

Curriculum Vitae
McAllister J. Stephens

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Psychology, University of Kentucky
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EDUCATION -----

- 2021 **M.A., Experimental Psychology**
University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
Mentor: Joshua S. Beckmann, Ph.D.
Thesis: “The effects of escalated cocaine intake on decision-making dynamics”
- 2016 **B.A., Psychology and Biology (cum laude)**
St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN

TEACHING EXPERIENCE-----

Professor of Record

- 2022- Fall **PSY450 Learning**, University of Kentucky
PSY 200 Introduction to Psychology, Eastern Kentucky University
- 2022- Summer **PSY 312 Brain and Behavior**, Online- asynchronous, University of Kentucky
- 2022- Spring **PSY 312 Brain and Behavior**, University of Kentucky
- 2021- Fall **PSY 200 Introduction to Psychology**, Eastern Kentucky University
PSY 440 Scientific Literacy in Life, Eastern Kentucky University

Teaching Assistant

- 2018- Fall **PSY 450 Learning Laboratory Section**, University of Kentucky

Guest Lecturer

- 2019- Fall **PSY 450 Conditioning and Learning**, University of Kentucky
Lectures on Basic Phenomena of Classical Conditioning
- 2021- Spring **PSY 312 Brain and Behavior**, University of Kentucky
Research in Neuroscience

Additional courses willing to teach

Addiction, Behavioral Neuroscience, Introductory and Advanced Neuroscience,
Psychopharmacology, Research Methods, Statistics, etc.

Pedagogical Developing

- 2022 **Preparing Future Faculty Program, University of Kentucky**

Part of a national initiative to provide professional development and guidance for doctoral students focused on faculty careers. Courses taken include: College Teaching Seminar, Grant Writing, Preparing Future Faculty, College Teaching and Learning, and a Psychology department seminar on teaching.

Center for Enhancement of Learning and Teaching, University of Kentucky

2023 Strategies for Cultivating Discussions and Engaging Students

2023 Setting up an Inclusive Classroom

2019 Designing Effective Research Assignments

Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning, Eastern Kentucky University

2023 Building Student's Teamwork Skills

2021 Designing Relationship-Rich General Education Courses

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE-----

2018 – **Graduate Assistant Researcher** Psychology Department, University of Kentucky

Advisor: Joshua S. Beckmann, Ph.D.

Topic: Maladaptive decision making in rat model of drug addiction

2016 -2018 **Post-baccalaureate Assistant Researcher** Psychology Department, Arizona State University

Advisor: Federico Sanabria Ph.D. and Carter Daniels (now Ph.D.)

Topics: scent discrimination in mice and probability/under-matching in rats, response topography and response inhibition capacity in mice.

2016 **Undergraduate Researcher** Psychology Department, St. Olaf College

Advisor: Shelly Dickinson, Ph.D.

Topic: Development of the Sand Maze- an appetitive motivated spatial learning maze for mice.

Research Trainees

2022 **Research Mentor for Slane Steen**, University of Kentucky
Commonwealth Undergraduate Research Experience Summer Fellowship

2018 - **Research Mentor /Supervisor for Undergraduate Research Assistants**, University of Kentucky

2017-2018 **Supervisor for Undergraduate Research Assistants**, Arizona State University

PUBLICATIONS -----

- Stephens, M.J.**, Beckmann, J.S. The primrose path: a novel paradigm to evaluate choice hysteresis. [In progress]
- Stephens, M.J.**, Beckmann, J.S. The Effects of Escalated Drug Intake on Decision-Making. [In progress]
- Stephens, M.J.**, Daniels, C.W., Romero, K., Hewitt, L.T., Nishimura, K.J., Olive, M.F., Newbern, J. and Sanabria, F. Response Topography Modulates Response-Inhibition Capacity of Mice in Two Response-Withholding Tasks. [In progress]
- Gupta, T.A., Daniels, C.W., Ortiz, J.B., **Stephens, M.J.**, Overby, P., Romero, K., Conrad, C.D., and Sanabria, F. The Differential Role of the Dorsal Hippocampus in Initiating and Terminating Timed Responses: A Lesion Study Using the Switch-Timing Task. Behavioural Brain Research. 2019.

Presentations

- 2021** **Society for Quantitative Analysis of Behavior**, virtual
Title: The effects of escalated drug intake on decision-making dynamics.
- 2019** **Society for Neuroscience**, Chicago, IL
Title: The effects of escalated cocaine intake on decision-making dynamics.
- 2017** **Society for Quantitative Analysis of Behavior**, Denver, CO
Title: Deactivation of the dorsal hippocampus impairs acquisition more than maintenance of interval timing.
- 2016** **Minnesota Undergraduate Psychology Conference**, Augsburg College,
Minneapolis, MN
Title: Development of Sand Maze Protocol for Studying Spatial Learning in Mice.

Professional Affiliations

Society for Quantitative Analyses of Behavior
Society for Neuroscience
Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience