



PSYCHOLOGY IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Corey Mackenzie contributed to a **CityNews Winnipeg** broadcast on Monday Jan 24th 2022 in a segment titled, "1-in-3 Canadians report struggles with mental health: study". You can listen [here](#).



Dr. Jen Theule was recently interviewed by the **Canadian Psychological Association** for a profile on Family Psychology published this past winter. You can read the profile [here](#).



Psychology was once again represented at **Three Minute Thesis**, this time by graduate student **Matthew Cook**. Matthew presented his talk, "Computational history: Using semantic models to measure changes in attitudes, values, and beliefs from language", in the Virtual 3MT, Heat #3 on March 4th 2022. You can view Heat #3 [here](#). Matthew's presentation starts at ~24:20.



Dr. Leslie Roos and graduate student **Kaeley Simpson** recently co-authored an article with several others, for **the Conversation Canada**. The article "Screaming into the void? Us too. Coping tips for stressed-out families in the COVID-19 pandemic" was originally published in The Conversation Canada, has also been picked up by the National Post, and the Philippine Canadian Inquirer. You can read the article [here](#).



Dr. Leslie Roos co-authored another article for The Conversation Canada, "Denying abortion access has a negative impact on children and families", along with **Dr. Charlie Rioux**, UM Psychology postdoc, and a colleague from the Psych Dept. at the University of Calgary. You can read the article [here](#).



Dr. Jim Shapiro was recently interviewed by Emily Brass, a reporter for CBC News, for a story, which aired June 7th, regarding the goose deterrent at Memorial Park across from the Legislative Building in Winnipeg. You can watch the story [here](#). Jim also gave an interview to Tom Jokinen, a reporter from the magazine **The Walrus**, a Canadian magazine specializing in Canadian and International affairs, producing 8 issues per year with a circulation of 30,800. The interview will be featured in the coming months in a story on Canada Geese and their relationship to urban dwellers.

SPOTLIGHT on TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation Barometer project

The Canadian Reconciliation Barometer Project, a large-scale research project designed to measure progress toward Reconciliation, recently released its first report highlighting the path forward towards reconciliation. The project, led by Dr. Katherine Starzyk and involving Ry Moran, Dr. Dean Peachey, , Dr. Lorena Sekwan Fontaine, Dr. Katelin Neufeld, Mary Agnes Welch, UM Psychology graduate students, Iloradanon Efimoff, Aleah Fontaine, & Erin White, and UM Psychology undergraduate students Kristin Smith & Jaden Dela Rosa, is funded primarily by a SSHRC Insight Grant "The Canadian Reconciliation Barometer: Understanding, Measuring Progress Toward, and Creating Interventions to Promote Reconciliation in Canada" received by Dr. Katherine Starzyk, principal investigator and Dr. Katelin Neufeld, co-investigator.

The report has received significant coverage in local and national news across television networks, syndicated radio and major newspapers in Canada, appearing across more than two hundred separate media outlets including [CBC](#), [GlobalNEWS](#), [The Globe and Mail](#), and [The Star](#). Along with the numerous media appearances, the Reconciliation Barometer Project was also profiled in UM's ResearchLIFE Magazine Spring 2022 Issue. The article, written by Marianne Mays Wiebe, "Taking up the work of Reconciliation: How a new measuring tool based on research, the Canadian Reconciliation Barometer, can push us further down the path to good and just relations." Can be viewed [here](#) on pages 27-29.

In addition to all of the media coverage, Dr. Katherine Starzyk with other project members have given multiple talks about the report. Dr. Starzyk along with Psychology graduate students Iloradanon Efimoff & Aleah Fontaine gave a talk, *The Canadian Reconciliation Barometer, 2021 Report Highlights*, In February 2022, for the Social Science Speakers Series hosted by The Centre for Social Science Research and Policy. You can view the talk [here](#). Psychology graduate students, Iloradanon Efimoff, & Aleah Fontaine, moderated a session titled, The Canadian Reconciliation Barometer in January 2022 for the Café Scientifique series. The session, which included panelists Ry Moran, Dr. Lorena Sekwan Fontaine, & Dr. Katherine Starzyk, can be watched [here](#).

If you would like to learn more about The Canadian Reconciliation Barometer Project and 2021 Report, you can visit <https://reconciliationbarometer.ca/>

WELCOME & GOODBYES

Faculty Welcome

The Department of Psychology is pleased to welcome three new assistant professors who will be joining the department on July 1st 2022.



Dr. Jennifer Cook joins the ABA area from University of South Florida. Jennifer “uses behavior analysis to evaluate principles and procedures involved in (a) teaching skills and improving the quality of life for children and youth with autism spectrum disorders, and (b) training skills for individuals of all abilities in sports and fitness.”



Dr. Nicholas Evans joins the Social/Personality Psychology area from University of Texas at El Paso. Nick has a focus of personality and “primarily investigates 1) the cognitive components and interpersonal benefits of nostalgia and metaphor use, and 2) the antecedents and consequences of intellectual humility and science denialism.”



Dr. Shaylene Nancekivell joins the Developmental Psychology area from University of North Carolina Greensboro. Shaylene’s “research program is focused on how young children navigate the social world and represent abstract concepts. A main focus of my current work is early representation of ownership and possessions.”

We look forward to welcoming Jennifer, Nick and Shaylene into the Department as we get back to in person gatherings, after multiple years of virtual events.

Babies!



Dr. Kristin Reynolds and family were recently overjoyed to welcome their second child, Estelle Lilja Reynolds-Yurkiw, on May 11th. The proud parents, Kristin and Dan, along with big sister Isla, are looking forward to the new adventures to be experienced as a family of four. Congratulations!

In Memoriam



In sad news, one of the Department of Psychology’s senior scholars and former faculty member, **Dr. Rayleen De Luca**, passed away recently. Rayleen, originally a student in the Department, before joining as a faculty member, was a truly exceptional member of the Clinical faculty with her research in child sex abuse receiving international renown. Rayleen was also known for her extensive community service, including serving on the board of Folklorama for many years. Among her many other honours and awards received, Rayleen was recognized with the Order of Canada in 2017, following her retirement. You can read more about Dr. Rayleen De Luca and her legacy, in a tribute article published in the Winnipeg Free Press, [here](#).

Retirement



Dr. Joe Pear will be retiring in July after 56 years of service in Psychology at the UM. The Department thanks Joe for his decades of service and best wishes for his impending retirement!

Congratulations & Goodbye



Psychology faculty member **Dr. Todd Mondor** recently left University of Manitoba, after a 23-year long career here, for a position as the **President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Winnipeg**. Dr. Mondor will serve as the 10th president of UW. Todd served as Grad Chair and Dept Head in Psychology before joining the faculty of Graduate Studies to serve as Dean of Graduate Studies and then Deputy Provost. Congratulations to Dr. Todd Mondor!

FACULTY/STAFF ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Faculty Awards



At the Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG) 50th Annual Scientific & Educational Meeting in Nov. 2021, **Dr. Judy Chipperfield** was recognized for her lifetime contributions to the study of gerontology with CAG's Contribution to Gerontology Award. As the winner of the award, she was invited to present her work as a speaker in the CAG Webinar Series in April 2022. Congrats Judy!

Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science (CSBBCS) recently announced **Dr. Randy Jamieson** as the winner of the 2022 Richard C. Tees Distinguished Leadership Award, celebrating his many contributions to the promotion of cognitive science across Canada. Dr. Jamieson was also elected as both a **Fellow of the Canadian Psychological Association** and a **Fellow of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Science**, all while serving as Associate Dean in the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Congratulations!

