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EDUCATION

- 2005 - Present Cognitive Psychology Ph.D. program in progress (expected Summer 2010), Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado.
- 2007 M.S. in Cognitive Psychology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado
Advisor: Dr. Benjamin Clegg
Thesis Title: *Processing in Visuospatial Working Memory: The Effects of Presentation Type and Spatial Configuration*
- 2004 B.S. in Psychology (German minor), *summa cum laude*, University Honors and Honors in Psychology, University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida.
Advisor: Dr. Valerie Sims
Honors in the Major Thesis Title: *Proficiency as a Predictor of Lexical Representation in English Students Learning German.*

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journals

Morett, L. [†], Clegg, B. A., **Blalock, L. D.**, & Mong, H. M. (2009). Applying multimedia learning theory to map learning and driving navigation. *Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour*, 12, 40-49.

Works in Progress

Blalock, L. D., & McCabe, D. P. (under review). Proactive interference and practice effects in visuospatial working memory span task performance. Submitted to *Memory*.

Blalock, L. D. & Clegg, B. A. (under review). Encoding and representation of simultaneous and sequential arrays in visuospatial working memory. Submitted to *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*.

Blalock, L. D., & Clegg, B. A. (in prep). Impact of global versus local attentional processing on visual working memory organization.

Peer Reviewed Proceedings

Blalock, L. D., Sawyer, B. S. [†], Kiken, A. [†], Clegg, B. A. (2009). The Impact of Load on Dynamic Versus Static Situational Knowledge While Driving. *Proceedings of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society*.

Campbell, G. E., Johnson, C. I., & **Durrance, L. M.** (2004). Moving Science Education Out of the Classroom: The Impact of Collaboration and Conceptual Change Activities on Learning. *Proceedings of the Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation & Education Conference*.

Sims, V. K., Chin, M. G., **Durrance, L. M.**, & Johnson, C. I. (2004). Mental models of computers as a function of sex and perceived trust. *Proceedings of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society, 46*, 1248-1251.

† denotes undergraduate co-author

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

Blalock, L. D. (2009, April). *Interactions Between Attention and Visual Working Memory*. Presented at the Department of Psychology, University of Colorado, Boulder.

Conference Presentations

Blalock, L. D., & Clegg, B. A. (2009, November). *Impact of Item Familiarity on Short-term Consolidation in Visual Working Memory*. Poster to be presented at the 50th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA.

Blalock, L. D., & Clegg, B. A. (2009, May). *Impact of Global vs. Local Attentional Processing on Visual Working Memory Organization*. Poster presented at the Vision Sciences Society 9th Annual Meeting, Naples, FL.

Blalock, L.D., & McCabe, D. P. (2008, November). *Proactive Interference and Practice Effects in Working Memory Span Performance*. Poster presented at the 49th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Chicago, IL.

Morett, L. †, Clegg, B. A., **Durrance, L. M.**, & Mong, H. M. (2008, May). *Application of multimedia learning theory to map learning and driving navigation*. Poster presented at the 20th annual convention of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL.

Morett, L. †, Clegg, B. A., **Durrance, L. M.**, & Mong, H. M. (2008, April). *Application of multimedia learning theory to map learning and driving navigation*. Poster presented at the 78th annual convention of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association, Boise, ID.

Durrance, L. M., & Clegg, B. A. (2007, November). *Encoding, Representation, and General Fluid Intelligence in Visuospatial Working Memory*. Poster presented at the 48th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Long Beach, California.

Durrance, L. M., & Clegg, B. A. (2007, May). *Aspects of Spatial Cognition: Representation in Visuospatial Working Memory*. Poster presented at the 19th annual convention of the Association for Psychological Science, Washington, D.C.

Durrance, L. M., Clegg, B. A., & DeLosh, E. L. (2006, April). *Can Spatial Information Improve Item Recall?* Paper presented at the 76th annual convention of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association, Park City, UT.

Campbell, G. E, **Durrance, L. M.,** & Johnson, C. I. (2005, May). *Personality as a Moderator of the Collaborative Learning Effect.* Poster presented at the 17th annual convention of the American Psychological Society, Los Angeles, CA.

Durrance, L. M., Sims, V. K., & Chin, M. G. (2004, May). *Errors in a Bilingual Lexical Decision Task: The Proficiency Factor.* Poster presented at the 16th annual convention of the American Psychological Society, Chicago, IL.

Durrance, L. M. (April 2004). *Proficiency as a Predictor of Lexical Representation in English Speakers Learning German.* Poster presented at the 1st annual University of Central Florida Showcase of Undergraduate Research Excellence, Orlando, FL. Poster won honorable mention award.

Durrance, L. M., Sims, V. K., & Chin, M.G. (2004, March). *Reaction Time Differences in a Bilingual Lexical Decision Task for Learners of German at Different Proficiency Levels.* Poster presented at the 50th annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Atlanta, GA.

† denotes undergraduate co-author

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2005 – Present Graduate Research Assistant, Colorado State University, Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative grant entitled *Training Knowledge and Skills for the Networked Battlefield*, Army Research Office. Advisor: Dr. Benjamin Clegg
- 2003 – 2005 Research associate at NAVAIR Orlando Training Systems Division. Supervisor: Dr. Gwendolyn Campbell

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Visual working memory, Interactions between visual working memory and attention, Central executive involvement in visuospatial processing, spatial situation awareness and driving

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Fall 2009 *Applied Cognitive Psychology Lab, Instructor*
- Department of Psychology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado
 - Was responsible for all aspects of the class, including designing the course and setting up mock experiments. In this independent lab course, students participate in classic studies with as well as propose, develop, and write up their own research project. The course emphasizes scientific, APA style writing. Approximately 12-15 students per section (responsible for two sections).

