

SOLENA DAVINE MEDNICOFF

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Psychology ◊ University of Nevada, Las Vegas

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EMPLOYMENT

University of Nevada, Las Vegas 2021 - Present
Postdoctoral Research Scholar

EDUCATION

University of California, Irvine 2021

Ph.D. in Cognitive Sciences
with an emphasis in Cognitive Neuroscience
Advisors: Dr. Charles Chubb & Dr. Greg Hickok

University of California, Irvine 2017

M.S. in Cognitive Neuroscience

University of Nevada, Reno 2015

B.S. in Neuroscience, Minor in Piano Performance
Advisor: Dr. Michael A. Webster
Thesis: Ensemble coding within and across musical instruments

PAPERS

Manuscripts

- Barashy, S., **Mednicoff, S.**, Benning, S., Snyder, J., Hannon, E. “Misophonic reactions in the general population are correlated with strong emotional reactions to other everyday sensory-emotional experiences” (Submitted Jan. 2024). *Submitted in Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B.*
- **Mednicoff, S.**, Barashy, S., Gonzales, D., Benning, S., Snyder, J., Hannon, E. “Auditory affective processing, musicality, and the development of misophonic reactions.” (2022). *Frontiers in Auditory Neuroscience.* (Accepted Sep. 9, 2022).
- **Mednicoff, S.**, Mejia, S., Rashid, J., and Chubb, C. (2018) “Many listeners cannot discriminate major or minor tone-scrambles regardless of presentation rate.” *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America.* (Accepted Sept. 10, 2018).
- **Mednicoff, S.** and Chubb, C. “Discriminating major/minor modes revisited: does training help?” (In preparation). *To be submitted in the Journal of the Acoustical Society of America.*

Conference Proceedings

- **Mednicoff, S.**, Mejia, S., Rashid, J., and Chubb, C. (2018). The effects of tone duration in discriminating major/minor modes. *Proceedings for the 15th International Conference for Music Perception and Cognition*, Montreal, Quebec, CA, July 23-28, 2018.

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Graduate Student Research Fellowship 2019 - 2021

UC Irvine, Graduate Division

Associate Dean Fellowship Fall 2018

UC Irvine, School of Social Sciences

Graduate Student Travel Award May 2018

UC Irvine, School of Social Sciences

SEMPRE Student Travel Award April 2018

International Conference for Music Perception & Cognition

Center for Hearing Research Project Funding October 2017

UC Irvine, Center for Hearing Research NIH Sponsored fMRI Training Program University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	<i>August 2017</i>
Rapid Grant Award UC Music Experience Research Community Initiative	<i>Fall 2016</i>
T32 NIH-NRSA Predoctoral Training Fellowship UC Irvine, Center for Hearing Research	<i>2016 - 2018</i>
1st Place Poster Award 2015 Winner Western Regional Honors Conference	<i>April 2015</i>
Honors Undergraduate Research Award University of Nevada, Reno	<i>October 2014</i>
First Place Poster Psi Chi Research Fair University of Nevada, Reno	<i>May 2014</i>
Millenium Scholarship University of Nevada, Reno	<i>2011 - 2015</i>
Barringere Scholarship for music performance University of Nevada, Reno	<i>2011 - 2015</i>
Albert, Henry, & Edith Scholarship University of Nevada, Reno	<i>2011 - 2013</i>

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

- **Mednicoff, S.**, Berkowitz, D., Benning, S., Snyder, J., Hannon, E. (2024, February) Misophonia reactions increase during childhood and are associated with musicality and other auditory affective experiences. Invited Talk at symposium Emerging Perspectives on Misophonia. Talk at the Association for Research in Otolaryngology Conference, Anaheim, California.
- **Mednicoff, S.**, Berkowitz, D., Benning, S., Snyder, J., Hannon, E. (2024, February) Misophonia reactions increase during childhood and are associated with musicality and other auditory affective experiences. Invited Talk at UCI Hearing Day 2024. Talk at the Center for Hearing Research at UC Irvine, Irvine, California.
- **Mednicoff, S.** (2022, March). Hearing things Differently: Misophonia's Relationship with Music, ASMR, and Frisson. Early Career Researcher Seminar Series, University of Reno, Nevada.
- **Mednicoff, S.** (2022, March). Hearing things Differently: Misophonia's Relationship with Music, ASMR, and Frisson. UNLV Psychology Department Proseminar Series, University of Las Vegas, Nevada.
- **Mednicoff, S.** (2016, April). Your Brain as a Musician. Speech presented at the Las Vegas Academy Piano Institute 2016 Sharing is Caring Symposium, Las Vegas, NV.