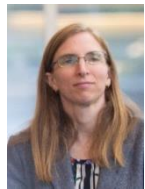


Dr. Ed Johnson has been selected as the winner of this year's **Psychology Teaching Award** by the Psychology Teaching Evaluation Committee in recognition of outstanding teaching. We look forward to his presentation during the 2022-2023 colloquium series. Congrats Ed!

Dr. Alicia Nijdam-Jones recently won the International Association of Forensic Mental Health Services **2022 Christopher Webster Early Career Award**. Congrats Alicia!



Faculty Contributions



Dr. Melanie Soderstrom is starting a three-year term on the Board of Management of the Centre for Social Science Research and Policy. Dr. Soderstrom's service is a valued contribution to the Faculty and the University.

Dr. Danielle Gaucher shared a congratulatory video message to graduating students in celebration of the first in-person UM convocation ceremonies since 2019. You can watch [here](#).



Emeritus!



Dr. Dickie Yu was recently awarded **Emeritus** status after his retirement, at the end of 2021, from a 24-year long career at the University of Manitoba. Dickie's legacy includes the establishment of the St. Amant Research Centre in partnership with UM, where he served as the Founding Director for eight years. Dickie's research attracted over 11 million dollars in funding to UM and he has been honoured with numerous awards from UM Faculty of Arts, ABA International, MABA, and by multiple nominations for university teaching and community service awards. Over his career, Dickie served as Area Chair and Verified Course Sequence Coordinator for the ABA program in the Psychology Department for many years and consulted with multiple federal government depts. on policies and issues related to developmental disability. The honour of Emeritus status is well-deserved after his long and distinguished career. Congratulations Dickie!

Faculty Grants

Dr. Jennifer Theule's research project entitled "Canadian psychology internship matching: A preliminary inquiry into family, gender, and diversity factors" was approved for funding from the UM/SSHRC Explore Internal Grant (\$6,390.00)

Dr. Steve Greening's research project entitled "Exercise, brain, and emotion regulation" has been approved for funding (\$25,000) from the UCRP (University Collaborative Research Program)

Dr. Debbie Kelly's research project entitled "Age-related changes in avian spatial cognition" has been approved for (\$9,978.00) from the UGRP (University Research Grants Program).

Congrats on the successful funding!

RECENT PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE

The January 11th 2022 Café Scientifique titled, "The Canadian Reconciliation Barometer", was moderated by Psychology graduate students **Iloradanon Efimoff, & Aleah Fontaine**, and included panelists Ry Moran, Dr. Lorena Sekwan Fontaine, & **Dr. Katherine Starzyk**. You can watch [here](#).

Dr. Jim Hare, **Dr. Randy Jamieson, & Dr. Debbie Kelly** served as panelists in one of the 2021/22 Café Scientifique series, a panel on animal cognition, on March 16th 2022. You can watch the panel, titled "What is that little bird telling you?" [here](#).

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION ON GERONTOLOGY WEBINAR SERIES

Dr. Judy Chipperfield gave a talk titled, "Adapting to the Challenges in Later Life: The Role of Mindsets", in April of 2022 as an invited webinar speaker as the winner of the CAG Award for lifetime contributions to gerontology.

THE CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONVENTION

Dr. Ed Johnson spoke at CPA in a conversation session on June 10th 2021, titled, "Costs and benefits of clinical supervision via teleconferencing: Should we keep it after the pandemic?"

DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY'S VIRTUAL RESEARCH DAY RAPID FIRE PRESENTATIONS: APRIL 21st 2022

Jona Frohlich (UM Psychology MA student): "Overview and Main Findings from the Take Care of Me Intervention"

Bam-Bam Anderson (UM Psychology BA Hons. student): "Attachment Style and Its Associations with Perinatal Anxiety Symptoms and Treatment Outcomes"

Michelle Ward (UM Psychology MA student): "Like Mother, Like Son: A Similarity-Fit Perspective on Motherhood and the Broader Autism Phenotype"

MANITOBA PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (MPS) FEBRUARY 2022 VIRTUAL EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS FOR PSYCHOLOGY MONTH

"Understanding & Managing Anxiety in the Pregnancy and Postpartum Periods", **Dr. Kristin Reynolds & Sarah Petty**, Monday, February 7th 2022.

"Caring for Individuals with Mild Cognitive Impairment: Impacts on Caregiver Identity, Mental Health and Supports", **Dr. Lesley Koven & Brooke Beatie**, Tuesday, February 15th 2022.

"Quality time over time out: Reducing your child's tantrums through connection", **Dr. Jen Theule, Michelle Ward & Brenna Henrickson**, Friday, February 18th 2022.

"Parenting During the Pandemic: Supporting Families of Young Children through Innovations in eHealth Technology", **Lindsay Berard, Bailin Xie, & Dr. Leslie E. Roos**, Friday February 18th 2022.

THE UM CENTER FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH AND POLICY: SOCIAL SCIENCE SPEAKERS SERIES

Dr. Katherine Starzyk, Iloradanon Efimoff, and Aleah Fontaine: Monday February 28th, The Canadian Reconciliation Barometer: 2021 Report Highlights. You can watch [here](#).

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Ed Johnson gave an **invited workshop presentation**, "Enhancing supervision", on June 14th 2021 to the University of Manitoba Clinical Health Psychology Department's Training Committee.

Dr. Sunmee Kim was Invited as a guest speaker for... The special session about cross-disciplinary applications of machine learning at the Korea University BK21 FOUR Conference in Statistical Learning and Data Science in Seoul, South Korea, May 21-22, 2022.

The Overview Talk session at the Inaugural CANSSI Prairies Summit Event, hosted by The University of Manitoba Faculty of Science and the Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute (CANSSI), May 24-25, 2022. & The Joint Webinar for Women Scientists and Engineers, organized by the Association of Korean Woman Scientists and Engineers, June 21, 2022.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

Murphy, D., Chipperfield, J. G., Chuchmach, L. P., Perry, R. P., Parker, P. C., & Hamm, J. M. (2021, November). *Pilot test of the viability and impact of an intervention to improve casual thinking and foster quality of life among older adults*. [Paper presentation]. Centre on Aging STAR Student Presentations, Winnipeg, Manitoba (virtual format).

Murphy, D., Chipperfield, J. G., Chuchmach, L. P., Perry, R. P., Parker, P. C., Hamm, J. M., & Dryden, R. (2022, May). *Pilot test of the viability of an intervention to improve the causal thinking and foster quality of life among older adults*. [Paper presentation]. Centre on Aging Spring Research Symposium. Winnipeg, Manitoba (virtual format).

Brais, N., Setlack, J., Keough, M., & Johnson, E. (2021, June 16). *Perceived Social Support: A Protective Factor against Workplace Violence and Psychopathologies in Paramedics and Firefighters*. [Paper presentation]. The Symposium on Occupational trauma and mental health: A focus on resilience and service utilization

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS



Brooke Beatie was awarded the **Spring 2022 convocation Governor General Gold Medal** for outstanding achievement at the PhD level. Congratulations on your impressive achievement Brooke! You can read more in [UMToday Alumni](#).

Caitlin Blaney was selected to receive the 2020-21 **John R. Walker Clinical Research Award**, awarded yearly to a graduate student in the Clinical Psychology Training Program on the basis of scholarly and scientific achievements.



Robert Dryden has been selected as the 2022 recipient of the **Vineberg award**. We look forward to his talk at the next Vineberg Colloquium as part of the Graduate Research Conference.

Ian Gonzales was recently selected as the recipient of the 2022 CCDP (Council of Canadian Departments of Psychology) TA Award for an outstanding graduate student teaching assistant in the UM Psychology Department.



