

Nikola N. Lucas (Saunders)

Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information

nlucas@seattleu.edu

Education

- Ph.D. Experimental Psychology/ Behavioral Neuroscience December 2013
Florida Atlantic University
Adviser: Nancy Aaron Jones, Ph.D.
- M.A. Psychology Research, California State University, Long Beach August 2004
Sub-specialization: Neuroscience and Physiology
Adviser: Diane W. Lee, Ph.D.
- B.A. Psychology, California State University, Long Beach May 2000
Minor: Comparative Literature

Educational Honors and Awards

- Dissertation Year Award (Grant) 2011 – 2012
Florida Atlantic University
- Outstanding Student Award for College of Science 2011 – 2012
Florida Atlantic University, Jupiter
- Nominated for Best Thesis Award 2004
- Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Spring 2003
- J. Robert Newman Scholar Award Fall 2001
California State University, Long Beach
- Outstanding Scholar in Psychology Spring 2000
California State University, Long Beach
- Graduated Cum Laude Spring 2000
California State University, Long Beach

Academic Employment

- Adjunct Professor, Seattle University, Psychology Jan 2022 to present
- Adjunct Professor, Indiana University East, Psychology Jan 2021 to present
- Adjunct Faculty, Southern New Hampshire University, Psychology Sept. 2020 to present
- Adjunct Faculty, University of Arizona Global, Psychology Dec. 2020 to present
- Online Associate Faculty, Ashford University, Psychology Jan. 2015 to Dec. 2020
- Adjunct Professor, Florida Atlantic University, Psychology Jan. 2014 to Aug. 2018
- Adjunct Professor, Palm Beach State College, Lake Worth Aug. 2008 to Aug. 2015
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Florida Atlantic University Aug 2010 to Dec. 2013
- Lecturer, California State University, Long Beach, Psychology Jan. 2006 to June 2008

Lecturer, California State University

COHHSS: Developing Instructor Presence In the Online Classroom (Modules 1-7)	2017& 2018
Canvas Instructor Training 14 Modules	April 2017
I-Clicker Instructor Training	February 2017
Instructor Training for LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor	May 2014
Soft Chalk Create – Short Course	April 2014
Soft Chalk Cloud Webinar	January 2014
Blackboard Learn Workshop	April 2012
Faculty & Instructor Development Course (FAC 005)	Summer 2011
Blackboard Levels 1 – 3 Training/ Certification	October 2008

Publications

Shanok, N. S., Jones, N. A., & **Lucas, N. N.** (2019). The nature of facial emotion recognition impairments in children on the autism spectrum. *Child Psychiatry and Human Development*, 50(4), 661– 667.

Lucas, N. N. & Lee, D. W. (2009). BDNF increases BrdU-IR cells in the injured adult zebra finch hippocampus. *NeuroReport*, 20(12), 1066-1070.

McGinnis, D., **Saunders, N. N.**, & Burns, R. J. (2007). Metacomprehension during rare word comprehension. *Reading Psychology*, 28(3), 221-240.

Professional Conference Presentations

Shanok, N. S., Jones, N. A., & **Lucas, N. N.** (2019). The nature of facial emotion recognition impairments in children on the autism spectrum. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Baltimore, MD, March, 2019.

Lucas, N.N., Pineda, M. & Jones, N. A. (2013). Atypical patterns of EEG activity and functional connectivity in children with autism. Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience Conference, San Diego, CA November 2013.

Lucas, N. N., Pineda, M., Marsh, K. L., & Jones, N. A. (2013). Processing of emotional expressions and neural activity in preschool-age children. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Seattle, WA, April 2013.

Saunders, N. N. & Lee, D. W. (2004). BDNF increases cell proliferation in the injured adult zebra finch hippocampus. Poster presented at that th

Saunders, N. N. (2004). BDNF increases cell proliferation in the injured adult zebra finch hippocampus. Poster presented at that th

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Laboratory Experience

- Research Assistant, Developmental Psychophysiology Laboratory, Feb. 2010 to Dec. 2013 &
Florida Atlantic University, Jupiter Campus Jan. 2019 to present
Examined functional brain connectivity and activity
in children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) using
electroencephalogram (EEG). Resulted in doctoral
dissertation and Shanok, Jones, & Lucas, 2019.
- Research Assistant, Behavioral Neuroscience Laboratory, Oct. 2001 to Oct. 2004 &
California State University, Long Beach Summer 2006
Examined cytotogenesis in response to injury in adult Zebra
Finches. Performed brain surgeries and perfusions, obtained
blood samples, carried out histological procedures and
immunocytochemistry, and performed cell counts using
Stereoinvestigator. Resulted in master's thesis
and Lucas & Lee, 2009.
- Research Assistant, Cognitive Aging Laboratory, Sept. 2000 to May 2002
California State University, Long Beach
Examined language comprehension and pre-clinical Alzheimer

Committees

Advisory Committee 2007 – 2008
Psychology Department, California State University, Long Beach

Professional Affiliations

Society for Neuroscience 2004 - present
Western Psychological Association 1999 to 2001

Applied Work Experience

References

David L. Wolgin, Ph.D.
Psychology Department Chair
Florida Atlantic University
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Boca Raton, FL 33431
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E. Andrew Blair, Ph.D.
Psychology Department Chair
Palm Beach State College
4200 Congress Avenue
Lake Worth, FL 33461
(561) 868-3776 E-mail: blaire@palmbeachstate.edu

Nancy Aaron Jones, Ph.D.
Dissertation Adviser
Florida Atlantic University
John D. MacArthur Campus
5353 Parkside Drive, Jupiter, FL 33458
(561) 799-8632 E-mail: njones@fau.edu

Kenneth Green, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus; Former Psychology Department Chair
California State University, Long Beach
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