 2018

Lecture on Psychopharmacology
Biological Bases of Behavior Course
Florida Atlantic University

October 2017

Lecture on Drug Addiction and the Brain
Psychology of Motivation Course
Florida Atlantic University

June 2011

Lecture on Muscles and Reflexes
Biological Bases of Behavior Course
Florida Atlantic University

November 2012

Graduate Teaching Assistant (TA) Experience

Experimental Design & Statistical Inference	PSY 3234	Summer 2013
Intermediate Statistics Lab	STA 3163 L	Spring 2011, 2013
Biological Bases of Behavior	PSB 3002	Fall 2013
Research Methods	PSY 3213	Fall 2010
Psychology of Motivation	EXP 4304	Summer 2011
General Psychology	PSY 1012	Fall 2011

Learning Management Systems

Brightspace
Canvas
Blackboard
Pearson eCollege

Pedagogy

Classroom Management Mastery Series
What's My Impact ED Talks
New Analytics Training

2020 & 2021
2020
April 2020

COHHSS: Developing Instructor Presence In the Online Classroom (Modules 1-7)	2017& 2018
Canvas Instructor Training 14 Modules	April 2017
I-Clicker Instructor Training	February 2017
Instructor Training for LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor	May 2014
Soft Chalk Create – Short Course	April 2014
Soft Chalk Cloud Webinar	January 2014
Blackboard Learn Workshop	April 2012
Faculty & Instructor Development Course (FAC 005)	Summer 2011
Blackboard Levels 1 – 3 Training/ Certification	October 2008

Publications

- Shanok, N. S., Jones, N. A., & **Lucas, N. N.** (2019). The nature of facial emotion recognition impairments in children on the autism spectrum. *Child Psychiatry and Human Development*, 50(4), 661– 667.
- Lucas, N. N.** & Lee, D. W. (2009). BDNF increases BrdU-IR cells in the injured adult zebra finch hippocampus. *NeuroReport*, 20(12), 1066-1070.
- McGinnis, D., **Saunders, N. N.**, & Burns, R. J. (2007). Metacomprehension during rare word comprehension. *Reading Psychology*, 28(3), 221-240.

Professional Conference Presentations

- Shanok, N. S., Jones, N. A., & **Lucas, N. N.** (2019). The nature of facial emotion recognition impairments in children on the autism spectrum. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Baltimore, MD, March, 2019.
- Lucas, N.N.**, Pineda, M. & Jones, N. A. (2013). Atypical patterns of EEG activity and functional connectivity in children with autism. Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience Conference, San Diego, CA November 2013.
- Lucas, N. N.**, Pineda, M., Marsh, K. L., & Jones, N. A. (2013). Processing of emotional expressions and neural activity in preschool-age children. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Seattle, WA, April 2013.
- Saunders, N. N.** & Lee, D. W. (2004). BDNF increases cell proliferation in the injured adult zebra finch hippocampus. Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience Conference, San Diego, CA, October 2004.
- Burton, K.A., Dies, P.J., Badolian, H.B., Dehn, D.J., **Saunders, N. N.**, & Amirkhan, J.H. (2001). Criterion validity of a new measure of stress. Poster presented at the Western Psychological Association Meetings, Maui, HI, April 2001.
- McGinnis, D., **Saunders, N. N.**, Burns, R. J., & Dean, H. (2000). Metacognition and unfamiliar word comprehension: Task specific and global metacognitive correlates. Poster presented at the Western Psychological Association Meetings, Portland, OR, April 2000.
- McGinnis, D., **Saunders, N. N.**, Imperio, S., Yang, T., & Christian, S. (2000). Examining evidence evaluation processes in UFO and health scenarios. Poster presented at the Western Psychological Association Meetings, Portland, OR, April 2000.

Laboratory Experience

- Research Assistant, Developmental Psychophysiology Laboratory, Florida Atlantic University, Jupiter Campus
Examined functional brain connectivity and activity in children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) using electroencephalogram (EEG). Resulted in doctoral dissertation and Shanok, Jones, & Lucas, 2019. Feb. 2010 to Dec. 2013 & Jan. 2019 to present
- Research Assistant, Behavioral Neuroscience Laboratory, California State University, Long Beach
Examined cytochrome c in response to injury in adult Zebra Finches. Performed brain surgeries and perfusions, obtained blood samples, carried out histological procedures and immunocytochemistry, and performed cell counts using Stereoinvestigator. Resulted in master's thesis and Lucas & Lee, 2009. Oct. 2001 to Oct. 2004 & Summer 2006
- Research Assistant, Cognitive Aging Laboratory, California State University, Long Beach
Examined language comprehension and pre-clinical Alzheimer's disease in older adults. Administered the Stroop, Mini Mental State Exam, Verbal Selective Reminding, Verbal Fluency, Category Fluency, WAIS-R vocabulary test, and other measures to participants. Sept. 2000 to May 2002
- Research Assistant, Cognitive Aging Laboratory, California State University, Long Beach
Examined metacognition and language comprehension in young and old adults. Assisted in development and preparation of survey materials. Administered surveys and WAIS-R vocabulary test to participants, coded data, and entered data using SPSS. Resulted in McGinnis et al., 2007 and McGinnis et al., 2000. Sept. 1998 to May 2000
- Examined evidence evaluation processes in plausible and questionable scenarios. Assisted in development of vignettes and construction of surveys. Administered surveys, coded data, and entered data using SPSS. Resulted in McGinnis et al., 2000.
- Research Assistant, Personality Laboratory, California State University, Long Beach
Examined the criterion validity of a new self-report measure of stress. Assisted in preparation of testing materials, coded data, and entered data using SAS. Resulted in Burton et al., 2001. Sept. 2000 to Dec. 2001

Committees

Advisory Committee 2007 – 2008
 Psychology Department, California State University, Long Beach

Professional Affiliations

Society for Neuroscience 2004 - present
 Western Psychological Association 1999 to 2001

Applied Work Experience

Behavioral Therapist/Tutor, ACES, Inc., July 2004 to
 Implemented individualized treatment plans with autistic children Oct. 2004
 and their families. Treatment plans included: Discrete Trial
 Training, Structured Teaching, Behavior Modification, Pivotal
 Response Training (PRT), Picture Exchange Communication
 System (PECS), Sensory Integration, Social Stories, and Social
 Facilitation.

Clinical Coordinator, Veterans Affairs Long Beach Health Care Oct 2003 to
 System, Prepared research protocols for IRB, administered the Jan 2004
 Neuropsychiatric Inventory (NPI), the Brief Psychiatric Rating
 Scale (BPRS), the Alzheimer's Disease Quality of Life Survey
 (ADRQL), the cognitive-Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale
 (ADAS), and other neuropsychiatric assessments to Alzheimer's
 patients and their families. In addition, measured vital signs,
 administered electrocardiograms (EKG), assisted in writing
 prescriptions, centrifuged blood samples and separated serum.

Direct Care Staff/ Medical Liaison, South Coast Children's Society, Sept. 2000 to
 Residential Treatment Center. Helped SED children ages Oct. 2001
 8 to 17 with treatment program by working with parents,
 therapists, and social workers. Provided residents with medical,
 dental, and vision care. Prepared and passed medications to
 residents. CPR Certified. P.A.R.T. Trained.

Certifications

Certified to administer the Neuropsychiatric Inventory (NPI). Oct. 2003
 Certified to administer the Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS). Oct. 2003
 Certified to administer the Alzheimer's Disease Quality of Life
 (ADRQL) survey Oct. 2003
 Certified to administer the Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale Oct. 2003
 (ADAS).

References

David L. Wolgin, Ph.D.
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