

Davidson College Cognitive Psychology Tenure-Track Position

Additional Information

To provide additional information about the context of this position, the present document includes information regarding:

1. **Cognitive Psychology Lab Space**
2. **Psychology Department**
 - a. Examples of advanced seminar descriptions, including one from retiring cognitive psychologist
 - b. Departmental Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion work
3. **Davidson College**
 - a. Collaborations across Departments (e.g., in teaching, research, consulting)
 - b. Links to recent campus initiatives
 - i. Academic Strategic Plan
 - ii. Commission on Race and Slavery
 - c. Human Resources
 - i. Policies (e.g., parental leave, dependent tuition assistance)
 - ii. Benefits (e.g., Benefits Advocates)
 - d. Housing and Relocation (land lease home ownership, rental options)
 - e. Faculty/Staff Affinity Groups
4. **Surrounding Community**
 - a. College & Universities within a few hours driving distance that may offer collaboration opportunities
 - b. The NC Cognition Conference
 - c. Community Partners that may offer research collaboration opportunities
 - d. Location information such as distance from lake, mountains, coast, and international/regional airports

Cognitive Psychology Lab Space

The Cognitive and Social Psychology laboratories have a shared, keycard-secured entry space with waiting room. The Cognitive Psychology key-locked suite currently includes three testing rooms, each with room for a researcher and a participant; a large teaching space with space for six workstations and a large monitor for presentations; a smaller teaching space with space for multiple workstations. A photo of the large teaching space can be viewed at [this website](#).

Psychology Department

While most course descriptions can be found in the Course Catalog (see [this website](#)), our advanced seminars are not listed there. Three examples are provided below, including one from our retiring cognitive psychologist.

Examples of Advanced Seminar Descriptions

PSY 353 – Advanced Seminar: Psychology of Prejudice (Dr. Good)

This course explores current psychological theory and research regarding stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination. We will discuss stereotype formation and activation, current and past conceptualizations of prejudice, interpersonal and institutional discrimination, as well as strategies for reducing the expression of prejudice. Throughout the course, we will consider the experiences of several stigmatized groups including, but not limited to, prejudice based on gender, race, sexual orientation, age, disability, and socio-economic status. The general framework for the class will be social psychological, given that many of the central topics in social psychology are applicable to the study of prejudice (social perception, self and social identities, attitudes, norms, intergroup behavior, aggression, etc.). However, other psychological perspectives will also be touched upon (cognition, development, health, etc.) and interdisciplinary discussions are encouraged. Class discussion will be based on textbook readings, primary research articles, popular press, and video clips. Students will be evaluated based on class discussion, exams, and written research proposals. Interested students should contact **Dr. Jessica Good** at jegood@davidson.edu to request permission.

PSY 367 –Advanced Seminar: Psychological Modeling (Dr. Eiler)

In this seminar we will explore modeling techniques used in psychological science. Example analytic techniques that may be covered include: linear and non-linear models, agent-based modeling, network analysis, natural language processing, machine learning, systems modeling, dynamical/complex systems, or other computational/representative models. We will focus broadly on psychological science, meaning models will be applied to diverse areas (e.g., clinical, personality, social, health, I/O, behavioral neuroscience) but may have arisen in other fields (e.g., economics, mathematics, physics, computer science). Major assignments will include written papers, mathematical modeling, and a group based digital learning project. This course will use a variety of coding environments (e.g., NetLogo, R) so a willingness to learn how to program is expected but experience with coding is not required. Students should have previously completed PSY 101. A statistics course in any department is also recommended. Instructor permission may override the requirements.

PSY 379 – Advanced Seminar: Cognition and the Arts (Dr. Munger who is retiring)

“Cognition and the Arts” will explore the perceptual experience of the arts, including dance, film, music, theatre and visual art. Students will read and lead discussion on psychology reports considering the perceptual and cognitive experience of both audience and artist, as well as how art affects us emotionally. Students will also be expected to attend local performances (chosen from a list of free campus events). Assigned articles are from a wide range experimental psychology journals, including *Brain and Cognition*; *Cognition*; *Consciousness and Cognition*; *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*; *Journal of Cognitive Psychology*; *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory & Cognition*; *Journal of Neuroscience*; *Music Perception*; *Perception*; *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*; and *Visual Arts Research*.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

In our Summer 2020 meeting, the Psychology Department committed to intensifying our Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, (DEI) and Belonging efforts. We devoted 1/3 of our meetings in 2020-21 to these topics. The faculty agreed we have a shared responsibility for these efforts and thus have taken turns leading meetings related to this important focus. These meetings varied in format, including discussion of Kendi's book and Reynolds Lecture about anti-racism and hiring a DEI expert facilitator, Tiffany Waddell Tate, to guide our self-examination of structural racism within our department. Over the past year we have:

- revised [our mission statement](#) to include our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and belonging in our curriculum and research;
- updated our assessment of students' understanding of sociocultural influences on behavior;
- asked Brent Maher to distribute a survey about PSY majors' experiences and perceptions regarding DEI and belongingness;
- begun to revise our senior awards to include one that celebrates DEI work;
- partnered with the Development team to create a fellowship for PSY students conducting DEI research;
- developed a list of internship and research opportunities that is updated monthly with an email to students alerting them about the update;
- begun to develop our new Research Design & Statistics I (PSY 200) course with the goal of getting that course designated as a Justice, Equality, and Community (JEC) credit;
- initiated a Davidson PSY alumni group on LinkedIn;
- continued the practice of the department chair meeting with every student declaring a PSY major to ensure all PSY majors know the thinking behind the curriculum, how to access opportunities (e.g., Psych Snippets newsletter, research), and the importance of developing a network of mentors.

