

Curriculum Vitae
Erin E. Sovansky Winter
University of Illinois at Chicago
Department of Psychology (M/C 285)
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Education

- 2013 – Present University of Illinois at Chicago
Ph.D. May 2019, anticipated
M.A. August 2016
Major: Cognitive Psychology
Advisor: Jennifer Wiley, Ph.D. Fall 2013 – Fall 2015
Stellan Ohlsson, Ph.D. Fall 2015 – Present
- 2009 – 2013 Albion College
B.A. May 2013
Majors: Psychological Science & Music
Concentration: Neuroscience
Summa Cum Laude, Albion College Honors

Research Interests

How individual differences in cognition, attitudes, and expertise relate to performance in problem solving and creativity

Publications

Sovansky, E.E., Wieth, M.B., Francis, A.P., & McIlhagga, S.D. (2015). Not all musicians are creative: Creativity requires more than simply playing music. *Psychology of Music*, 44, 25-36.

Sovansky, E. E., & Ohlsson, S. (2016). When high WMC promotes mental set: A model of the water jar task. In *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Philadelphia, PA: Cognitive Science Society.

Sovansky, E. E., Ohlsson, S. (in prep). Strategy specificity predicts mental set: Evidence from the water jar task.

Conference Presentations

Sovansky, E.E., & Wieth, M.B. (2013). *Creativity in expert musicians: Creativity requires more than simply playing music*. Paper presented at the 2013 Michigan Undergraduate Psychology Research Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.

- Sovansky, E.E., & Wieth, M.B. (2013). *Creativity in expert musicians: Creativity requires more than simply playing music*. Paper presented at the 2013 Elkin Isaac Research Symposium at Albion College, Albion, MI.
- Sovansky, E.E., Wieth, M.B., Francis, A.P., & McIlhagga, S.D. (2013). *Creativity in musicians: Creativity requires more than simply playing music*. Poster presented at the 2013 American Psychological Society Annual Conference, Washington DC.
- Ayaz, S., Sovansky, E.E., Jarosz, A.F., & Wiley, J. (2014). *How does math anxiety affect working memory capacity?* Poster presented at the University of Illinois at Chicago Student Research Forum, Chicago, IL.
- Sovansky, E. E., Wieth, M., & Wiley, J. (2014). *Marching to a different drummer? Musical experiences and divergent thinking*. Poster presented at the 2014 Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Ayaz, S., Sovansky, E.E., Jarosz, A.F., & Wiley, J. (2014). *How does math anxiety affect working memory capacity?* Poster presented at the 2014 Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Makar, M., Sovansky, E.E., & Wiley, J. (2015) *Feeling the number crunch: Physiological measures of math anxiety*. Poster presented at the University of Illinois at Chicago Student Research Forum, Chicago, IL.
- Makar, M., Sovansky, E.E., & Wiley, J. (2015) *Feeling the number crunch: Physiological measures of math anxiety*. Poster presented at the 2015 Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Sovansky, E. E., & Ohlsson, S. (2016). When high WMC promotes mental set: A model of the water jar task. Poster presented at the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society. Philadelphia, PA.
- Sovansky, E. E., & Wiley, J. (2016). More to be anxious over: Induced math anxiety and WMC. Poster presented at the 57th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA.
- Rodriguez, K. E., Sovansky, E. E., & Ohlsson, S. (2017). Cognitive flexibility and need for cognition: Implications for insight vs non-insight problems. Poster presented at the 2017 Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Razin, A., Sovansky, E. E., Ohlsson, S. (2018) The effect of domain experience on false recall & recognition via the DRM paradigm. Poster presented at the 2018 Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Sovansky, E. E., Ohlsson, S. (2018) Strategy specificity as a predictor of mental set on the water jar task. Poster presented at the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society. Madison, WI.

Sovansky, E. E., Ohlsson, S. (2018) The effect of strategy specificity on mental set. Poster presented at the 59th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New Orleans, LA.

Local Talks

Marching to a Different Drummer? Musical Experiences and Divergent Thinking. Presented at Cognitive Brown Bag, April 30, 2014, University of Illinois at Chicago.

State Math Anxiety and Working Memory Capacity. Presented at Cognitive Brown Bag, March 2, 2016, University of Illinois at Chicago.