Ryan Langridge was recently selected to receive the 2021-2022 **Psychology Graduate Student STAR Award** for outstanding achievement in research, teaching, & service.

Karli Rapinda was selected to receive the **2020-2021 Marion and Morgan Wright Award**, awarded each year to a qualified PhD student in the midst of completing their degree in Clinical Psychology.



Aurora Robert has been awarded a bursary from Indspire's Building Brighter Futures: Bursaries, Scholarships, and Awards program. Congratulations Aurora!

Erin White was recently announced as a **2021 UM Emerging Leader**, recognizing her for her outstanding contributions made to enhance both institution and community. Congrats Erin!



Multiple Psychology graduate students have been selected to receive a **Faculty of Graduate Studies Research Completion Scholarships**, offered to meritorious graduate students, working on their thesis, who demonstrate significant academic achievement, research ability, and scholarly potential. Congrats to **Lindsay Berard, Laura Ceccarelli, Stephanie Dudok, Iloradanon Efimoff, Aleah Fontaine, Corey Petsnik, Shayna Pierce, Rachel Roy, Aneet Saran, Kaeley Simpson, and Jordana Sommer**.

A number of Psychology graduate students have been granted a **Faculty of Arts Student Conference Travel Award**. Congrats to **Mercedes Casar, Robert Dryden, Ian Gonzales, Katharine Kalinowski, Justine MacLean Legge, Meghan Mollons, Lily Pankratz, Lara Penner-Goeke, Samantha Pierce, Kaeley Simpson, Alanna Single, & Shaelyn Stienwandt**.

In addition to those students receiving Faculty or Arts Student Conference travel Awards, several Psychology graduate students have received funding from **Faculty of Arts Endowment Funds** for expenses related to presenting at conferences or expenses related to their research. Congrats to **Sophie Hanson, Jessa Hogarth, Iloradanon Efimoff, Aleah Fontaine, Erin White, Samantha Pierce, & Shayna Pierce**.

2022 Graduate Psychology Research Conference

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Caitlin Blaney
2021 Vineberg Award Recipient

Keynote address: Incidence and temporal trends of co-occurring personality disorder diagnoses in immune-mediated inflammatory diseases.

Poster Award: Scarlett Horner (Adv. Dr. Steven Greening)
Emotion Regulation Choice in Ambivalent Images

Shaelyn Stienwandt (Adv. Dr. Leslie Roos)
Video-Coded Maternal Behaviours and Stress Reactivity in Preschoolers of Mothers with Depression

**Voted tied for best poster by the
2021-2022 4520 A01 honours class!**

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

Cynthia Côté was recently selected as a recipient for the NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA). Cynthia will be working with Dr. Ryan Giuliano in his research lab this summer. Congrats Cynthia!



Cynthia Côté



Danial Peirson



Diana Prince

Danial Peirson and **Diana Prince** were recently announced as 2021 **UM Emerging Leaders**, recognizing their outstanding contributions made to enhance both institution and community. Congrats Danial and Diana!

Sydney Levasseur-Puhach (not pictured) was recently announced as an Indigenous Student Trailblazer Award winner. Sydney, a June BA Honours Psychology graduate and upcoming Psychology MA student, was recently profiled in UMToday News after her impressive undergraduate career. You can read more re. Sydney's research [here](#), or [watch](#) Sydney's message of congratulations to fellow graduating students.



Kristin Smith

Kristin Smith, a dual Psychology, Religion major was recently announced as the winner of **Jean and Joseph McCombe Memorial Prize** for highest cumulative grade point average in the BA Gen. program. Kristin was also selected, by the Faculty of Arts Teaching Excellence Committee, as one of the outstanding graduating students, to present at this year's Students' Teacher Recognition Reception event on May 5th 2022. You can view Kristin's speech [here](#).

An impressive three Psychology undergraduate students were awarded **convocation medals** in the 2022 convocation. **Delaney Fehr** was awarded the **Faculty of Arts Medal** for the highest standing in the Bachelor of Arts, General Program as part of the Spring 2022 convocation. The **Faculty of Arts Medal** was awarded to **Taleah Taves** for the highest standing in the Bachelor of Arts, Advanced Program as part of the Spring 2022 convocation. And lastly **Karlynne Sagert** was awarded a **University Gold Medal** as the undergraduate student in the Faculty of Arts with the highest standing. Karlynne graduated with a B.A. General, Psychology Major. Congrats to all three students on their impressive achievements!



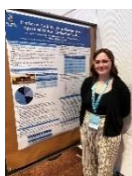
Taleah Taves



Delaney Fehr

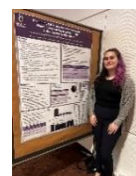


Karlynne Sagert



Jordan Cortvriendt

Psychology undergrad honours students, **Jordan Cortvriendt** and **Dominique Vinet**, were awarded travel funding from the **Faculty of Arts Endowment Funds**, to present at the 2022 International Association of Forensic Mental Health Services Conference in Berlin, Germany. At the conference Jordan Cortvriendt (Adv. Alicia Nijdam-Jones) was awarded Best Poster and Dominique Vinet (Adv. Alicia Nijdam-Jones) was announced as the runner-up.



Dominique Vinet

Congratulations to the **2021-2022 Spring PURE Award** (Psychology Undergraduate Research Experience) recipients!

Cynthia Cote (with Dr. Ryan Giuliano)
Ryan Ferstl (with Dr. Steven Greening)
Gillian Foster (with Dr. Johnson Li)
Rohit Gupta (with Dr. Ryan Giuliano)

Matthew McConnell (with Dr. Debbie Kelly)
Meisha Monsigneur (with Dr. Richard Kruk)
Larissa Ngara (with Dr. Danielle Gaucher)

Congratulations to the Psychology Undergraduate student winners in the **2021 Undergraduate Research Poster Competition Social Sciences and Humanities Category**. **Madeline Belows** (Adv. Leslie E. Roos) won **first place** for her poster titled "How families are coping with COVID-19: A qualitative analysis of differential family experiences based on maternal depression symptomology". You can view Madeline's poster/presentation [here](#). **Larissa Ngara** (Adv. Danielle Gaucher) and **Taryn Gaulke** (Adv. Jennifer Theule) tied for **second place**. Larissa's poster/presentation was titled "The Presence of Gendered Wording within a Novel Sample of Job Ads from India, Nigeria, New Zealand, and Rwanda" and can be viewed [here](#). Taryn's poster/presentation was titled "The Association Between Marital Satisfaction and Coparenting Quality: A Meta-Analysis" and can be viewed [here](#). A UMToday News article re. the Arts winners of the competition can be read [here](#).

PSYC 4520 HONOURS CLASS AWARDS

2021/22 Awards - PSYC 4520, Honours Research Seminar

As Course Coordinators for the Honours thesis course, we want to congratulate all of the students in this year's class. The quality of the final papers and talks was very high, and all of the students should be very proud of their accomplishments. Each year we present a number of awards, and at this time it is our pleasure to announce this year's winners...

