Cay Anderson-Hanley  
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https://muse.union.edu/cay/

My research interests lie primarily in the realm of clinical neuropsychology and health psychology. In particular, I am interested in the neuropsychological effects of exercise for older adults, especially as it might relate to the maintenance of cognitive and emotional functioning, and the prevention of dementia. Recent studies completed in my lab indicate the executive function benefits of both strengthening exercise as well as virtual reality-enhanced exercise (cybercycling or pedaling & playing the iPad-based iPACES neuroexergame) for older adults. Other recent research out of my lab has examined the effects of therapy groups for older adults, expressive writing for the emotional and physical well-being of dementia caregivers, and the benefits of exercise in schizophrenia and autism.

George Bizer  
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As a social psychologist, I have broad research interests that include marketing and advertising, persuasion, perceptions of fairness and unfairness, attitude measurement, and social norms.

Daniel Burns  
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I study human memory. Recently, my students and I have studied 1) the relationship between memory confidence and repetitive checking behaviors, as seen in individuals with OCD (Do people check more because they have less confidence in their memories?), 2) the extent to which evolution has shaped or fine-tuned our memory systems to facilitate the remembering of some information more than others information, 3) the paradoxical finding that perseverating about dying improves memory functioning, and 4) to what extent eye tracking equipment may provide a window into the cognitive processes we perform when studying and committing information to memory.

Kenneth DeBono  
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I am interested in the relations between personality factors and responsiveness to different kinds of persuasive messages. In particular, I study whether differences in self-monitoring tendencies are related to: the kinds of persuasive information to which people are responsive and how they process that information. I often study these questions in the context of advertising. I am also interested in investigating the role that religiosity plays in aspects of mental and physical health.

Eric Egan  
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My research primary investigates the perception of 3-dimensional shape. The goal of this work is to understand how the brain interprets 2-dimensional images to create 3-dimensional mental representations. I also have an interest in cross-modal perceptual abilities, i.e., how well we can visually identify an object we have only touched but not seen or vice versa. I explore these ideas through the use of computer graphics, 3D printing, psychophysical experiments and cognitive modeling.

Darlingtina Esiaka  
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http://www.hamplab.org/

My research interests revolve around two major themes within the fields of social and health psychology, gerontology, and African/African American studies. One focuses on the social determinants of health and the lifecourse. I examine how the lived-experiences of minority communities produce specific health outcomes and health inequities. The second focuses on cultural groundings for the experience of relational obligation. Inspired by decolonial perspectives in the sciences, I study the implication of neoliberal modernity for familial obligation.
Timothy George
Bailey Hall Room 307, 388-6882, georget3@union.edu
https://sites.google.com/site/timggeorge/
My research explores how people generate original ideas, solve problems creatively, and connect concepts through analogy. I use experimental methods to understand the conditions that cause mental fixation in these situations, as well as what conditions mitigate this mental fixation. Some of my recent work explores the effects of exposure to example ideas on subsequent creativity, and the role of forgetting in reducing the accessibility of obvious information.

Joshua Hart
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http://muse.union.edu/psychology/joshua-hart/
I have three overlapping areas of research interests, which are: (1) The effects of psychological security and insecurity. Humans are fundamentally motivated to feel secure, which influences many psychological phenomena. I and my students have studied the effects of security and insecurity on close relationships, self-esteem (e.g., academic, athletic, and appearance strivings), attitudes (e.g., belief in evolution and intelligent design; support for military interventions and political candidates, belief in conspiracy theories), risk-taking, information-processing, and decision-making. (2) Attachment and close relationships. I am interested in how security-related individual differences (especially attachment style) influence close relationship and non-relationship phenomena. (3) Self-esteem and belief systems. I am also interested in the ways that people enhance and maintain their self-esteem and beliefs about the world. Therefore, research on self-esteem or worldviews (e.g., politics, religion, morality) is generally in my wheelhouse.

Conor O’Dea
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My research focuses on factors that affect how individuals perceive, as well as how individuals attempt to justify, antisocial behavior. I approach these topics across two main areas. The first is understanding how different groups in society use derogative language and humor to derogate people belonging to other groups and also factors that promote intergroup affiliation. My second area of research is involved in understanding the link between masculine honor beliefs and expectations for people to respond violently to threats and insults. It is my theoretical perspective that, in order to better understand why people exhibit antisocial behaviors even though they are aware of societal norms that vilify these expressions (e.g., physical violence, racial discrimination), we should examine factors that affect the justification as well as the suppression of antisocial behaviors.

Chad Rogers
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http://www.chadsrogers.com/
Much of my prior work has been focused on speech comprehension in young and older adults. My approach represents a combination of cognitive psychology, neuroscience, linguistics, and audiology. My specific research topics of late are: (1) The neural reorganization of speech processing. I am interested in how young and older adults may engage different routes to successful speech processing by recruiting different neural mechanisms revealed through EEG, structural and functional MRI. (2) Effortful listening and its impact on semantic processing. In difficult listening situations people report expending cognitive effort to achieve successful speech comprehension. I am interested in how people use meaning and semantics as a “shortcut” to reduce effort. (3). Linguistic and acoustic contributions to auditory memory. I am also interested in how variables like syntax and background noise make information not only difficult to understand, but also less likely to be remembered.

Stephen Romero
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Current research pursuit three general goals: (1) Investigating neuronal plasticity associated with acquisition of new cognitive skills, recovery of function after brain injury, and associated with neurological and psychological disorders. These studies include the use of behavioral, neuroimaging and EEG methods with patients and unimpaired volunteers; (2) Investigating the role of optimism in cognitive skill learning through the use of behavioral, EEG, and Neuroimaging methods with patients and unimpaired volunteers; (3) Investigating neurological basis of musical processing through the use of behavioral, EEG, and Neuroimaging methods with patients and unimpaired volunteers.
Linda Stanhope
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I am interested in factors relating to the social development of children and adolescents. In particular I study the interrelationship among such factors as parenting styles, children’s personalities, and their social behavior (e.g., helpfulness, peer relations, problem behaviors). Some examples of recent research projects include: predicting middle school children’s susceptibility to peer pressure and early dating from their own self-monitoring styles and their parents’ discipline practices; understanding preschool children’s helpfulness in the classroom in terms of their temperaments and their theories of mind (awareness of others’ thoughts); investigating middle school students’ views of cyber-bullying compared to conventional bullying; looking at helicopter parenting and its relationship to college students’ feelings about their emerging adulthood.

D. Catherine Walker
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My research focuses on body image, eating disorders, and disordered weight- and shape-control behaviors. Specifically, individuals with body dissatisfaction repeatedly engage in body checking or body image avoidance behaviors, to gain or avoid information about their shape, weight, and size. My research has examined how body checking and avoidance behaviors impact body image and weight- and shape-control behaviors. I also have a research interest in body image and disordered eating and exercise behaviors in men. Lastly, my research focuses on clinical applications of prevention and treatment for eating disorders and body image dissatisfaction.

Carol Weisse
Olin 110C, 388-6300, weissec@union.edu
My current research examines systems of care for chronically and terminally ill residents in the community with a focus on hospice and palliative care in home settings. I am particularly interested in community-based models of care and how those with home insecurity of a lack of a caregiver system receive end of life care. In addition, my research examines the development of empathy and self-efficacy to provide end of life care among emerging adults serving as caregivers. Additional on-going projects examine the medical management of symptoms such as pain, anxiety, and restlessness and how caregivers dispense hospice-prescribed medications.