We are proud to stand on the shoulders of some of the first PSY faculty members, Professors Workman and Kelton, who championed diversity initiatives such as integrating the student body in terms of both race and gender, as well as removing the requirement that to be tenured, faculty must be active in a Christian church. Simultaneously, we regret that there are still elements of structural racism that we must remove.

We are committed to welcoming all people interested in psychology. We acknowledge that we will make mistakes as we strive to remove structural racism in the department. As a community, we must continue to hold ourselves and one another responsible—and do so with a growth mindset.

Davidson College

Collaborations across departments are encouraged. Current collaborations include:

- Advising students through the **Center for Interdisciplinary Studies** (more at [this website](#)), including student-designed majors (e.g., Memory Studies) and Center-established majors (e.g., Neuroscience)
- **Teach interdisciplinary courses in the college curriculum**, including:
 - The Humanities program for first-year students, as Dr. Greta Munger (retiring) has done

- Courses in the College's Writing Program
- **Interlinked courses** such as the Memory Commons that Dr. Kristi Multhaup has co-taught (see a story about the 2019 courses' field trip on [this website](#))
- **Affiliating with and teaching courses for interdisciplinary departments**, current participation includes:
 - Africana Studies: Dr. Phia Salter
 - Educational Studies: Dr. Molly Flaherty
 - Gender & Sexuality Studies: Dr. Jessica Good, Dr. Laura Sockol
 - Neuroscience: Dr. Julio Ramirez, Dr. Mark Smith
- **Working with the Jay Hurt Hub for Innovation and Entrepreneurship** (information is on [this website](#)). Dr. John Kello is scheduled to teach a course through The Hub in Spring 2022.
- **Research collaborations** such as Dr. Jessica Good's collaboration with Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science, Dr. Tabitha Peck, on stereotype threat that uses virtual reality (see a story about this collaboration on [this website](#))
- **Consulting work through Data CATS** in which Dr. Brian Eiler has participated (more information on [this website](#))
- A **full listing of the Academic Departments** at Davidson College is on [this website](#).

Documents that detail **recent College initiatives include:**

1. The Academic Strategic Plan can be found at [this document \(may need to copy link & paste into browser\)](#).
2. The Davidson College Commission on Race and Slavery report can be found on [this website](#).

Human Resources documents

1. Policies (e.g., parental leave, dependent tuition assistance) are on [this website](#).
2. Benefits (e.g., Benefits Advocates) are on [this website](#).

Housing

Davidson College provides incoming faculty members with a range of options to support relocation and housing. Many choose to live in the town of Davidson through the college's subsidized rental program or the land lease home ownership program. These are described on [this website](#). In addition to the city of Charlotte (see neighborhood descriptions on [this website](#)), other local communities include the towns of Concord, Cornelius, Huntersville, and Mooresville.

Faculty/Staff Affinity Groups

While the following groups do not have websites, they welcome new community members:

- Junior Faculty Network
- Faculty of Color Caucus
- LGBTQA+ Community

Surrounding Community

Area College and Universities that may offer collaboration opportunities

- UNC-Charlotte, 21 miles
- Johnson C. Smith University, 21 miles
- Queens University of Charlotte, 25 miles
- Winthrop University, 44 miles
- Lenoir-Rhyne University, 52 miles
- Wake Forest University, 64 miles
- Winston-Salem State University, 64 miles
- UNC-Greensboro, 83 miles
- NC A&T University, 86 miles
- Wofford University, 89 miles
- Appalachian State University, 98 miles
- Elon University, 101 miles
- Furman University, 121 miles
- UNC-Asheville, 129 miles
- UNC-Chapel Hill, 132 miles
- Duke University, 133 miles
- NC State University, 156 miles

NC Cognition Conference

In February or March, the NC Cognition Conference is held. It typically rotates between NC State, UNC-Chapel Hill, Duke, UNC-Greensboro, and Wake Forest. This regional conference typically draws scientists from the region (e.g., Georgia Tech, UVA, USC) because it is intimate and showcases excellent work.

Community Partners

The Center for Civic Engagement supports faculty in connecting with local public and nonprofit organizations, including community-based learning experiences, research collaborations, and student internships. Davidson College faculty members have worked with Community Partners including

- [Autism Charlotte](#)
- [Broughton Hospital](#)
- [Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools](#)
- [Davidson Cornelius Child Development Center](#)
- [The Pines at Davidson](#)

Location & Travel

Davidson, NC, is in the Piedmont of NC. Distances from areas of interest include:

- 5 miles from the **Davidson College Lake Campus** with access to Lake Norman which has almost 50 square miles and shore length of 520 miles
- 86-120 miles from **NC mountain towns** such as Blowing Rock, Black Mountain, & Asheville
- 200-350 miles to the **NC coast**, depending on location (e.g., Wilmington, Outer Banks)

When **air travel** is needed, the Charlotte Douglas International Airport is 25 miles away. Additional airport options include:

- Concord Regional Airport (13 miles)
- Piedmont Triad International Airport (90 miles)

Amtrak has stations in both Charlotte (22 miles) and Kannapolis (17 miles) that provide service on the Piedmont, Carolinian, and Crescent routes.