- Spring 2009 *Mind, Brain, and Behavior, Guest Lecturer*
- Gave a guest lecture for Mind, Brain, and Behavior (a course that covers neuropsychology, sensation and perception, and cognition) on decision making and problem solving to 80+ students
- Fall 2008 *Introduction to Psychology, Guest Lecturer*
- Spring 2008 • Gave a guest lecture for Introduction to Psychology on working memory to 200+ students
- Fall 2007
- July 2007 *SPSS Workshop, Instructor*
- July 2006
- National Science Foundation funded Research Experience for Undergraduates Program, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado
 - Taught a three hour workshop on SPSS that included topics such as restructuring data, recoding data, and various statistical analyses (e.g., t-tests, one-way ANOVAs, and correlation); approximately 12 students
- Fall 2006 *Cognitive Psychology Lab, Instructor*
- Department of Psychology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado
 - Was responsible for all aspects of two sections of the class. In this independent lab course, students participate in classic studies with as well as propose, develop, and write up their own research project. The course emphasizes scientific, APA style writing. Approximately 12-15 students per section.
 - Teaching Evaluations on a 0 (*strongly disagree*) – 4 (*strongly agree*) scale:
 - Section 1: 3.17 Instructor Overall, 3.00 Course Overall
 - Section 2: 3.78 Instructor Overall, 3.70 Course Overall

TEACHING INTERESTS

Cognitive psychology, Applied cognitive psychology, Human performance, Psychological research methods, Statistics, Basic learning

MENTORING

- Students mentored through the National Science Foundation funded Research Experience for Undergraduates program in which students complete a research project over a 10 week period:
 - Nova Jaramillo (Summer 2006) – Completed research project on recognition memory; awarded best overall poster at department symposium
 - Laura Morett (Summer 2007) – Completed research project on map learning and driving navigation; project was presented at two conferences (regional and national) and was published in a peer reviewed journal
- Undergraduate students that completed independent research projects:
 - Ben Sawyer (Fall 2007 – Fall 2008) – Assisted with data collection and entry, programmed experiments in the driving simulator; co-authored a paper on situation awareness while driving; completed independent research project on texting while driving
 - Ariana Kiken (Spring 2008 – Spring 2009) – Set up maps and programmed experiment in the driving simulator; co-authored a paper on situation awareness while driving; completed

independent research project on procedural memory for recipes; currently a human factors graduate student at California State University – Long Beach.

- Undergraduate Research Assistants (assisted with data collection and entry):
 - Spring 2006:
 - Kaley Adolf
 - Brittany Stahl
 - Summer 2006:
 - Jennifer Gober
 - Fall 2006:
 - Kaley Adolf
 - Brittney Kipp
 - Spring 2007:
 - Brittney Kipp
 - Fall 2007:
 - Whitney Miller
 - Heather Gibbons
 - Spring 2008:
 - Sam Lustgarten
 - Rubab Mehdi
 - Allie Pardun
 - Fall 2008:
 - Sam Lustgarten
 - Shannon McMulkin
 - Spring 2009:
 - Sam Lustgarten
 - Anastasia Stull
 - Christine Decker
 - Fall 2009:
 - Reanne Townsend
 - Jeff Bingham

HONORS, AWARDS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2005 Colorado State University Graduate Fellowship, merit based fellowship awarded to first year graduate students, Colorado State University, \$5,200
- 2004 Showcase of Undergraduate Research Excellence Honorable Mention Award, awarded to undergraduate honors thesis, University of Central Florida, \$750
- 2004 Office of Undergraduate Studies Travel Award, provided travel funds to attend a national conference, University of Central Florida, \$300
- 2004 Who's Who at the University of Central Florida, awarded to the Top 25 Students in Academics, University of Central Florida, \$500
- 2003 Honors in the Major Scholarship, merit based scholarship to assist with running honors thesis, The Burnett Honors College, University of Central Florida, \$1,500
- 2002 Burnett Honors College Book Scholarship, merit based scholarship to assist with buying books, University of Central Florida, \$400
- 2002 Burnett Honors College Study Abroad Scholarship, merit based scholarship to fund study abroad students, University of Central Florida, \$1,500 (Study Abroad Program in Koblenz, Germany)

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Service

- Spring 2007 *Graduate Admissions Committee, Cognitive Psychology, Colorado State University*
 - Served on the committee responsible for selecting applicants for admission to the graduate cognitive psychology program at Colorado State University

Spring 2007 *Brain Awareness Week Volunteer, Preston Junior High School, Dr. Vicki Volbrecht*

Spring 2008 ▪ Visited a local junior high school and taught students about the human visual system including hands on demonstrations of visual illusions and visual disorders.

Professional Development

Fall 2008 *Teaching seminar, Writing Integration, Colorado State University*

- Took an 8 week long seminar that focused on integrating writing into the curriculum including how to write writing assignments, how to incorporate in-class writing, how to make grading rubrics, and how to effectively deal with plagiarism

Fall 2007 *Applied Attention Seminar, University of Colorado – Boulder, Dr. Chris Wickens*

- Attended a graduate level seminar on Applied Attention Theory at the University of Colorado – Boulder taught by Dr. Chris Wickens

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Dr. Benjamin Clegg
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Dr. David McCabe
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