

Philip A. Spechler, M.A.

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Curriculum Vitae

Education

University of Vermont

M.A. General/Experimental Psychology

January 2017

Ph.D. General/Experimental Psychology

Expected Completion August 2019

M.A. Thesis: *Predictive Modeling of Adolescent Cannabis Use from Multimodal Data*

University of Pittsburgh

B.A., History and Philosophy of Science

May 2010

Peer Reviewed Publications

Bourque, J., **Spechler, P. A.**, Potvin, S., Whelan, R., Banaschewski, T., Bokde, A. L., ... & Flor, H. (2017). Functional neuroimaging predictors of self-reported psychotic symptoms in adolescents. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, *appi-ajp*.

Allbaugh, M.D., Orr, C., Charani, B., Althoff, R.R., Allgaier, N., D'Alberto, N., Hudson, K.E., **Spechler, P.A.**, ... Garavan, H. & the IMAGEN Consortium. (2017). Inattention and reaction time variability are linked to ventromedial prefrontal volume in adolescents. *Biological Psychiatry*

Wiggins, J. L., Schwartz, K. T., Kryza-Lacombe, M., **Spechler, P. A.**, Blankenship, S. L., & Dougherty, L. (2017). Neural reactivity to reward in school-age offspring of depressed mothers. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, *214*, 81-88.

Mackey, S., Charani, B., Kan, K. J., **Spechler, P. A.**, Orr, C., Banaschewski, T., ... Garavan, H. & the IMAGEN Consortium (2016). Brain regions related to impulsivity mediate the effects of early adversity on antisocial behavior. *Biological psychiatry*.

Spechler, P. A., Orr, C. A., Charani, B., Kan, K.-J., Mackey, S., Morton, A., ... Garavan, H & IMAGEN Consortium. (2015). Cannabis use in early adolescence: Evidence of amygdala hypersensitivity to signals of threat. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, *16*, 63–70. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcn.2015.08.007>

Dougherty, L. R., Blankenship, S. L., **Spechler, P. A.**, Padmala, S., & Pessoa, L. (2015). An fMRI Pilot Study of Cognitive Reappraisal in Children: Divergent Effects on Brain and Behavior. *Journal of psychopathology and behavioral assessment*, *37*(4), 634-644.

Tracy, J.I., Osipowicz, K., **Spechler, P.**, Sharan, A., Skidmore, C., Doucet, G., & Sperling, M. (2014). Functional Connectivity Evidence of Cortico-Cortico Inhibition in Temporal Lobe Epilepsy. *Human Brain Mapping*. *35*(1), 353-366.

Choi, J.M., Padmala, S., **Spechler, P.**, & Pessoa, L. (2013) Pervasive competition between threat and reward in the brain. *Social, Cognitive, and Affective Neuroscience*. nst053.

Book Chapters

Chaarani, B., **Spechler, P.A.**, Hudson, K.E., Potter, A., Foxe, J.J., & Garavan, H., (in press). The Neural Basis of Response Inhibition and Substance Abuse. *Wiley Handbook of Cognitive Control*.

Spechler, P. A., Chaarani, B., Hudson, K. E., Potter, A., Foxe, J. J., & Garavan, H. (2016). Response inhibition and addiction medicine: from use to abstinence. *Progress in brain research*, 223, 143-164.

Ad-hoc Reviewer

Addiction

Professional Training

Harvard Medical School
HCP Course: Exploring the Human Connectome

August 2016

Conference Presentations

Spechler, P.A., Chaarani, B., Ivanciu, A., Higgins, ST., Garavan, H. Multimodal Neuroimaging Differences in Nicotine Abstinent vs. Satiated Smokers. Poster session presented at: SRNT 2017 Annual conference for the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco; 2017 March 11; Florence, Italy.

Spechler, P.A., Neural Correlates of Cue Reactivity in Smokers vs. Controls. Oral Presentation at the 26th Annual VCBH Retreat. 2016 August 18. Vergennes, VT

Spechler, P.A., Allgaier, A., Chaarani, B., Mackey, S., Hudson, K., Orr, K., D'Alberto, N., Whelan, R., Jollans, L., Watts, R., Althoff, R., Potter, A., Garavan, H., IMAGEN consortium. Predicting adolescent drug use from neuroimaging data yields sex- and drug-specific effects. Poster session presented at: OHBM 2016. Annual conference for the Organization for Human Brain Mapping; 2016 June 30; Geneva, Switzerland.

Spechler, P.A., Allgaier, N., Jollans, L., Chaarani, B., Hudson, K.E., Mackey, S., Watts, R., Orr, C., Althoff, R., Whelan, R., Garavan, H. Predicting adolescent cannabis use in males and females from multimodal data. Poster presented at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) "Marijuana and Cannabinoids: A Neuroscience Research Summit". 2016 March 22; Bethesda, MD.

