

Sarah A. McCormick

Department of Psychology • Center for Cognitive and Brain Health • Northeastern University
805 Columbus Avenue, Boston, MA 02120
sa.mccormick@northeastern.edu

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH TRAINING

- 2022 – Present** **Future Faculty Fellow and Postdoctoral Research Fellow**
Northeastern University
PI: Laurel J. Gabard-Durnam, Ph.D.
- 2016 – 2022** **Ph.D. Psychology, Developmental Science**
M.S. Psychology, Developmental Science
University of Massachusetts Amherst
PI: Kirby Deater-Deckard, Ph.D.
- 2013 – 2016** **Research Study Coordinator**
Boston Children’s Hospital
PI: Charles A. Nelson, Ph.D.
- 2009 – 2013** **B.S. Psychology, Neuroscience**
University of Massachusetts Amherst
PI: Lisa S. Scott, Ph.D.

RESEARCH GRANTS

- Pending** DP5 National Institute of Health Early Independence Award
Mechanisms Supporting Early Learning in the Context of Environmental Noise
Role: Principal Investigator
- 2022** Future Faculty Fellowship, Northeastern University
Total Amount: \$65,000
- 2022** Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship, UMass Amherst
Total Amount: \$12,000
- 2020** Center for Research on Families Dissertation Award
Total Amount: \$500
- 2019** Graduate School Pre-dissertation Research Grant, UMass Amherst
Total Amount: \$655

HONORS & TRAVEL AWARDS

- 2023** ISDP Conference Travel Award
- 2021** Center for Research on Families Travel Award
- 2020** Wendy Helmer Memorial Graduate Student Service Award
- 2019** Center for Research on Families Graduate Grant Writing Program Scholar
- 2018** Occasional Temperament Conference Travel Award
- 2017** ERP Bootcamp Scholar (NIH-funded workshop), UC Davis
- 2013** Research Assistant Award, UMass Amherst

PUBLICATIONS

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9. **McCormick, S.A.**, Deater-Deckard, K., & Hughes, C.E. (2022). Household clutter and crowding constrains associations between maternal sensitivity and child theory of mind. *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 40(2), 271 – 286. <http://doi.org/10.1111/bjdp.12406>
 8. **McCormick, S.A.**, Chary, M., & Deater-Deckard, K. (2022). Associations between child theory of mind, mutuality in father-preschooler dyads, and household chaos. *Social Development*, 31(1), 212 – 231 <https://doi.org/10.1111/sode.12529>
 7. Bowman, L.C., **McCormick, S.A.**, Kane-Grade, F., Xie, W., Bosquet Enlow, M., Nelson, C.A. (2022). Infants' neural responses to emotional faces are related to maternal anxiety. *The Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 63(2), 152-164. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcpp.13429>
 6. Hong, Y., **McCormick, S.A.**, Deater-Deckard, K., Calkins, S.D., Bell, M.A. (2021). Household chaos, parental responses to emotion, and child emotion regulation in middle childhood. *Social Development*, 30(3), 786-805. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sode.12500>
 5. Helm, A.F., **McCormick, S.A.**, Deater-Deckard, K., Smith, C.L., Calkins, S.D., Bell, M.A. (2020). Parenting and children's executive function development across the transition to school. *Infant and Child Development*, 29:e2171. <https://doi.org/10.1002/icd.2171>
 4. Miguel, H.O., **McCormick, S.A.**, Westerlund, A., Nelson, C.A. (2019). Rapid face processing for positive and negative emotions in 5-, 7-, and 12-month-old infants: an exploratory study. *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 37(4), 486-504. <https://doi.org/10.1111/bjdp.12288>
 3. Xie, W.*, **McCormick, S.A.***, Westerlund, A., Bowman, L.C., Nelson, C.A. (2019). Neural correlates of facial emotion processing in infancy. *Developmental Science*, 22:e12758. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.12758>
*These authors contributed equally to this work as co-first authors
 2. Vanderwert, R.E., Westerlund, A., Montoya, L., **McCormick, S.A.**, Miguel, H.O., Nelson, C.A. (2015). Looking to the eyes influences the processing of emotion on face-sensitive event-related potentials in 7-month-old infants. *Developmental Neurobiology*, 75(10), 1154-1163. <https://doi.org/10.1002/dneu.22204>
 1. Perdue, K.L., Westerlund, A., **McCormick, S.A.**, Nelson, C.A. (2014). Extraction of heart rate from functional near-infrared spectroscopy in infants. *Journal of Biomedical Optics*, 19(6), 067010. <https://doi.org/10.1117/1.JBO.19.6.067010>

BOOK CHAPTERS

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1. Deater-Deckard, K., Chary, M., and **McCormick, S.A.** (2018). Biological factors in parenting and child development. In M. Sanders & A. Morawska (Eds.). *Handbook of Parenting and Child Development Across the Lifespan* (pp. 27-45). New York: Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-94598-9_2

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

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1. Chary, M., **McCormick, S.A.**, Deater-Deckard, K. (under review). The interactive effects of amount of father caregiving and father-child relationship quality on child self-regulation.