Conference Talks

- **Mednicoff, S.**, Barashy, S., Benning, S., Snyder, J., Hannon, E. (2023, September) Misophonia and High-Level Auditory and Affective Processing in Adults and Children - Update. Talk presented at the 4th Annual Misophonia Research Fund Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- **Mednicoff, S.**, Berkowitz, D., Barashy, S., Benning, S., Snyder, J., Hannon, E. (2023, August) Music training, music perceptual skills and other affective auditory experiences predict self-reported misophonia in children and adults. Talk presented at the 17th International Conference for Music Perception and Cognition, Tokyo, Japan.
- **Mednicoff, S.**, Berkowitz, D., Barashy, S., Benning, S., Snyder, J., Hannon, E. (2023, August) The experience of musical chills emerges gradually during development and depends on musicality and auditory perceptual skills. Talk presented by E. Hannon at the 17th International Conference for Music Perception and Cognition, Tokyo, Japan.

- Hannon, E., **Mednicoff, S.**, Barashy, S., Benning, S., Snyder, J. (2022, September) Misophonia and High-Level Auditory and Affective Processing in Adults and Children. Talk presented by E. Hannon at the 3rd Annual Misophonia Research Fund Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- **Mednicoff, S.**, Barashy, S., Gonzales, D., Benning, S., Snyder, J., Hannon, E. (2022, August). Misophonia sensitivity is associated with greater emotional reactivity to ASMR and frisson. Talk presented at the 2022 Society for Music Perception and Cognition Annual Meeting, Portland, OR.
- Gonzales, D., **Mednicoff, S.**, Barashy, S., Benning, S., Snyder, J., Hannon, E. (2021, November) Misophonia and High-Level Auditory and Affective Processing in Adults and Children. Talk presented by D. Gonzales at the 2nd Annual Misophonia Research Fund Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Chubb, C., Dean, T., **Mednicoff, S.**, Ho, J., Waz, S., Douthitt C., Comishen, K., Adler, S. (2019, August) What tone-scramble experiments reveal. Talk presented by C. Chubb at the 2019 Society for Music Perception and Cognition Conference, New York City, NY.
- **Mednicoff, S.** Mejia, S., Rashid, J., and Chubb, C. (2018, July). The effects of tone duration in discriminating major/minor modes. Talk presented at the 15th International Conference for Music Perception and Cognition, Montreal, Quebec, CA.
- **Mednicoff, S.** (2018, January). The effects of tone duration in discriminating major/minor modes. Third Year Pre-advancement talk at the Cognitive Sciences Department, UC Irvine.
- **Mednicoff, S.** (2017, January). Bimodal Distribution of Performance in Discriminating Major/Minor Modes. Journal Club Presentation at Center for Hearing Research, UC Irvine.

