

Lauren N. Hecht, Ph.D.

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Professor – Department of Psychological Science Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, MN	2010 – present
Visiting Assistant Professor – Department of Psychology Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA	2009 – 2010
Instructor, Teaching Assistant, Research Assistant – Department of Psychology University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA	2003 – 2009

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

Richard Martin, Timothy Robinson, and Barbara Simpson Endowed Professor of Psychological Science	2023 – 2026
First-Term Seminar (FTS) Director	2018 – 2024
Midstates Consortium for Math and Science (MCMS) College Representative	2012 – 2017

EDUCATION

University of Iowa , Iowa City, IA Ph.D. in Psychology Dissertation: <i>Temporal Processing of Figures and Grounds</i>	2003 – 2009
Albion College , Albion, MI B.A. in Philosophy and with Honors in Psychology Honors Thesis: <i>Does a Simple Shading Manipulation Lead to Size Overestimation in 3D Volumes?</i>	1999 – 2003

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: COURSES TAUGHT

First-Term Seminar (FTS): Animal Minds	Total: 11 courses
First-Term Seminar (FTS): Beyond Belief	Total: 1 course
Introductory Psychology / Introduction to Psychology Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA – with lab	Total: 14 courses 1 course

(Introduction to) Cognitive Psychology Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA – with lab University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA	Total: 13 courses 1 course 4 courses
Sensation & Perception Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA	Total: 11 courses 1 course
Statistics and Research Methods I	Total: 4 courses
Statistics and Research Methods II University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA - Title: <i>Evaluating Psychological Research</i>	Total: 9 courses 2 courses
(Psychology of) Attention Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA	Total: 7 courses 1 course
Peer MALT (Peer Mentor, Academic Leader, & Teacher)	Total: 3 courses
Directed Research I	Total: 2 courses
Directed Research II	Total: 2 courses
Advising Day	Total: 1 course
Big Data in Psychology	Total: 1 course
Perception	Total: 1 course
Advanced Research in Cognitive Science	Total: 1 course
Introduction to Child Development University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA	Total: 1 course

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: GUEST LECTURES

Perception: What Do We Know? <i>FTS: Science and Religion</i> , Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, MN	2013 – Fall
Human Vision <i>Computer Vision</i> , Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA	2010 – Spring

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Research Apprenticeship Advisor	37 students
Honors Research Advisor	11 students
Gustavus Presidential Faculty-Student Grant Collaborator	3 students
Braatz Summer Research Scholar Supervisor	6 students
Internship Advisor	4 students

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Perception & Attention (PAtt) Labs Primary Investigator Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, MN	2010 – present
Perception Lab Primary Investigator Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA	2009 – 2010
Visual Perception Lab Graduate Assistant University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA	2003 – 2009

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES: PUBLICATIONS

* – Indicates undergraduate student when the study was conducted

- Hecht, L. N.**, & Christenson, J. (under revision). An evaluation of the effectiveness of bike path commands.
- Hecht, L. N.**, Holst, A.*, & Falness, K.* (under revision). Identity influences multisensory representations in the Rubber Hand Illusion.
- Hecht, L. N.**, Cosman, J. D.*, & Vecera, S. P. (2016, April 5). Enhanced spatial resolution on figures versus grounds. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 78(5), 1444–1452.
<http://doi.org/10.3758/s13414-016-1099-2> [Peer-Reviewed Journal]
- Hecht, L. N.**, Spencer, J. P., & Vecera, S. P. (2015, August 17). A dynamic neural field model of temporal order judgments. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception & Performance*, 41(6), 1718–1733.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/xhp0000097> [Peer-Reviewed Journal]
- Hecht, L. N.**, & Vecera, S. P. (2014). Temporal resolution of figures and grounds. *Acta Psychologica*, 147, 147–151. doi: 10.1016/j.actpsy.2013.06.010 [Peer-Reviewed Journal]
- Hecht, L. N.** (2013). Exploring research on the processes mediating perception and consciousness [Review of the book *From perception to consciousness: Searching with Anne Treisman*, by J. Wolfe, & L. Robertson (Eds.)]. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 58(13). [Book Review]
- Noel, J-P.*, Mefford, A.*, & **Hecht, L. N.** (rejected; students opted not to resubmit). Meta-awareness selectively modulates exocentric and egocentric spatial judgments.
- Hecht, L. N.**, & Vecera, S. P. (2011). Delayed offset detection on figures relative to backgrounds. *Journal of Vision*, 11, 1-8. doi: 10.1167/11.13.15 [Peer-Reviewed Journal]
- Lester, B. D.*, **Hecht, L. N.**, & Vecera, S. P. (2009). Visual prior entry for foreground figures. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 16, 654–659. doi: 10.3758/PBR.16.4.654 [Peer-Reviewed Journal]
- Hecht, L. N.**, Abbs, B., & Vecera, S. P. (2008). Auditory object-based attention. *Visual Cognition*, 16(8), 1109–1114. [Peer-Reviewed Journal]

