

Stephanie Norris

Ph.D. Candidate at The University of California, Davis

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy

Expected 2028

Psychology

University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Master of Arts

Spring 2026

Psychology

University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Bachelor of Arts

June 2022

Psychology, Human Services Minor

California State University, Fullerton – Fullerton, CA

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student

September 2023 - Present

Human Memory Lab: *The University of California, Davis*

PI: Andrew P. Yonelinas

Research Intern

2023 - Present

Amen Clinics, Costa Mesa, CA

- Analyzed SPECT neuroimaging data to characterize brain network dysfunction and symptom profiles associated with mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI)
- Investigated neural correlates of negativity bias and their relationship to emotional and cognitive dysregulation in anxiety disorders
- Conducted statistical analyses examining relationships between brain function, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), psychiatric diagnoses, and symptom severity in large clinical cohorts
- Applied statistical modeling across diverse clinical populations, including ADHD, bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, PTSD, and traumatic brain injury

Research Assistant

2022 - 2023

Laboratory of Aging and Neurocognitive Imaging: *The University of California, Riverside*

- Performed quality control assessment of MRI datasets from the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI), identifying motion artifacts, hyperintensities, and image distortions to ensure data integrity for neuroimaging analyses

Assistant Lab Manager & Research Assistant

2022-2023

The Health, Relationships, and Interventions Lab: *The University of California, Irvine*

- Trained and supervised undergraduate research assistants in research methods, participant protocols, and data management procedures
- Developed and maintained laboratory workflows to support efficient project coordination and data collection
- Performed data cleaning, management, and statistical analyses investigating associations among parent-child attachment, savoring qualities, and memory selection during narrative interviews

Lead Research Assistant

2020-2025

Dr. Adrian Rodriguez: *California State University, Fullerton*

- Investigated psychosocial factors associated with graduate school aspirations, including perceived stress, social support, and self-efficiency among undergraduate students
- Coordinated laboratory operations and facilitated weekly meetings to support project development
- Provided training and mentorship in SPSS, data analysis, and research methodology to research assistants
- Analyzed data, interpreted results, and presented findings at regional and national conference and through a manuscript publication

Research Assistant

2022

Peissig Vision Lab: *California State University, Fullerton*

- Collected biological and behavioral data to investigate the role of female hormones in perceptions of attractiveness
- Designed and prepared experimental stimuli for behavioral research examining social and perceptual processes
- Conducted pilot testing and validation of experimental tasks to ensure protocol reliability and integrity

PUBLICATIONS

Norris, S., Yonelinas, A.P. Memory's double take: Dissociating two forms of recollection in visual working memory. *Mem Cogn* (2026). <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13421-026-01890-6>

Norris, S., Yonelinas, A.P. Change detection and repetition detection reflect functionally distinct forms of visual working memory. *Mem Cogn* 54, 258–272 (2026). <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13421-025-01749-2>

Rodriguez, A.A., **Norris, S.**, Arain, S. et al. Graduate School Intent: Stress Resilience, Early Exposure to Graduate Environments, and Self-Efficacy. *Innov High Educ* 51, 327–355 (2026). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10755-025-09857-2>

Norris, S., Salgado, F., Murray, S., Amen, D., & Keator, D. B. (2025). The role of negativity bias in emotional and cognitive dysregulation: A neuroimaging study in anxiety disorders. *Depression and Anxiety*, 2025(1). <https://doi.org/10.1155/da/2739947>

Keator, D. B., Salgado, F., Madigan, C., Murray, S., **Norris, S.**, & Amen, D. (2024). Adverse childhood experiences, brain function, and psychiatric diagnoses in a large adult clinical cohort. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 15, 1401745. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2024.1401745>

Norris, S., Salgado, F., Amen, D., & Keator, D. B. (submitted). Distributed relative perfusion differences in chronic, symptomatic mild traumatic brain injury. *Brain Imaging and Behavior*.

POSTERS

Carpenter, C. M., **Norris, S.**, Hawkins, C. & Yonelinas, A. (2026). Using unitization to rescue associative memory. To be presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society 2026.