When minus 2 is greater than plus 2: Working memory and insight. Presented at Cognitive Brown Bag, October 5, 2016, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Strategy Use Predicts Mental Set on the Water Jar Task. Presented at the Chicago Creativity Data Blitz, May 12, 2017, Northwestern University.

Research Experience

Graduate Researcher, 2015 – Present

Deep Learning Lab

Supervisor: Stellan Ohlsson, Ph.D.

Projects: WMC and Strategy Use on the Water Jar Task
Strategy Specificity and Mental Set

Graduate Researcher, 2013 – 2015

Comprehension, Collaboration and Creativity Lab

Supervisor: Jennifer Wiley, Ph.D.

Projects: Math anxiety and WMC
Music Experience and Creativity

Undergraduate Research Assistant, 2010-2013

Cognitive Psychology Lab

Albion College

Supervisor: Mareike Wieth, Ph.D.

Projects: Music Experience and Creativity

Teaching Experience

Instructor

PSCH 343: Statistical Methods in Behavioral Science

Spring 2018, Fall 2018

Graduate Teaching Assistant

PSCH 343: Statistical Methods in Behavioral Science

Supervisor: Kate Brill-Schuetz, M.A., Summer 2015

Supervisor: Alexander Demos, Ph.D., Fall 2015, Fall 2017
Supervisor: Hillary Rowe, M.A., Summer 2016, Spring 2017, Summer 2017

Graduate Teaching Assistant

PSCH 352: Cognition and Memory

Supervisor: Kate Brill-Schuetz, M.A., Summer 2014

Supervisor: Stellan Ohlsson, Ph.D., Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Fall 2017

Supervisor: Karl Szpunar, Ph.D., Spring 2017

Graduate Teaching Assistant

PSCH 242: Introduction to Research in Psychology

Supervisor: Eric Gobel, Ph.D., Spring 2014

Supervisor: Tomas Staahl, Ph.D., Fall 2014

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Fall 2013

PSCH 100: Introduction to Psychology

Supervisor: Eric Leshikar, Ph.D.

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Fall 2012

PSYC 206: Research Design & Analysis II

Supervisor: Jacqueline Carlson, Ph.D.

Undergraduate Mentoring

Honors Capstone Students

Aleksey Razin: Fall 2017 – Spring 2018

Honors Capstone: The effect of domain experience on false recall & recognition via the DRM paradigm

Kassandra Rodriguez: Spring 2016 – Spring 2017

Honors Capstone: Cognitive Flexibility and Need for Cognition: Implications for Insight vs Non-insight Problems

Monica Makar: Fall 2014 – Spring 2015

Honors Capstone: Physiological Measures of Math Anxiety
Honors College Research Award

Salma Ayaz: Fall 2013 – Spring 2014

Honors Capstone: Relationship between Math Anxiety and WMC
Hirschberg Memorial Grant for Undergraduate Research
Honors College Research Award
Hirschberg Prize for Undergraduate Excellence in Psychology

Research Assistants

Salma Ayaz: Fall 2013 – Spring 2014

Lia Nandi: Spring 2014

Monica Makar: Summer 2014 – Spring 2015
Ravina Nakum: Fall 2015
Kassandra Rodriguez: Spring 2016 – Spring 2017
Sophia Halim: Fall 2016 – Spring 2017
Vanessa Delgado: Fall 2017 – Spring 2018
Jamie Alberts: Fall 2017 – Spring 2018
Aleksey Razin: Fall 2017 – Spring 2018

Service to Department

Second Annual Cross Program Conference Committee: Fall 2015 - Spring 2016

Cognitive Program Assistant: Fall 2015 - Spring 2016, Fall 2017

Awards and Honors

Psi Chi Graduate Research Grant, 2013-2014
Project: Musical Experiences and Individual Differences in Divergent Thinking.
Amount: \$1040.

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society (Spring 2013)
Albion College Ned Garvin Prize for Neuroscience (Spring 2013)
Albion College Outstanding Senior Music Major (Spring 2013)
Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society (Spring 2012)
Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society (Spring 2012)
Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology (Spring 2011)

Software Proficiencies

R
Statistical Analysis System (SAS)
Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS)
E-Prime 2.0
Python

Professional Memberships

Psychonomics Society
Cognitive Science Society
Midwestern Psychological Association (MPA)