Posters

- **Mednicoff, S.**, MacGregor, C., Barashy, S., Mullensiefen, D., and Hannon, E. (2023, August). *A child-friendly index of musical sophistication during development: The Child Gold-MSI* Poster presented at the International Conference on Music Perception and Cognition, Tokyo, Japan.
- Barashy, S., **Mednicoff, S.**, Constantine, R., Benning, S.D., Snyder, J. and Hannon, E. (2023, February). *Associations between misophonia and musicality in adults and children* Poster presented at the Association for Research in Otolaryngology, Orlando, FL.
- Rice, A., O'Keefe, K., Chang, K., Barashy, S., **Mednicoff, S.**, Gonzales, D., and Hannon, E. (2022, May). *Misophonia Sensitivity is Related to Enhanced Responsiveness to Misophonia, ASMR and Musical Frisson* Poster presented at the UNLV Undergraduate Research Symposium, Las Vegas, NV.
- Catayong, M.L., Uganiza, S., Smithers, W., Corral, A., Barashy, S., **Mednicoff, S.**, Gonzales, D., and Hannon, E. (2022, May). *The Relationship Between Misophonia Sensitivity and Musicality* Poster presented at the UNLV Undergraduate Research Symposium, Las Vegas, NV.
- **Mednicoff, S.** and Chubb, C. (2019, Sept). *Discriminating Major/Minor Modes Revisited: Does Training Help?* Poster presented at the SoCal Hearing Conference, Irvine, CA.
- Huynh, M., Hwang, S., Ho, J., **Mednicoff, S.**, Chubb, C., Hickok, G. (2019, May). *Assessing Emotional Processing in People with Autism Spectrum Disorder.* Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, Irvine, CA.
- Pham, N., Lopez, E., Gonzalez, K., Ho, J., **Mednicoff, S.**, and Chubb, C. (2018, May). *Pitch Discrimination in Tone Sequences and Speech Production.* Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, Irvine, CA.
- **Mednicoff, S.** and Chubb, C. (2017, Aug). *Discriminating Major/Minor Modes Revisited: Does Training Help?* Poster presented at the Society for Music Perception and Cognition conference, San Diego, CA.
- Mejia, S., **Mednicoff, S.**, Rashid, J., and Chubb, C. (2017, May). *Effects of Tone Duration in Tonality Perception.* Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, Irvine, CA.
- **Mednicoff, S.**, Skiba, R.M., and Webster, M. (2015, Aug). *Ensemble coding within and across musical instruments.* Poster presented at the 2015 Society for Music Cognition and Perception Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Ara, J., **Mednicoff, S.**, and Webster, M. (2015, May). *Adaptation and compensation in anomalous trichromacy.* Poster presented at the 2015 Visual Sciences Society Conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

- **Mednicoff, S.**, Skiba, R.M., and Webster, M. (2015, April). *Ensemble coding in music perception*. Poster presented at the 2015 Undergraduate Research Poster Conference, Reno, NV.
- **Mednicoff, S.**, Skiba, R.M., and Webster, M. (2015, April). *Ensemble coding within and across musical instruments*. Poster presented at the 2015 Western Regional Honors Conference, Reno, NV. (1st Place in Poster Competition)
- Banks, S., **Mednicoff, S.** and Bernick, C. (2015, Feb). *Verbal Fluency and Brain Health in Boxers and Mixed Martial Arts Fighters*. Poster presented at the 2015 International Neuropsychological Society Annual Meeting Denver, CO.
- Sternberg, H., **Mednicoff, S.**, Goto, K., Mac, A., Tregillus, K., Kingdom F.A.A., and Webster, M.A. (2014, May). *Painted faces: Misperceiving shading as pigmentation*. Poster presented at the Psi Chi, Undergraduate Research Fair, Reno. NV. (1st Place in Poster Competition)

RESEARCH SUPPORT

UNLV

Milken Institute - Misophonia Research Fund: Development of misophonia and other auditory affective experiences in children and adolescents

08/16/2023

Total costs: \$200,000

Role: Principal Investigator

UC Irvine

Center for Hearing Research Project Funding: Neural Substrates of Musical Sensitivity: Major and Minor Discrimination as a Function of Musical Experience

10/31/2017 - 06/01/2021

Total costs: \$10,000

Role: Co-Investigator as a graduate student (PI: Charles Chubb)

UC Music Experience Research Community Initiative (UC MERCI) Pilot Grant: The Rhythm of Perception: Walking Entrainment and Tonality's Relationship to Speech and Language

10/01/2016 - 03/31/2017

Total costs: \$5,000

Role: Co-Investigator as a graduate student (PI: Charles Chubb and Greg Hickok)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UC Irvine

Instructor

- Courses: Psychology Fundamentals 9B/ Psychology and Social Behaviors 11B
- Responsibilities: Created my own lectures, learning activities, and examination materials for 50+ students over a 5-week summer session.

UC Irvine

Teaching Assistant

- Courses (# of quarters taught): Abnormal Psychology (1), Writing about Memory (1), Psychology of Social Behaviors (1), Psychology Research Methods (1), Psychology and Social Behaviors 11A (2)
- Responsibilities: Lead weekly discussion groups for fundamental psychology courses as well as review sessions, guide students through their own mock research project, work with students on their writing, hold weekly office hours, grade final projects, papers, and exams.