Hecht, L. N., & Vecera, S. P. (2007). Attentional selection of complex objects: Joint effects of surface uniformity and part structure. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 14(6), 1205-1211. [Peer-Reviewed Journal]

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES: CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

* – Indicates undergraduate student when the study was conducted

Becken, E., Henrich, L., Blondin, R., Koeneman, O., **Hecht, L. N.**, & Russell, H. (2025, October). *Attentional Focus in Short Distance Collegiate Runners*. Poster to be presented at the 40th Annual Conference for the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP).

Russell, H., Flynn, R., & **Hecht, L. N.** (2024, October). *Teaching Information Literacy in Sport and Exercise Psychology*. Poster presented at the 39th Annual Conference for the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP).

Hecht, L. N., Russell, H., Anderson, A.*, & Jass, T.* (2024, February). *(Re)Building an Effective and Sustainable Peer Educator Program*. Talk presented at the 43rd Annual Conference on The First-Year Experience.

Russell, H., Flynn, R., & **Hecht, L. N.** (2024, February). *Information Literacy in Psychology*. Workshop to be given at the Society for the Teaching of Psychology's 22nd Annual Conference on Teaching.

Hecht, L. N., & Christenson, J.* (2023, October). *"On Your Left": Bicyclists' Commands Impact Receivers' Responses*. Poster presented at the 38th Annual Conference for the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP).

Erickson, T.*, & **Hecht, L. N.** (2023). *The Influence of Social Media Use on Cognitive Control*. Poster presented at the 87th Annual Conference of the Minnesota Psychological Association (MPA).

Nolte, H.* (2018). *Characterization of an Olfactometer using Mass Spectrometry*. Poster presented at the 10th Annual Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physical Sciences (WoPhyS). **Role: Faculty Sponsor.**

Hecht, L. N., & Vecera, S. P. (2012, May). *Attentional selection of simple and complex objects*. Poster presented at the 12th Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS). Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 12(9), 923. doi: 10.1167/12.9.923

Noel, J.-P.*, Mefford, A.*, & **Hecht, L. N.** (2012, May). *Awareness of attentional system and spatial judgments*. Poster presented at the 12th Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS). Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 12(9), 667. doi: 10.1167/12.9.667

Noel, J.-P.*, Mefford, A.*, & **Hecht, L. N.** (2012, May). *Awareness of attentional system and spatial judgments*. Poster presented at the 10th Biennial Toward a Science of Consciousness Conference.

Noel, J.-P.*, Mefford, A.*, & **Hecht, L. N.** (2011, November). *Awareness as a spatial baseline?* Talk presented by J.-P. Noel and A. Mefford at the Midstates Consortium for Math and Science (MCMS) 2011 Undergraduate Research Symposium in the Biological Sciences & Psychology.

Hecht, L. N., & Vecera, S. P. (2010, November). *Attentional selection of complex objects*. Poster presented at the 18th Annual Workshop on Object Perception, Attention, and Memory (OPAM), Saint Louis, MO.

Hecht, L. N., & Vecera, S. P. (2010, May). *Temporal extension of figures: Evidence from the attentional blink*. Poster presented at the 10th Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS). Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 10(7), 286. doi: 10.1167/10.7.286

- Hecht, L. N.**, & Vecera, S. P. (2009, November). *Processing duration of figures and grounds*. Poster presented at the 50th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA.
- Hecht, L. N.**, Spencer, J. P., & Vecera, S. P. (2009, November). *A dynamic neural field model of temporal order judgments for figures and grounds*. Poster presented at the 17th Annual Workshop on Object Perception, Attention, and Memory (OPAM), Boston, MA.
- Hecht, L. N.**, & Vecera, S. P. (2009, May). *Scale of attention influences figure-ground assignment*. Poster presented at the 9th Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS). Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 9(8), 934. doi: 10.1167/9.8.934
- Hecht, L. N.**, Abbs, B., & Vecera, S. P. (2009, March). *Auditory object-based attention*. Poster presented at the 11th Annual James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference, Iowa City, IA.
- Hecht, L. N.**, Abbs, B., & Vecera, S. P. (2008, November). *Auditory object-based attention*. Talk presented at the 16th Annual Workshop on Object Perception, Attention, and Memory (OPAM), Chicago, IL. Research summary published in *Visual Cognition*, 16(8), 1109-1114.
- Hecht, L. N.**, Lester, B. D.* & Vecera, S. P. (2007, November). *The effects of visual prior entry based on figure-ground assignment: Evidence of a figural benefit*. Poster presented at the 15th Annual Workshop on Object Perception, Attention, and Memory (OPAM), Long Beach, CA.
- Hecht, L. N.**, & Vecera, S. P. (2006, May). *Selecting multipart objects: Is uniformity necessary?* Poster presented at the 6th Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS). Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 6(6), 595. doi: 10.1167/6.6.595
- Cosman, J. D.* **Hecht, L. N.**, & Vecera, S. P. (2006, May). *An effect of figure-ground assignment: Perceptual enhancement*. Poster presented at the 6th Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS). Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 6(6), 751. doi: 10.1167/6.6.751
- Hecht, L. N.**, & Vecera, S. P. (2005, May). *Object-based curve tracing in the upper and lower visual fields*. Poster presented at the 5th Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS). Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 5(8), 1030. doi: 10.1167/5.8.1030
- Hecht, L. N.**, Lee, H., & Vecera, S. P. (2004, November). *Is amodal completion influenced by color similarity?* Poster presented at the 12th Annual Workshop on Object Perception, Attention, and Memory (OPAM), Minneapolis, MN.
- Hecht, L. N.***, & Anes, M. (2003, May). *Does a simple shading manipulation lead to size overestimation in 3-D volumes?* Poster presented at the 3rd Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS). Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 3(9), 843. doi: 10.1167/3.9.843

