

SOLENA D. MEDNICOFF

Ph.D. Candidate at UC Irvine

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CAREER OBJECTIVE

I am a Ph.D. candidate at UC Irvine investigating music cognition and human learning and behavior. Having studied classical piano since the age of five, I have a strong passion for music and science, which is why I earned a B.S. in Neuroscience and a minor in piano performance at the University of Nevada, Reno and a M.S. in Cognitive Neuroscience at UC Irvine.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Social Media Marketing Researcher

University of California, Irvine

June 2019 – Present

Irvine, CA

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

Graduate Student Researcher

University of California, Irvine

Sept 2015 – Present

Irvine, CA

- Why do we perceive emotions in music and speech? My research examines the sensitivity of the human auditory system to the emotional content in music and speech.
- Designed quantitative and qualitative experiments that test cognitive models on behavioral and fMRI data by analyzing people's responses to music.
- Applied univariate statistical tests, regression, principal components analyses, permutation analyses, and Markov Chain-Monte Carlo simulations to model the results for behavioral projects and MVPA for fMRI experiments.
- Built mentorships with 10 undergraduate students and teams, who have collectively earned \$3,550 in Undergraduate Research awards for their own research projects.

Predocotrinal Research Fellow

Center for Hearing Research (CHR)

July 2016 – July 2018

Irvine, CA

- Gained experience in psychoacoustics through audio signal processing and investigating spectrograms of music and speech.
- Developed statistical models and simulations for experimental data.
- Presented my research to various audiences with different research backgrounds. Made connections with collaborators to work on current and future projects.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Instructor/ Teaching Associate

University of California, Irvine

August 2018 – Sept 2018

Irvine, CA

- Taught a Psychology Fundamentals/ Psychology & Social Behaviors summer session course. Created my own lectures, learning activities, and examination materials for 50+ students.

Writing Center Consultant

University of Nevada, Reno

August 2014 – May 2015

Reno, NV

- Supported and worked with undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Nevada, Reno in any stage of the writing process to become confident writers.

STRENGTHS & SKILLS

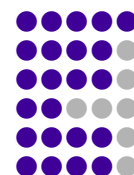
Experimental Design Data Analysis
Statistics Modeling SciPy NumPy
Pandas JASP SPSS Tensorflow
Tableau Qualtrics Microsoft Suite
Adobe Photoshop Public Speaking
Creative Solutions

AWARDS

- Graduate Student Research Fellowship 2019-2021
- Associate Dean Fellowship Fall 2018
- Center for Hearing Research \$5,000 project funding grant
- UC MERCI \$5,000 Rapid Grant Award, UC Music Experience Research Community Initiative
- T32 NIH-NRSA Predocotrinal Training Fellowship
- Barringere Scholarship for Music Performance

CODING

Matlab
Python
R
SQL
Praat
L^AT_EX



EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Cognitive Sciences
Emphasis: Cognitive Neuroscience

University of California, Irvine

Exp. June 2021

GPA: 3.98

M.S. in Cognitive Neuroscience

University of California, Irvine

Sept 2015 – Dec 2017

GPA: 3.98

B.S. in Neuroscience

University of Nevada, Reno

Aug 2011 – May 2015

GPA: 3.6 *In Cursu Honorum Cum Laude*

Minor in Piano Performance

University of Nevada, Reno

Aug 2011 – May 2015

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Mednicoff, S. and C. Chubb (In Preparation). "Does training on major and minor tone-scrambles improve or enhance scale-sensitivity?" In: *Journal of Music Perception*.
- Mednicoff, Solena et al. (2018). "Many listeners cannot discriminate major vs minor tone-scrambles regardless of presentation rate". In: *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* 144.4, pp. 2242–2255.

Conference Proceedings & Posters

- Huynh, M. et al. (2019). "Assessing Emotional Processing in People with Autism Spectrum Disorder". In: *Undergraduate Research Symposium: Posters, Irvine, USA, May 2019*.
- Mednicoff, S. and C. Chubb (2019). "Discriminating Major/Minor Modes Revisited: Does Training Help?" In: *SoCal Hearing Conference: Posters, Irvine, USA, Sept 21, 2019*.
- Mednicoff, S., S. Mejia, et al. (2018). "The Effects of Tone Duration in Discriminating Major/Minor Modes". In: *15th International Conference on Music Perception and Cognition 10th triennial conference of the European Society for the Cognitive Sciences of Music*, p. 225.
- Pham, N. et al. (2018). "Pitch Discrimination in Tone Sequences and Speech Production". In: *Undergraduate Research Symposium: Posters, Irvine, USA, May 2018*.
- Mednicoff, S. and C. Chubb (2017). "Discriminating Major/Minor Modes Revisited: Does Training Help?" In: *Society for Music Perception and Cognition: Posters, San Diego, USA, July 30 - Aug 3 2017*.
- Mednicoff, S., R. Skiba, and M. Webster (2015). "Ensemble Coding within and across Musical Instruments". In: *Society for Music Perception and Cognition: Posters, Nashville, USA, 1-5 Aug 2015*.
- Banks, S., S. Mednicoff, and C. Bernick (2015). "Verbal Fluency and Brain Health in Boxers and Mixed Martial Arts Fighters". In: *Conference Proceedings for the International Neuropsychological Society, Denver, USA, 4-7 Feb 2015*.

REFERENCES

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