

Carleton

Department of Psychology

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Welcome Friend,

Congratulations on your admission to Carleton! The [Psychology Department](#) encourages students to think like scientists and understand how empirically-based research findings apply to everyday life. After taking our introductory psychology course, students can select from mid-level courses such as Psychopathology, Behavioral Neuroscience, and Sensation and Perception. Psychology majors also complete a comprehensive senior project (“comps”) in which they engage in an in-depth investigation of a focused psychological topic. Our classes help students develop a range of skills, such as writing and speaking, information literacy, quantitative reasoning, scientific literacy, and critical thinking. The department also sponsors the popular [Cross-Cultural Psychology in Prague](#) study-abroad program, which runs every other fall.

Notably, our students are able to pursue their passion for learning not just in traditional classrooms, but also through collaborating on [faculty research projects](#). As a result, each year a number of psychology majors co-author conference presentations and professional publications with faculty. Many of our students go on to outstanding graduate and professional programs, including law, medical, and business schools, and a significant number of Carleton graduates are among the most prominent psychologists in the field today. As just one example, Dr. Daniel Simons ('91, currently at U of IL) developed the “Invisible Gorilla” video (if you haven’t seen it, I recommend you search for it online!) and subsequent book.

The [Carleton psychology faculty](#) consists of dedicated and innovative teachers and researchers who have received national teaching awards and been awarded federal research grants. Our faculty and courses are roughly divided into three subareas: (1) biological and behavioral psychology, (2) cognitive psychology, and (3) social, personality, clinical and developmental psychology.

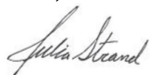
Biological and behavioral psychology faculty (Drs. Flores-Montoya, Meerts, Neiworth, and Wichlinski) teach courses including Primate Cognition, Sleep and Dreaming, and Hormones and Behavior. They conduct research on primate cognition, the neuroscience and hormones of female sexual behavior in rats, the effects of early lead exposure on memory, and sleep behavior. The department has animal colonies – including endangered cotton-top tamarin monkeys, rats, and pigeons – that faculty and students use for research.

Cognitive psychology faculty Drs. Galotti, Strand, and Van der Wege teach courses that include Sensation and Perception, Memory Processes, and Language and Deception. Their research interests range from speech perception to conversational processes to applying memory research to education. The department has research facilities, equipment (including eye trackers), and software to study cognitive phenomena.

The last area of psychology covers a diverse set of faculty interests: personality, social psychology, health psychology, clinical psychology, and developmental psychology. Our faculty (Drs. Akimoto, Lutsky, and Abrams) offer courses across these areas, with research interests in quantitative reasoning, stereotypes and prejudice, and anxiety disorders and PTSD, among other topics.

I would be happy to answer any questions you have and can be contacted at jstrand@carleton.edu

Best,



Julia Strand

Associate Professor and Chair, Psychology Dept.