Spechler, P.A., Jollans, E., Chaarani, B., Higgins, ST., Garavan, H., Whelan, R. Predicting cigarette use in adolescence using multimodal brain and psychometric data. Poster session presented at: SRNT 2016., Annual conference for the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco; 2016 March 03; Chicago, IL.

Spechler, P.A., Orr, C., Higgins, ST., Althoff, RA., Chaarani, B., Kan, KJ., Mackey, S., Morton, A., Snowe, MP., Garavan, H. Cannabis use in early adolescence is characterized by increased amygdala reactivity to threat signals. Poster session presented at: OHBM 2015. Annual conference for the Organization for Human Brain Mapping; 2015 June 13; Honolulu, HI.

Spechler, P., Orr, C., Higgins, ST., Althoff, RA., Chaarani, B., Kan, KJ., Mackey, S., Morton, A., Snowe, MP., Garavan, H. Structural brain differences in dysregulated youth. Poster session presented at: OHBM 2015., Annual conference for the Organization for Human Brain Mapping; 2015 June 13; Honolulu, HI.

Spechler, P., Orr, C., Higgins, ST., Althoff, RA., Chaarani, B., Kan, KJ., Mackey, S., Morton, A.,

Snowe, MP., Garavan, H. Predicting cannabis use in adolescence using multimodal brain and phenotype data. Poster session presented at: OHBM 2015., Annual conference for the Organization for Human Brain Mapping; 2015 June 16; Honolulu, HI.

Mackey, S., Chaarani, B., Kan, KJ., Orr, C., **Spechler, P.**, Althoff, R., Garavan, H. Brain regions related to impulsivity mediate the effects of early adversity on anti-social behavior. Poster session presented at: OHBM 2015., Annual conference for the Organization for Human Brain Mapping; 2015 June 13; Honolulu, HI.

Spechler, P., Blankenship, S., Padmala, S., Pessoa, L., & Dougherty, L. The Neural Basis of Emotion Regulation in Young Children. Poster session presented at: Neuroscience 2013, Annual conference for the Society for Neuroscience; 2013 November 11; San Diego, CA.

Choi, J.M., Padmala, S., **Spechler, P.**, & Pessoa, L. Interactions between threat and anticipation of monetary gains and losses. Poster session presented at: Neuroscience 2013, Annual conference for the Society for Neuroscience; 2013 November 11; San Diego, CA.

Choi, J.M., Padmala, S., **Spechler, P.**, & Pessoa, L. Competition between reward and threat processing. Poster session presented at: Neuroscience 2012, Annual conference for the Society for Neuroscience; 2012 October 15; New Orleans, LA.

Spechler, P., Perkins, K. Cognitive performance as a function of bupropion and modafinil therapies for smoking cessation. Poster session presented at: 2010 Undergraduate psychology directed research symposium; 2010 April 7; Pittsburgh, PA.

Spechler, P., Stevens, C., Cohen, K., Schunn, C. First Experiences in Teaching: Introduction to Cognitive Science (PSY0005). Poster session presented at: 2008 Undergraduate teaching assistant symposium. 2008 December. Pittsburgh, PA.

Past Professional Positions

University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Department of Psychology

Faculty Research Assistant

August 2011 – June 2014

Laboratory of Cognition and Emotion

Lab Director: Luiz Pessoa, Ph.D

Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA

Department of Neurology

Clinical Neuroimaging Assistant

August 2010 – July 2011

Cognitive Neuroimaging Lab

Lab Director: Joseph Tracy, Ph.D

Teaching Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant

January 2017 – May 2017

University of Vermont

NSCI395C / PSYS 296E: Introduction to Functional Neuroimaging

Faculty Teaching Assistant

June 2013 – August 2013

University of Maryland

Introduction to the Linux computing environment, AFNI, and FreeSurfer

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant
University of Pittsburgh
PSY0005- Introduction to Cognitive Science

August 2008 - December 2008

Undergraduate Research Experience

Undergraduate Clinical Research Assistant
UPMC Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic- Nicotine Research Lab

January 2010 - May 2010

Undergraduate Research Assistant
UPMC Department of Emergency Medicine

August 2006 - September 2008

Professional Organizations

Society for Neuroscience
Organization for Human Brain Mapping

2011 – 2013
Yearly Since 2015

Computing Skills

Data: Python (and relevant libraries), MATLAB, SPSS, Mplus
Neuroimaging: AFNI, SPM, FreeSurfer
Experimental Design: Presentation, E-Prime

References

Available upon request