The Ten Have Award

The Ten Have Award is awarded annually to the student whose thesis was judged to be the most outstanding that academic year. It is given in memory of Bill Ten Have, Ph.D., a former graduate student and lecturer in the Department of Psychology, who died prematurely in an automobile accident. The winner of this award is decided based on the originality of the research, the quality of the data analysis, the insightfulness of the interpretation of the results, the quality of the written thesis, and the student's independence conducting the research. Please join us in congratulating this year's Ten Have Award winner:

Dallas Murphy (Advisor: Dr. Corey Mackenzie)

Experiential Avoidance Moderates the Internalized Stigma Model of Help-Seeking in Older Adults

CPA Certificate of Academic Excellence

Every April, the CPA asks each Canadian Psychology Department to name the best undergraduate, masters, and doctoral theses that were completed in that academic year. The list of recipients is published in the Psychology Department newsletter and on the CPA website. Trying to decide who should be given these awards is always very difficult because so many of our students produce excellent theses. This year, the undergraduate CPA awards are awarded to:

Andrew Lyons (Advisor: Dr. Steve Greening)

Suffering More in Imagination Than in Reality: Mental Imagery and Fear Generalization

Dallas Murphy (Advisor: Dr. Corey Mackenzie)

Experiential Avoidance Moderates the Internalized Stigma Model of Help-Seeking in Older Adults

Danial Peirson (Advisor: Dr. Ryan Giuliano)

Effects of Children's Mental Health on Acute Stress Reactivity in the Home

Award of Excellence in Public Speaking

We are also pleased to recognize the following two students, who were judged to have given the most outstanding final oral presentations this academic year.

Section A01:

Jack Lötscher

(Advisor: Dr. Ben Schellenberg)

Burnout in Coaches: Links to Harmonious and Obsessive Passion

Section A02:

Sydney Levasseur-Puhach

(Advisors: Dr. Dr. Leslie Roos & Sandra Hunter)

Rethinking Indigenous Youth Wellness Assessments: A Decolonized Approach to Development and Piloting

Congratulations!

- Jessica Cameron and Lorna Jakobson, Course Coordinators

***You can view a selection of the 2021-2022 PSYC 4520 Honours Class abstracts at the end of Head's Up! (Starting on pg. 14)**

DEFENSES & PROPOSALS

Matthew Cook, Doctoral Dissertation Final Oral Defence

Monday, June 20th 2022, 1:00pm, P412 Duff Roblin & via Zoom

Title: Computational History: Using Semantic Models to Measure Changes in Attitudes, Values, and Beliefs from Language

Dominique Ruest, Master's Thesis Oral Proposal

Wednesday, June 22nd 2022, 1:00pm, via Zoom

Title: The impact of cross-language activation on reading development in bilingual children

Sara Montazeri, Doctoral Dissertation Oral Proposal

Wednesday, June 15th 2022, 1:00pm, via Zoom

Title: Infant-directed Speech in 6- and 12-month-old Iranian, Persian-learning Infants

Jona Frohlich, Doctoral Dissertation Final Oral Defence

Monday, June 6th 2022, 1:00pm, via Zoom

Title: Take Care of Me: Findings from a Randomized Controlled Trial Testing a Novel Online Integrated Intervention for Young Adults with Alcohol Misuse-Emotion Comorbidities

Lara Penner-Goeke, Master's Thesis Oral Proposal

Monday, May 30th 2022, 10:00am, via Zoom

Title: The Impact of Undiagnosed ADHD on Child Symptoms and Family Outcomes

Emily Hogan, Master's Thesis Oral Proposal

Friday, May 20th 2022, 2:00pm, via Zoom

Title: The Role of Paternal Depression Symptoms on the Association Between Social Support and Family Factors: A Moderated Mediation Model

Samantha Pierce, Master's Thesis Oral Proposal

Friday, May 20th 2022, 10:00am, via Zoom

Title: Sooner or Later: How the First-Letter Advantage Develops and Why it's Important

Kennedy Link, Master's Thesis Oral Proposal

Tuesday, May 3rd 2022, 10:00am, via Zoom

Title: The Impact of Social Support on Couples Who Have Experienced Intimate Partner Violence

Megan Gornik, Master's Thesis Final Oral Defence

Friday, April 29th 2022, 10:00am, via Zoom

Title: Impact of Maternal Mental Health on Preschooler Emotional Development and Communication

Lily Pankratz, Master's Thesis Oral Proposal

Wednesday, April 27th 2022, 10:00am, via Zoom

Title: An Examination of Changes in Stress During the COVID-19 Pandemic in A Canadian Sample

Li-elle Rapaport, Master's Thesis Oral Proposal

Tuesday, April 26th 2022, 10:00am, via Zoom

Title: Family Involvement with Patient Mental Health Treatment Engagement in Late Life

Sharon Chou, Doctoral Dissertation Oral Proposal

Friday, April 22nd 2022, 10:30am, via Zoom

Title: A Pilot Evaluation of the Feasibility, Acceptability, and Effectiveness of a Patient-Informed Psychological Treatment for Trauma-Related Symptoms in Perinatal Women with Interpersonal Trauma Histories

Ryan Langridge, Doctoral Dissertation Final Oral Defence

Tuesday, April 5th 2022, 9:00am, via Zoom

Title: An Investigation of Visually Guided Interaction with 2-Dimensional Stimuli

Dylan Davidson, Doctoral Dissertation Oral Proposal

Friday, March 25th 2022, 9:00am, via Zoom

Title: Mental Health Literacy and Information Needs Among Canadian Newcomer Parents

Katharine Kalinowski, Master's Thesis Oral Defence

Thursday, March 24th 2022, 2:00pm, via Zoom

Title: The Role of Staff when Prompting and Reinforcing Social Connection Behaviours of Persons with Disabilities

Ian Gonzales, Master's Thesis Oral Proposal

Thursday, March 10th 2022, 12:00pm, via Zoom

Title: Control-Value Theory of Academic Emotions, Math Achievement, and Immigration Status

Alexis Koffman, Master's Thesis Oral Proposal

Monday, February 28th 2022, 10:00am, via Zoom

Title: Does Neural Oscillatory Coupling During Morphological Processing Differentiate Children with and without Reading Difficulties?

Nicole Del Rosario, PhD Dissertation Oral Proposal

Monday, February 14th 2022, 9:00am, via Zoom

Title: Developing an Intervention for Older Adults to Improve Engagement in Specialty Mental Health Services

Michelle Ward, Doctoral Dissertation Final Oral Defence

Friday, February 11th 2022, 1:00pm, via Zoom

Title: Like Mother, Like Son: A Similarity-Fit Perspective on Motherhood and the Broader Autism Phenotype

Melissa Krook, Master's Thesis Oral Defence

Tuesday, February 8th 2022, 12:30pm, via Zoom

Title: The Combined Effects of Loneliness and Social Isolation on Mental Health in a National Sample of Older Adults

Sophie Robitaille, Doctoral Oral Proposal

Monday, February 7th 2022, 9:00am, via Zoom

Title: Does Feedback Improve Nurses' Feedback Provision and Promote Infection-Prevention and Control Practices?

Nicolas Brais, Doctoral Dissertation Oral Proposal

Thursday, January 27th 2022, 11:30am, via Zoom

Title: The Effects of Self-Compassion on Exposures to Social Stressors Among Individuals with Social Anxiety

Mercedes Casar, Master's Thesis Oral Defence

Tuesday, January 18th 2022, 9:30am, via Zoom

Title: Impact of Maternal Smartphone Use on Language Output

Reba Krahn, Master's Thesis Oral Proposal

Tuesday, January 11th 2022, 11:00am, via Zoom

Title: The Role of Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor and Glucocorticoid Receptors on Brain Plasticity Following (2R,6R) HNK

Irlanda Gomez, Master's Thesis Oral Proposal

Friday, January 7th 2022, 12:00pm, via Zoom

Title: Examining the Characteristics of Depressed Mothers' Speech Toward Their Preschool Children

RECENT PUBLICATIONS!