Norris, S., Montales, C., Ryan, C., Bhattacharya, N., & Yonelinas, A. P. (2025). Dissociating change and repetition detection in visual working memory: Insights from Any-Difference and Any-Sameness tasks. Presented at the Psych Spring Conference, UC Davis, CA, United States.

Norris, S., & Yonelinas, A. P. (2025). Change detection and repetition detection reflect functionally distinct forms of visual working memory. Presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Boston, MA, United States.

Hamilton, A., **Norris, S.**, & Yonelinas, A. (2024). Evaluating the distinctions in working memory: Change detection versus repetition detection. Presented at the Psych Spring Conference, UC Davis, CA, United States.

Rodriguez, A., Norris, S., & Arain, S. (2024). Undergraduates aspiring for graduate school: The impact of self-reassurance on perceived stress. Presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Seattle, WA, United States.

Norris, S., Arain, S., Jeskey, B., & Rodriguez, A. (2023). Undergraduate students aspiring for graduate school: The impact of self-reassurance on perceived stress. Presented at the Western Psychological Association Convention, Riverside, CA, United States.

Lopez, S., Norris, S., & Peissig, J. (2023). The effect of health and youth on perceived attractiveness. Presented at the Western Psychological Association Convention, Riverside, CA, United States.

Norris, S., Arain, S., Montero, S., Price, I., & Rodriguez, A. (2021). How perceived stress relates to undergraduate students' aspirations for grad school. Presented at the Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research (VIRTUAL), San Bernardino, CA, United States.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Healthy Aging Talk Series – Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, UC Davis SP & FA 2026

Lecture 1: Introduction to Cognition & Healthy Aging

Lecture 2: Memory Errors & Encoding Strategies

Lecture 3: Pathological Aging

Lecture 4: Diet, Exercise, Lifestyle Factors

Teaching Assistant – The University of California, Davis

PSYC 130: Human Learning & Memory SP 2024 & SP 2025

Teaching Assistant – California State University, Fullerton

PSYC 302: Learning & Memory SP & FA 2022

PSYC 110: Critical Thinking in Psychology FA 2019 – SP 2023

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Cognitive Neuroscience Society 2023-current

LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

Invited Guest Talk – Paradise Valley Estates Senior Living Community SP 2026

- “Healthy Aging and the Brain”
 - Explore the science of the aging brain. Learn how healthy aging differs from pathological aging, what structural and functional brain changes occur with age, and which research-backed strategies support cognitive longevity. Topics include memory, neurodegeneration and evidence-based approaches to maintaining brain health across the lifespan.

Graduate Student Outreach Representative FA 2025

26th Annual Shields Society Luncheon – The University of California, Davis

- Led an interactive informational booth highlighting memory research conducted in the Human Memory Lab at UC Davis
- Engaged attendees in discussions on visual working memory, cognitive neuroscience research, and healthy aging

Graduate Student Coordinator 2024-2025

PCCN Research Seminar Series – The University of California, Davis

- Organized and moderated weekly research seminar in Perception, Cognition, and Cognitive Neuroscience
- Coordinated speaker invitations, scheduling, and communication with faculty and graduate students

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

NIH T32 Learning, Memory, and Plasticity Fellowship

2025-2026

Advisor: Andrew P. Yonelinas

- Competitive NIH-funded training fellowship supporting interdisciplinary research in learning, memory, and plasticity, and neurogenerative disorders
- Provides advanced training in cognitive neuroscience and translational research related to learning and memory impairments

Duke's Travel Award – *The University of California, Davis*

SP 2025

Dean's List – *California State University, Fullerton*

2018-2022

SKILLS

Programming: R, RStudio, SPSS, Microsoft Programs

Research Methods: Behavioral experiment design, PsychoPy, Qualtrics, Human subjects research

Neuroimaging: SPECT, MRI

Languages: English (native), German (intermediate), French (conversational)

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES & HONORS

The University of California, Davis

Graduate Student Mentor

2025-2026

California State University, Fullerton

Summa Cum Laude: Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

2022

Summa Cum Laude: Minor in Human Services

2022

Emerging Titans Buddy Program Mentor

2021