GRANTS, AWARDS, & HONORS

Innovative Teaching Award

For developing the Peer MALT program & courses

2024

Presidential Faculty-Student Collaboration Grant

Total: 3

Most recent: 2023

Swanson-Holcomb Undergraduate Research (SHUR) Grant

Awarded to student; **Role: Faculty Sponsor**

Total: 6

Most recent: 2026

Edgar M. Carlson Award for Distinguished Teaching	2022
Departmental and Program Teaching and Learning Mini-Grants Co-Awarded with Patrick Heath (Psychological Science) to design and pilot an integrated <i>Statistics & Research Methods I & II</i> (PSY-224/225) course sequence	2022-2023
Departmental and Program Teaching and Learning Mini-Grants Co-Awarded with Pam Conners (Communication Studies) to explore a model for dialogue and determine its viability for First-Term Seminar (FTS)	2019
Innovative Teaching Award <i>For converting Sensation & Perception from a lecture-based class to a flipped classroom</i>	2018
Kendall Center Individual Teaching and Learning Mini-Grant <i>to develop an activity centered around taste perception that is scalable to the class size</i>	2016
Committee for Support of Faculty Scholarship (CSFS) Grant Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA	2009
Graduate College Summer Fellowship University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA	2009
1st Place Award in the Social Sciences & Education Division at the 11th Annual James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA	2009
Outstanding Graduate Student as Mentor Award (Nominee) University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA	2006
Graduate Student Senate (GSS) Travel Funds Award University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA	2005
Department of Psychology Teaching Assistant Award University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA	2004
University of Iowa Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award (Nominee) University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA	2004

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Psychological Science (APS); Vision Sciences Society (VSS); Psychonomic Society; Psi Chi; Sigma Xi; Society for the Teaching of Psychology (STP); National Academic Advising Association (NACADA); Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

<i>Microcredential in Fostering a Culture of Belonging</i> Demonstrated comprehensive knowledge and skills in: Managing the Impact of Biases Reducing Microaggressions Addressing Imposter Phenomenon and Stereotype Threat	2023
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Cultivating an Inclusive Environment Online Course Hosted by Association of College and University Educators (ACUE)	
2021 Annual Conference on Teaching (ACT) Online, Asynchronous Content Hosted by Society for the Teaching of Psychology	2022
Advising First-Generation Students eTutorial (online course) Hosted by National Academic Advising Association (NACADA)	2022
Foundations of First-Year Assessment Online Course Hosted by National Resource Center	2021
National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology (NITOP) 2020 Annual Conference Hosted Online	2021
Career and Vocation Champions Workshop	2019
First-term Seminar (FTS) Workshop - Retraining for New Curriculum	2019
Annual Conference on The First-Year Experience National Resource Center Conference in Las Vegas, NV	2019
Dialogue Hosted by Essential Partners, Boston, MA	2019
Annual Conference on The First-Year Experience National Resource Center Conference in San Antonio, TX	2018
GAC-WAC: Reinvigorating Writing Across the Curriculum at Gustavus Adolphus College – Faculty Development Workshop	2014
First-term Seminar (FTS) Workshop	2013
How Learning Works – Faculty Reading and Discussion Group	2012
Dynamic Field Theory Summer School – Led by Dr. John P. Spencer & Dr. Gregor Schöner University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA	2009

SERVICE: PROFESSIONAL

Ad Hoc Reviewer for: *Attention, Perception & Psychophysics (and Perception & Psychophysics); Frontiers in Perception Science; Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance; Journal of Vision; Psychological Science; Psychonomic Bulletin & Review; Symmetry; Vision Research; Visual Cognition*