- Afifi, T. O., Bolton, S., Mota, N., Marrie, R. A., Stein, M. B., Enns, M. W., El-Gabalawy, R., Bernstein, C. N., Mackenzie, C. S., VanTil, L., MacLean, M.B., Wang, J. L., Patten, Asmundson, G., S., Sareen, J (2021). Rationale and methodology of the 2018 Canadian Armed Forces and Veterans Mental Health 16-year Follow-Up Survey (CAFVMHS). *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*. 66(11), 942-950. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0706743720974837>
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POSTER PRESENTATIONS:

- Langridge, R. W. & Marotta, J. J. (2022). *The Ebbinghaus illusion influences cursor movement but not final accuracy or movement time in a point-and-click task* [Poster presentation]. Vision Sciences Society.
- Saran, A. K., & Marotta, J. J. (2022). *Does aging affect our ability to mentally simulate hand movements?* [Poster presentation]. Rotman Research Institute Virtual Conference.
- Saran, A. K., & Marotta, J. J. (2022). *Is our ability to mentally simulate hand movements affected by aging?* [Poster presentation]. Centre on Aging 39th Annual Spring Research Symposium, 12.
- Saran, A. K. & Marotta, J. J. (2022). *The effects of implicit motor imagery using the Hand Laterality Judgement Task* [Poster presentation]. Vision Sciences Society.

If you have any updates, news, presentations, or publications that you would like included in the next newsletter, please send them to Jamie McMillan at Jamie.McMillan@umanitoba.ca

***2021-22 HONOURS THESIS ABSTRACTS**

Attachment Style and its Association with Perinatal Anxiety Symptoms and Treatment Outcomes

Bam-Bam Anderson (Advisor: Dr. G. Alcolado)

Perinatal anxiety and an anxious-attachment style in the mother have each been linked with various negative outcomes for both mothers and their infants. The present research looked at the associations between an anxious attachment style, stress, mother–infant bonding, and perinatal anxiety symptoms in a sample of 35 women. It also examined the power of an anxious attachment style to predict cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) outcomes. A larger study provided mothers suffering from perinatal anxiety with group CBT and this research took data from the mothers at pretreatment and again at posttreatment. Through various self-report measures, correlation analyses determined, as predicted, that there was a positive association between an anxious-attachment style, and both stress ($r = .34$) and perinatal anxiety symptomology ($r = .37$). Contrary to hypotheses, there was no association between an anxious attachment style and mother–infant bonding. Regression analyses revealed a trend effect of an anxious attachment style on the treatment outcomes of the women involved in the study ($p = .082$) showing that an anxious attachment style may lead to poorer outcomes posttreatment. These findings having important implications for the assessment and treatment of anxious attachment style in women during the perinatal period.

Imagined Distraction: Investigating Mental Imagery's Role in Attentional Distraction and Emotion Regulation

McKenzie Andries (Advisor: Dr. S. Greening)

Attentional distraction, or the diversion of attention away from an emotionally salient stimulus to a neutral distractor, is a common strategy of emotion regulation. While most research has focused on percept-based distraction, recent findings have suggested the efficacy of mental imagery-based distraction in the attenuation of a fear response. To expand these findings, the current investigation used a differential fear conditioning paradigm to evaluate external, percept-based, and internal, imagery-based distraction as emotion regulation strategies. Specifically, it was hypothesized that both internal and external distraction would attenuate one's self-reported fear. Additionally, it was further proposed that either: (a) external distraction would regulate fear more effectively, or that (b) imagery-based distraction would prove equally effective but require a greater amount of cognitive exertion. Ultimately, the present study failed to robustly support attentional distraction as an effective strategy in emotion regulation ($n = 19$, $p = .182$). Additionally, while it required significantly greater cognitive exertion to distract from a threatening versus a neutral stimulus ($n = 18$, $p = .005$), no differences were found in the exertion required to execute percept- and imagery-based distraction ($n = 18$, $p = .125$). Taken together, these findings are consistent with previous research highlighting how emotionally salient stimuli may bias attention. Additionally, my findings inform the set of conditions under which distraction may be ineffective, and when other strategies of emotion regulation may best be used.

Double Minority Stress: LGBTQ2+ Mental Health in a Francophone Linguistic Minority Context

Mélanie Chaput (Advisor: Dr. D. de Moissac)

Recently, there has been a growing interest in the mental health of sexual minority individuals. Current research shows that in comparison to heterosexual individuals, sexual minorities are at greater risk of psychological distress and report a lower mental health status. For those who identify as a double minority, these effects are amplified. The purpose of this study was to explore the mental health status of sexual minorities in a Francophone linguistic minority context while applying Meyer's minority stress theory. Secondary analysis was performed on data previously collected in 2020. Participants were recruited from the University of St-Boniface in Manitoba and attended either an individual or a group interview. They were invited to share their experiences as a sexual minority in the Francophone community and how this impacted their sense of belonging on campus. Deductive content analysis was used to identify themes. Additional stressors related to minority stress were experienced by the participants of this study, which influenced both their mental health and their sense of belonging. Of notable significance, students expressed lack of support from the administration and their families, as well as few resources in French. These findings show the importance of educating institutions and families about how to better support sexual minorities, and of developing more resources in French, as there is a clear paucity and need among this population.

How Children's Literature Can Perpetuate Traditional Gender Roles

Allie Conway (Advisor: Dr. D. Gaucher)

Gender roles in literature impacts gender identity, gender role diversity, and furthers gender inequality. How does children's literature perpetuate traditional gender roles and norms? To evaluate this, in an online experiment involving 188 university students, participants responded to initial opinions about sex-role preferences and were randomly assigned to read either a group of egalitarian or non-egalitarian books. The current study reasoned non-egalitarian condition readers will endorse stronger traditional gender norms compared to readers in the egalitarian condition and women will hold more progressive views than men. Participants completed a questionnaire assessing an individual's agreement about belongingness and gender attitudes. Results supported non-egalitarian literature impacts social interactions, belongingness, and educational role opportunities. Furthermore, findings supported women holding more progressive opinions than men. In conclusion, the perpetuation of traditional gender roles in children's literature can set the foundation of gendered behaviour.

Predictive Validity of the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide—Revised in Mexico

Jordan Cortvriendt (Advisor: Dr. A. Nijdam-Jones)

Currently, there is limited research using the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide—Revised (VRAG-R; Rice et al., 2013) in Latin American countries. Since the VRAG-R was developed in Canada and no culturally adapted version of the measure exists, the original Canadian norms must be used when assessing culturally diverse adults. The goal of the present study was to examine the predictive validity of the VRAG-R in a sample of 114 adult men incarcerated in Mexico City. The VRAG-R was coded using data from participant interviews and record reviews. Violent incidents, defined as severe verbal and physical aggression, were recorded for three months to assess the predictive validity of the VRAG-R. An Area Under the Curve (AUC) value of .72 was obtained, indicating that the VRAG-R is highly predictive of institutional violence when used with a culturally diverse sample. Future research and clinical implications are discussed.

A Comparison of Self-Compassion and Consumer Spending Decisions

Remy Desloges (Advisor: Dr. D. Bailis)

The research exploring self-compassion as a predictor variable for behavioural outcomes is understated. Self-compassion research has primarily focused on well-being and its associations with physical and mental health. The goal of this study was to explore additional aspects of self-compassion and examine its relationship with consumer spending decisions. This was done by testing the hypothesis that higher self-compassion is associated with less consumer spending and that this is especially true for those who are higher in materialistic values. A total of 906 participants were recruited through Prolific Academic (<https://prolific.co>) to participate in a confidential single-administration survey. The survey described various hypothetical spending tasks and asked several personality and demographic questions. A correlational and regression analysis was used to examine and interpret the anonymized data scores. The results from this research show that self-compassion can predict consumer spending and that there is a significant interaction between self-compassion and materialistic values. This provides insight into potential psychological motivations for spending decisions and could benefit individuals who have trouble controlling their spending.

Does Self-Observation Increase the Liking Gap and Signal Amplification in Online Interaction?