University of Nevada, Reno

Discussion Group Peer Leader

- Courses (# of semesters taught): Neuroscience Fundamentals (2)
- Responsibilities: Lead weekly discussion groups about what to expect in a biology/neuroscience degree as well as what career trajectories there are for incoming first year undergraduate students as a third and fourth year undergraduate student.

MENTORING

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

2021 - Present

- I mentor up to 10+ undergraduate and high school students within the Auditory Cognition and Developmental Lab and the Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Lab at UNLV.

UC Irvine

2016 - 2021

- I have mentored 10 undergraduate students on various research projects:
 - **Amanda Marquiz** (January 2019 - May 2020) Received a fellowship through the Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) at UC Irvine for the project: “Similarities and dissociations in predisposed individuals to learning music and scale-sensitivity.” Current position: Master’s in Ed. program in the School Psychology with Alliant
 - **Olivia Capizzi** (2018 - Present) Received a fellowship award through the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) at UC Irvine for the project: “Harmonic Structure and the Discrimination of Major/Minor Modes.” Current position: Music Major/ Research Assistant
 - **Luis Zambrano** (2018 - Present) Received a fellowship award through UROP at UC Irvine for the project: “Harmonic Structure and the Discrimination of Major/Minor Modes.” Current position: Music Major/ Research Assistant
 - **Nellie Kwang** (2017 - Present) Received a fellowship award through UROP at UC Irvine for the project: “Harmonic Structure and the Discrimination of Major/Minor Modes.” Current position: Cognitive Sciences Major/ Research Assistant
 - **Suyeon Hwang** (2018 - 2019) Received a fellowship award through UROP at UC Irvine for the project: “Assessing emotional processing in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.” Current position: PhD Student at University of Illinois
 - **Melissa Huynh** (2017 - Present) Received a fellowship award through UROP at UC Irvine for the project: “Assessing emotional processing in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.” Current position: Cognitive Sciences Major/ Research Assistant
 - **Nguyen Pham** (2017 - 2018) Co-author on one poster. Current position: Cognitive Sciences Major/ Research Assistant
 - **Elvira Lopez** (2017 - 2018) Co-author on one poster. Current position: Cognitive Sciences Major/ Research Assistant
 - **Karen Gonzalez** (2016 - 2018) Co-author on one poster. Current position: Cognitive Sciences Major/ Research Assistant
 - **Stephanie Mejia** (2016 - 2017) Received a fellowship award through UROP at UC Irvine for the project: “The Effect of Tone Duration on Discriminating Major/Minor Modes.” Co-authored a poster and manuscript. Current position: PhD Student at University of California, Santa Clara

SKILLS

Programming Languages

Matlab, L^AT_EX, Praat, R, Python, Presentation

Software & Tools

BrainVoyager, Microsoft Office, SPSS, JASP, Audacity, Photoshop

Languages

English (native), Spanish (conversational)

PROFESSIONAL AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Member, Communications Committee

UCI Center for Neurobiology of Learning and Memory Brain Ambassadors

2018 - 2021

Guest Panelist

Psychology Fundamentals 9B

2019

Chair of Session

15th International Conference on Music Perception and Cognition

2018

Guest Editor

Center for Hearing Research Sound Minds Newsletter

2017

Vice President

Nu Rho Psi, University of Nevada, Reno

2014 - 2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Social Media Marketing Graduate Student Researcher

2019 - 2021

*UCI Graduate Division**UC Irvine*

- Created content and strategic marketing campaigns for the UC Irvine Graduate Division Social Media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube.
- Managed work-flows and logistics with the communications team to implement content from user engagement analyses.
- Constructed A/B tests across multiple ad campaigns.
- Developed user engagement analyses through statistical modeling based on performance amongst the platforms.
- Built reports for marketing campaign performance to share with University leadership and stakeholders.

Writing Center Consultant

2014 - 2015

*University Writing Center**University of Nevada, Reno*

- Assisted undergraduate and graduate students in every stage of the writing process.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Society for Music Perception and Cognition

Society for Education and Music Psychology Research

International Society for Music Perception and Cognition

International Society for Music Information Retrieval

Women in Music Information Retrieval (WiMIR)

Nu Rho Psi - International Honors Society for Neuroscience