SERVICE: GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE

Curriculum Committee (CC) - Social Sciences Division Representative Ex-officio member (2018-2024)	2025 – present 2018 – 2024
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Liberal Arts Search Representative (LASR) for Tenure Track Search	2 searches (most recent: 2025-26)
First-Term Seminar (FTS) Director	2018 – 2024
Swanson-Holcomb Undergraduate Research (SHUR) Grant Proposal Reviewer	2012 – 2024
Advising Day Planning Committee - Co-chair	2023-2024
Camp Kendall: AI and Pedagogy - Workshop Leader	May 2024
Teacher's Talking: Preparing for Advising - Co-leader	April 2024
Teacher's Talking: Building Community in the Classroom - Panelist	November 2023
South Central Service Cooperative (SCSC) Nature & Science Conference Hosted 3 sessions of <i>Mind Benders</i> for 3rd-6th grade participants	October 2023
Nobel Conference Faculty Host	October 2023
Department Chairs and Program Directors Committee (DCPDC)	2018 – 2023
Curriculum Approval Subcommittee (CAPSUB) - ex-officio member	2018 – 2023
Teacher's Talking: The Power of the Liberal Arts - Co-leader	May 2023
First-Term Seminar (FTS) Workshop: Developing Topics & Course Proposals - Co-leader	January 2023
John S. Kendall Center for Engaged Learning (KCEL)'s Faculty Development Days: Advising Students on the Challenge Curriculum and with MyGustavus - Co-leader	August 2022
Peer Mentor, Academic Leader, & Teacher (Peer MALT) Coordinator	2018 – 2022
Midnight Express Volunteer	2021, 2013
Teacher's Talking: Student Belonging - Co-leader	November 2020
Teacher's Talking: Advising for the Challenge Curriculum - Co-leader created Hoonuit training and training videos; held synchronous discussion	October 2020
First-Year Orientation Group Facilitator	2011 – 2017
Midstates Consortium for Math and Science (MCMS) College Representative	2012 – 2017
Faculty Development Committee (FDC) Co-chair (Fall 2016)	2015 – 2016
Grade Appeals Board	2014 – 2016
Summer Registration Advisor Co-leader for New Summer Advisor Orientation (2012-2014)	2016 – present 2011 – 2014
Celebration for Creative Inquiry (CCI) Co-Coordinator (2015) & Volunteer (2011)	2011, 2015

First-term Seminar (FTS) Workshop Panelist: Words of Wisdom	Summer 2015
Faculty Development Day Panelist: Teachers Talking Technology – Pressure Points	Fall 2014
Assisted New Admission Staff Training (during Summer)	2014, 2013
Academic Operations Committee (AOC) Member IEX Term Advisory Committee Representative (2011-2012)	2011 – 2013
Interviewer for Scholarship Days 2011 – Presidential Scholarship	2013, 2011
Panelist & Tour Guide for New Tenure-Track Faculty Orientation	2011

SERVICE: DEPARTMENT

Co-Administrator: SONA (cloud-based research and participant management)	2013 – present
Co-Administrator: Department Facebook Page	2014 – present
Tenure Track Faculty Job Search Committee Member	7 searches (most recent: 2023-24)
Visiting Faculty Job Search Committee Member	5 searches (most recent: 2022-23)
Coordinator: Psychological Science Tutor Database	2012 – 2019
Coordinator: SONA, Research Poster, and Thesis Databases	2013 – 2019
Summer Institute for Academic Success (SIAS): Demystifying a Liberal Arts Education Role: Panelist	Summer 2015
Psi Chi Faculty Advisor	2011 – 2014

SERVICE: COMMUNITY

4-H Screened Volunteer Assist with Nicollet County 4-H <i>Sprouts</i> club events Saint Peter, MN	2022 – present
Soccer Coach Head Coach/Assistant Coach St. Peter Lutheran School soccer team (3 rd - 8 th grade) Saint Peter, MN	2023 – present
Accompanist - piano St. Peter Lutheran School - Children's Choir Saint Peter, MN	2024 – present

Assistant Director

2024 – 2025

All-School (Musical) Revue: *I Need A Vacation!* by Hal Leonard
St. Peter Lutheran School, Saint Peter, MN

PADI Divemaster

2008 – 2016

Assistant for certification classes (Open Water, Advanced Open Water, Specialty),
Discover SCUBA classes, & dive trips
Haack SCUBA, Iowa City, IA

Panelist for MCMS Early Career Workshop

2014, 2013

Workshop hosted by MCMS
Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN

Panelist for MCMS Workshop on Careers at Liberal Arts Institutions

2013

Workshop hosted by MCMS at the Undergraduate Research Symposium
Washington University, St. Louis, MO