Kevin Edbert (Advisor: Dr. J. Vorauer)

The present research examined whether self-observation instantiated via the self-view function on online communication platforms increased two different egocentric biases, namely the liking gap and signal amplification bias. The liking gap is a bias whereby individuals underestimate their interaction partner's liking for them. Signal amplification bias occurs when individuals overestimate the interest they communicated to an interaction partner. Participants were randomly assigned to the role of actor or target. Actors either had their self-view turned on or off during a 10-minute online interaction via Zoom; targets always had their self-view turned off. Participants' liking for each other and perceptions of the liking they communicated were assessed so that the degree of liking gap and signal amplification can be determined. Analyses revealed that self-observation did not affect the liking gap, but did increase signal amplification as predicted.

Efficacy of Revised Online Chronic Pain Treatment for Military, RCMP, and Veterans

Juanita Garcia (Advisor: Dr. P. Holens)

Chronic pain affects military and veterans at higher rates than the general population. Several pharmacological and psychotherapeutic treatments exist to manage chronic pain. Behavioural therapy is one popular and effective psychotherapy benefiting those with this condition. A revised version of an online acceptance-based behavioural therapy for chronic pain was created based on feedback from participants of a previous version of the therapy. This study aimed to examine the efficacy of this online therapy. The sample ($n = 8$) was composed of veteran members of the Canadian Armed Forces, 50% female, over 18 years of age and waiting for chronic pain treatment at the Winnipeg OSI clinic. This study was a repeated-measures design where each individual served as their own control to evaluate the efficacy of the intervention. Participants completed five questionnaires about their perception of pain level and pain-related concerns before and after completing the treatment. The treatment was efficacious in decreasing pain symptoms, pain-related disability, and fear of movement (i.e., medium effect sizes) and pain-related catastrophic thinking (i.e., small effect size). Additionally, the therapy increased participants' acceptance of their pain condition with a medium effect size. However, none of the results were statistically significant. The main limitation of this study is the small sample size, which is planned to be addressed in future studies. This treatment will help improve social functioning along with physical and psychological health in those suffering from chronic pain in the military, veteran, and RCMP populations.

Family Experiences with Elopement Among Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Jenna Heschuk (Advisors: Drs. T. Martin & K. Walters)

Elopement is a common challenging behaviour exhibited by children with autism spectrum disorder and can have fatal outcomes. Elopement occurs when a dependent individual leaves a supervised, safe space and potentially leads to tragic outcomes such as traffic injury or drowning. Previous research has shown that elopement is very stressful for families of children with autism spectrum disorder, yet many parents indicate they have not received guidance on elopement from personal or professional supports. To understand families' experiences with elopement, including severity, family impact, and intervention strategies, I administered an online survey to parents of 2–12 year old children with autism spectrum disorder who have eloped before. Thirty-seven participants completed the survey. When elopement was at its worst, four in five families experienced their child attempting to elope at least one a week. Sixty-eight percent of children had at least one close call with traffic injury due to elopement and 21% had at least one close call with drowning. Further, 51% and 65% of parents were at least moderately worried that their child will elope from their home or a public place, respectively. Elopement prevents parents from engaging in many everyday activities such as attending and enjoying activities in public. Despite the high family impact and dangers elopement presents, many families are not receiving supports or services for their child's elopement. These findings highlight the stressors that families of children who elope face, and may be used to help inform how parents may be better supported.

Medication Compliance Amongst Post-Secondary Students in Canada

Karen Holmes (Advisor: Dr. J. Protudjer)

The purpose of this study was to examine possible differences in medication compliance and insurance coverage between students who moved away from home to attend post-secondary education and students who lived at home during their post-secondary education. Post-secondary students were invited to complete an online survey. Upon completion of a consent disclosure statement, students were asked questions regarding medication compliance and availability of insurance coverage to pay for their medications. Students who participated in the study were asked to report how much they paid monthly for prescribed medication, as well as the perceived ability to absorb these costs. Based on participant responses, we identified no association between place of residence and medication compliance. Compared to participants who did not move away from their family home for post-secondary education, those who did move away from their family home had similar odds of medication compliance (OR 1.95; 95% CI [0.47, 7.32]; $p = 0.363$). The majority of participants (33/43; 76.7%) responded that they always took their medication as prescribed. The majority of participants (37; 86.0%) reported they did not have insurance coverage for their medication costs; only 6 (14.0%) had insurance coverage. Students who moved away from home for their post-secondary education had similar odds to have insurance to cover their medication costs as those who remained living at home (OR 0.984; 95% CIs [0.192, 5.039]; $p = 0.985$). In conclusion, place of residence during post-secondary education was not associated with medication compliance or insurance coverage.

Rethinking Indigenous Youth Wellness Assessments: A Decolonized Approach to Development and Piloting

Sydney Levasseur-Puhach (Advisors: Dr. L. Roos & S. Hunter)

Challenges exist working within colonial systems that have structural gaps to addressing Indigenous child and family needs. One such gap is the lack of culturally aligned measurements of wellness appropriate for Indigenous children and youth. A team of Indigenous researchers led the development and piloting of such a measure through an Indigenous Council. Youth participants were involved in a pilot study for an initial trial of the culturally safe, community developed assessment entitled the Maaminosewin Wellness Reflection. Youth engaged with a series of wellness assessments including the Maaminosewin Wellness Reflection, and qualitative interview questions regarding their perception of the assessments. We used both quantitative and qualitative analyses to gauge the reception of the Maaminosewin Wellness Reflection and its appropriateness in this demographic. Results found support for our measure among Indigenous youth and evidence of associations between discrimination experiences and family resource adequacy on wellness scores across assessment type. This work represents the culmination of an Indigenous-led multi-collaborator process to understand Indigenous youth wellness. We expect this to provide Indigenous-serving agencies and organizations with a culturally safe method of inquiry into wellbeing for clients and participants they are seeking to support.

Burnout in Coaches: Links to Harmonious and Obsessive Passion

Jack Lötscher (Advisor: Dr. B Schellenberg)

Coaches are passionate people – they find their activity important and have strong inclinations toward their activity of choice. The current research tested if levels of harmonious or obsessive passion were associated with levels of burnout in a coaching population. Using a correlational quantitative design, an online survey was administered to coaches with items from the Passion Scale and the Athlete Burnout Questionnaire that has been adapted for coaches. I hypothesized that higher levels of harmonious passion would be linked with lower levels of burnout. I found that higher levels of harmonious passion were linked with lower levels of two of the possible three dimensions of burnout. In addition, higher levels of obsessive passion were linked with higher levels of two of three dimensions of burnout. These results contribute to passion research conducted with coaches and provide more insight toward the well-being of the coaching population.

Suffering More in Imagination Than in Reality: Mental Imagery and Fear Generalization

Andrew Lyons (Advisor: Dr. S. Greening)

Involuntary mental images are a common characteristic of several anxiety disorders. However, research exploring the interaction between mental imagery and fear is sparse. Specifically, a gap in the literature exists regarding how imagined fear generalizes. The mental imagery literature suggests that imagery may represent a weaker form of in vivo perception. To further develop this idea, a differential fear conditioning experiment using random assignment ($N = 37$) was conducted to investigate whether fear associations formed through mental imagery are prone to greater generalization, as mental images are more ambiguous than in vivo perception. Mixed analysis of variance results suggest that differential fear conditioning was achieved through mental imagery and in vivo perception. However, contrary to the primary hypothesis, there was no difference in participants' fear generalization between the imagery and visual groups. Taken together, the results suggest that fear associations created through mental imagery may be as prone to fear generalization as those created through in vivo perception. Perniciously, as mental imagery does not require the physical presence of the feared stimulus, the rumination characteristic in a variety of anxiety disorders could potentially result in maladaptive generalization.

Experiential Avoidance Moderates the Internalized Stigma Model of Help-Seeking in Older Adults

Dallas Murphy (Advisor: Dr. C. Mackenzie)

Older adults are especially unlikely to seek mental health services, and stigma has been highlighted as a key reason why. This study tested a mediation model in older adults in which public stigma is internalized as self-stigma, which negatively effects help-seeking attitudes and intentions. Second, I tested experiential avoidance as a moderator in this mediation model. I conducted a moderated mediation analysis on cross-sectional, secondary data of Canadian older adults who completed an online survey ($N = 1,830$) including measures of public stigma, self-stigma, help-seeking attitudes, help-seeking intentions, and experiential avoidance. Results supported the described mediation model and demonstrated that experiential avoidance moderated this mediation model. Higher experiential avoidance led to stronger negative effects on help-seeking intentions within the model. These results contribute to the understanding of which older adults are especially unlikely to seek help and may provide a theoretical foundation for interventions aimed at increasing their help-seeking behaviour.

Working from Home and Parent's Resilience to Acute Stress During COVID-19 Pandemic

Karen Ng (Advisor: Dr. R. Giuliano)

Considering the psychological challenges faced by working parents in recent years and the need for stress resilience, the present study took an observational approach to examine the effects of working-from-home on parents' reactivity to acute stress during the COVID-19 pandemic. Twenty parents were invited to a video session that involves an internet-delivered Trier Social Stress Test. Measurements of heart rate and perceived stress levels of participants were collected before, during and after stress manipulation. Results from independent sample t-tests demonstrated significantly higher heart rates among parents working-from-home before ($t(18) = -2.30, p = .033, d = -1.12, MD = -11.11, 95\% CI [-21.24, -.98]$) and during ($t(18) = -2.59, p = .019, d = -1.26, MD = -12.32, 95\% CI [-22.34, -2.31]$) stress manipulation than those not working-from-home but no difference in perceived stress. Findings provided novel evidence for the impact of working-from-home on parents' stress reactivity during the pandemic.

Effects of Children's Mental Health on Acute Stress Reactivity in the Home

Danial Peirson (Advisor: Dr. R. Giuliano)

Acute stress affects children physiologically and psychologically, reflected in cardiovascular, endocrine, and emotional changes. While these changes have been characterized in laboratory studies, acute stress reactivity and relationships to mental health in children in non-laboratory settings, such as the home, have been understudied. I addressed this gap by analyzing stress reactivity and psychometric data obtained from a previous study investigating the effects of maternal buffering. My analysis sought to determine whether a virtual acute stressor delivered online at home was effective in producing an acute stress response in children 36–60 months of age ($N = 145$). I also investigated whether child mental health associates with physiological and psychological acute stress reactivity, predicting that child mental health (measured using the CBCL for ages 1.5–5) would associate with autonomic nervous system (ANS), hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenocortical (HPA) axis, and perceived stress reactivity measures. Repeated-measures analysis of variance (RM-ANOVA) tests indicated that the virtual acute stressor was efficacious in inducing HPA axis and perceived acute stress reactivity in young children at home. Pearson correlations showed an association between ANS reactivity and child mental health in children with clinically relevant CBCL scores but not in children endorsing subclinical CBCL scores. HPA axis and perceived acute stress reactivity did not associate with child mental health in Pearson correlations. These results validate the effectiveness of a virtual acute stressor in young children in the home and provide insight into how acute stress manifests in young children at home according to mental health.

Self-Compassion and Health Promoting Behaviours Among Fathers of Young Children

Jennifer Peters (Advisors: Dr. S. Strachan & B. Semenchuk)

Self-compassion may help fathers cope with setbacks and facilitate health behaviour engagement. The purpose of the present study was to explore whether feelings of guilt and shame about taking the time to engage in health promoting behaviours explain the relationship between self-compassion and health promoting behaviour engagement among fathers of young children. The present study employed a cross-sectional, correlational design in which fathers ($N=391$) of young children self-reported measures of physical activity, diet, sleep, self-compassion, state guilt, state shame, demographics and the covariates of trait guilt and trait shame. Using Hayes PROCESS, mediation analyses were run to examine whether self-compassion influences health promoting behaviour through its relationship with guilt and shame. Results suggest that state guilt and shame mediated the association between self-compassion and physical activity as well as sleep. The findings add to self-compassion research which may help individuals cope with self-conscious emotions and prioritize their health.

Longitudinal Associations Between Cognitive Decline and Depression: An Intersectionality Approach to Ageing

Trung (Evan) Pham (Advisor: Dr. S. Kim)

Longitudinal studies examining the pattern of the normal cognitive ageing process are important to analyze the risk factor for mild cognitive impairment (MCI), which is the early stage of Alzheimer's disease. Late-life depression (LLD) is considered a risk factor for increased risk of MCI. However, there is a gap in research that examines the intersectionality of such association across subgroups with varying social stigma statuses. In this study, the participants of 11344 elderly adults over 50 in the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) were assessed across 14 years (i.e., seven-time points) to examine the heterogeneity of the association between late-life depression and cognitive ageing trajectories in older adults across intersectional sub-groups. A piecewise parallel latent growth curve model (LGCM) indicated a significant non-linear trajectory of cognitive decline with one turning point after eight years since the baseline, while there was no consistent evidence that the trajectory of depression exists across proposed models. The baseline of depression symptoms was associated with an increase in cognitive decline every two years in the population model, but this association disappeared when adapted to each sub-population. Multiple-group models indicated that women of colour, poor people of colour (POC), and women living in poverty decline faster in cognitive performance across the two-phased ageing process than less or non-stigmatized across all intersectional sub-groups. In this study, I conclude that there is no consistent evidence that higher levels of depression predict a faster rate of cognitive decline every two years for older adults over 50 years old. However, the intersectionality effect on cognitive decline development is pronounced for disadvantaged groups with overlapped social stigmas.

Maternal Depression and Child Psychopathology During COVID-19: The Influence of Executive Function

Diana Prince (Advisors: Dr. L. Roos & K. Simpson)

Maternal depression predicts child psychopathology, and child executive function both mediates and moderates the relationship between these variables. However, it is unknown whether these relationships have been affected by the acute stress of the COVID-19 pandemic. The present study examined the relationships between maternal depression, child psychopathology, and child executive function in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. A correlational design was implemented using secondary analysis of data from 149 mother-child dyads. The variables of interest were measured using a Stroop task, the Patient Health Questionnaire-9, and the Child Behaviour Checklist. Regressions via the PROCESS package in SPSS revealed a direct effect between maternal depression and child mental illness; however, child executive function did not moderate or mediate the relationship between them. The present research adds to our current understandings of the mechanisms through which maternal depression impacts child psychopathology and will direct future research inquiries in this domain.

Neurovisceral Integration Between Resting Electroencephalogram and Autonomic Function in Adults

Thomas Rawliuk (Advisor: Dr. R. Giuliano)

Neurovisceral integration characterizes a connection between the central and the autonomic nervous system through cardiac activity. Neuro-cardiac imaging studies have captured distinct patterns of neurovisceral integration during tasks. However, resting neurovisceral integration has yet to be measured using electroencephalogram. In an exploratory analysis, 61 adults watched an ocean scenery video for five minutes while neuro-cardiac activity was measured using electrocardiogram and electroencephalogram. Using multilevel modelling, I covaried cortical and cardiac frequency fluctuations while mean arterial pressure was included as a potential moderator of neurovisceral integration. The results showed delta wave fluctuations significantly predicted changes in heart rate and variability while alpha and beta waves predicted changes in heart rate variability and pre-ejection period. Additionally, mean arterial pressure moderated the interaction between theta waves and heart rate variability while also predicting changes in pre-ejection period. The findings provide a unique insight into resting neurovisceral integration as a biomarker for cardiovascular health.

The Generalization of Fear Across Percept Modalities in a Mental Imagery Experiment

Humera Sadiq (Advisor: Dr. S. Greening)

Numerous anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorders are characterized by similar symptoms and are elicited by mental imagery of a conditioned stimulus (CS). However, little is known about the way visual imagery of CSs interacts with the acquisition of differential fear conditioning. Thus, it was considered when designing this experiment. The present study investigated whether fear acquired to a visual percept could generalize to the imagined matching percept. Differential fear conditioning was combined with manipulations of viewed and imagined precepts and self-reported fear was collected post experiment and trial-by-trial. It was observed that participants acquired differential fear conditioning to both viewed and imagined percepts and that this differential conditioning generalized across CS percept modalities, such that differential conditioning acquired to visual percepts generalized to the corresponding imagined percepts. These findings provide new insight into the mechanisms of anxiety and related disorders.

Clinical and Criminogenic Correlates and Predictors of Criminal Responsibility

Denise Sarmiento (Advisor: Dr. S. Demetriofoff)

There are gaps in research examining clinical and criminogenic correlates of being found not criminally responsible on account of a mental disorder (NCRMD) in Canada or not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI) in the United States. Past research has examined the characteristics of NCRMD-eligible individuals but has not compared differences with non-NCRMD eligible individuals. As well, there have been mixed findings on the predictors of criminal responsibility (CR). Through a retrospective chart review, the current study addressed these issues and examined the correlates and predictors of CR in Manitoba. Results showed that NCRMD individuals were more likely than non-NCRMD individuals to have a psychotic disorder, less likely to be under the influence of substances during the index offence and have less of a criminal history. Having a diagnosis of a psychotic disorder was the strongest predictor. The results of the current study can help to increase our understanding of individuals who are referred for CR assessments in Manitoba.

Parenting stress and social support and child ASD and ADHD symptomology

Cari Slayen (Advisors: Dr. J. Theule, K. Cochrane & D. Ronaghan)

Research has examined parenting stress and social support among parents of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), and typically developing (TD) children, but has yet to examine the extent to which social support may impact levels of parenting stress above and beyond child symptomology. The potential mediating role that social support may play in buffering the effects of parenting stress has yet to be investigated in such a sample. Mothers (N = 28) of children (6-12 years) completed a cross-sectional online survey exploring the role of social support as it relates to parenting stress. Results from a linear hierarchical regression and mediation analysis were non-significant, suggesting that social support does not impact parenting stress above and beyond child symptomology. The relationship between parenting child symptomology was not mediated by social support. Further research is needed to examine this relationship, given the low power in the present study.

Self-Esteem Concealment and Relationship Quality in Close Relationships**Nicole Tongol** (Advisor: Dr. J. Cameron)

People with lower self-esteem may want to conceal their low self-esteem, given the negative view most individuals have of low self-esteem at least in Western cultures. Although keeping secrets can benefit close relationships people who keep important identities hidden suffer poor outcomes. The present study determined how concealing self-esteem impacted relational well-being and whether the consequences of this concealment depended on an individual's level of self-esteem. I conducted a cross-sectional study wherein 232 participants were randomly assigned to read one of two versions of an ostensible psychology article suggesting that their self-esteem was being concealed or revealed. Participants then reported the quality of their close relationships. I hypothesized that participants with lower self-esteem who believe it is concealed will perceive their close relationships to be better than those who believe it is revealed. Overall, I found only one significant interaction between condition and self-esteem on felt understanding. Lower self-esteem participants felt less understood by their close others when it seemed like their self-esteem was concealed and even more so when it was revealed. Thus, while my results should be interpreted with caution due to my study's limitations, they might suggest that participants with lower self-esteem feel relief and understanding in their close relationships when they hide a part of themselves others might call undesirable. This may imply the need for strategies to reduce stigma regarding lower self-esteem so that people can reveal more of their authentic selves and improve the quality of close relationships.

Preschool Children's Resting Neurocardiac Covariation Independent of Cumulative Risk Exposure**Louise Torre** (Advisor: Dr. R. Giuliano)

The present study investigated whether resting measures of brain activity, namely resting electroencephalogram (EEG) measures, simultaneously covary with multiple forms of cardiac activity, displaying neurocardiac covariation. The present study also examined the effect of cumulative risk (CR) factors for stressors on children's resting neurocardiac covariation. Participants included 123 children aged 4–6 years (48–72 months) from a wide range of SES backgrounds. Stronger sympathetic-cardiac covariation was expected with exposure to CR, whereas stronger parasympathetic-cardiac covariation was expected with exposure to less or no CR. Cardiac measures of heart rate, high-frequency heart rate variability, and pre-ejection period were predicted from resting EEG power in delta, theta, alpha, and beta bandwidths using multilevel modeling, to characterize both within- and between-subject variability. Results provided support for neurocardiac covariation, varying with age, but independent of CR exposure. These findings provide an alternative perspective on the issue of early adversity.

Examining correlates between personality functioning and psychopathic traits: A Mexican Replication Study**Dominique Vinet** (Advisor: Dr. A. Nijdam-Jones)

Objective: This project replicates a 2017 study by Haneveld and colleagues with a sample of adult males incarcerated in a Mexican prison to examine the association between the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2-Restructured Form (MMPI-2-RF) and psychopathic traits, as measured through the four facets of the Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R). Method: Valid MMPI-2-RF and PCL-R data were available for 59 participants. The MMPI-2-RF higher-order and restructured clinical scales and the PCL-R total score and individual facet scores were analysed using bivariate correlation to determine the strength between the relationship. Additionally, the MMPI-2-RF scales and PCL-R scores were also analysed using a linear regression to determine the associations and impact of the MMPI-2-RF predictability concerning the PCL-R total score and individual facet scores. Conclusion: These results support the cultural validity of the Mexican MMPI-2-RF as an indicator of psychopathic traits that could inform treatment among justice-involved adults.

Assessing Associations Between Maternal Sensitivity and Maternal Mental Health Virtually During COVID-19**Kaitlin Zeiler** (Advisors: Dr. L. Roos & K. Joyce)

Maternal sensitivity is described as the quality of emotional and physical responses of mothers to their child's needs. Decreased maternal sensitivity may have lasting consequences on child health. Influencing factors related to maternal sensitivity include maternal mental health, parental and child factors, and parental social factors. Maternal mental health symptoms, parental stress, and stresses on socioeconomic status (SES) are salient modifiable risk factors which have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. Using a cross-sectional design, this study evaluated the moderating impact of SES (income and education levels) and the mediating factor of parental stress on the relationship between maternal depression and maternal sensitivity utilizing an online assessment of mother-child dyads. Maternal sensitivity inter-rater reliability scores were excellent ($r = .896$). Income level was found to moderate the association between maternal depression and maternal sensitivity. However only in those in the low-income category (vs. high) displayed a positive association between depression and maternal sensitivity. Education level did not moderate this association. Parental stress (total and subscales) did not mediate the association between depression and maternal sensitivity. There was a significant association between depression and parental stress (and subscales) in all mediation models. This study demonstrated the feasibility to conduct remote video-based assessments of maternal sensitivity during the COVID-19 pandemic. This study adds to literature regarding low-risk community samples associations between maternal depression and maternal sensitivity during COVID-19. Further studies may assess temporal relationships between these variables as well as different sources of stress and support that may affect these relationships.