 INVITED TALKS

- 2024** Research Lecture Series, New England College of Ophthalmology
Visual Development and Face Processing in U.S. Infants Exposed to GABA Agonists
- 2023** Center for Cognitive and Brain Health, Northeastern University
Parsing Chaos in Early Childhood
- 2021** Plasticity in Neurodevelopment (PINE) Lab, Northeastern University
Familial and Environmental Influences on Theory of Mind Development

 ORAL PRESENTATIONS

- McCormick, S.A.,** Underwood, E., Tao, A., Kim, I., Coffman, S., Nelson, C.A., Berde, C., Hensch, T.K., Cornelissen, L., Gabard-Durnam, L.J. (2023, July). *Visual development and face processing in U.S. infants exposed to GABA agonists*. Flash talk paper presented at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology Meeting in Utrecht, Netherlands.
- Forest, T.A., **McCormick, S.A.,** Amso, D., & Gabard-Durnam, L.J. (2023, May). *Maternal predictability in dyadic parent-infant interactions: a role for shaping the engagement of critical learning and memory systems in early infancy*. Paper presented at the Association for Psychological Science Conference in Washington, D.C.
- McCormick, S.A.,** Underwood, E., Tao, A., Kim, I., Coffman, S., Nelson, C.A., Berde, C., Hensch, T.K., Cornelissen, L., Gabard-Durnam, L.J. (2023, March). *Variation in Timing of Perceptual Narrowing for Faces in U.S. Infants Exposed to General Anesthesia*. Flash talk paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference in Salt Lake City, UT.
- McCormick, S.A.,** Chary, M.C., & Deater-Deckard, K. (2021, April). *Associations between mutuality, household chaos, and child theory of mind in father-preschooler dyads*. Flash talk paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference, online due to COVID-19.
- McCormick, S.A.,** Chary, M.C., & Deater-Deckard, K. (2020, November). *Moderating role of parent behavior on links between shy temperament and theory of mind*. Paper presented at the Occasional Temperament Conference, online due to COVID-19.
- Deater-Deckard, K., **McCormick, S.A.,** McQuillan, M., Bates, J.E. (2018, May). *Mother-Toddler Differences in Temperament: Family Context and "Fit"*. Paper presented at the Occasional Temperament Conference in Murcia, Spain.
- Bowman, L.C., **McCormick, S.A.,** Zhou, A.M., Cataldo, J.K., Nelson, C.A. (2017, May). *Predictors of Social Competence in Preschool Children: The Role of Temperament and Neural Correlates of Emotion-Perception over the First 3 Years of Life*. Paper presented at the Association for Psychological Science Conference in Boston, MA.
- Vanderwert, R.E., **McCormick, S.A.,** Dinardo, P.B., Westerlund, A., Nelson, C.A. (2016, May). *Attentional response to emotion faces is modulated by infant temperament*. Paper presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies in New Orleans, LA.
- Perdue, K.L., Cataldo, J.K., Westerlund, A., **McCormick, S.A.,** Nelson, C.A. (2016, May). *Age-dependence of*

emotional face processing in infants as measured with functional near-infrared spectroscopy. Paper presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies in New Orleans, LA.

Bowman, L.C., **McCormick, S.A.**, Westerlund, A., Dinardo, P.B., Zhou, A.M., Nelson, C.A. (2016, May). *Infant predictors of childhood internalizing: the role of temperament and neural correlates of emotion-perception*. Paper presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies in New Orleans, LA.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

⁺Co-mentored undergraduate student

Herr, D., Zieff, M.R., Goolam Nabi, Z., Mazubane, T., Bradford, L., Davel, L., Williams, S.R., Methola, B., Knipe, C., Khumalo, A., Negota, R., Nkubangu, K., Madi, Z., Mlandu, N., Mhlakwaphalwa, T., Samuels, R., Pan, T., Jacobs, C.A., Williams, S., Miles, M., **McCormick, S.A.**, Gabard-Durnam, L.J., Gladstone, M., Donald, K.A. (2023, December). *Investigating the relationship between household chaos, maternal depression, and infant cognition: Results from a South African birth cohort*. Poster to be presented at the 5th International Developmental Pediatrics Congress in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Davel, L., **McCormick, S.A.**, Zieff, M.R., Bosco, C., Margolis, E.T., Williams, S.R., Samuels, R., Williams, S., Jacobs, C.A., Mlandu, N., Pan, T., Madi, Z., Mhlakwaphalwa, T., Mazubane, T., Goolam Nabi, Z., Miles, M., Gabard-Durnam, L.J., Donald, K.A. (2023, December). *The association between maternal postpartum depression and frontal alpha asymmetry in infants: Preliminary results from a South African birth cohort*. Poster to be presented at the 5th International Developmental Pediatrics Congress in Johannesburg, South Africa.

McCormick, S.A., Bosco, C., Zieff, M.R., Miles, M., Jacobs, C.A., Williams, S., Bradford, L., Davel, L., Knipe, C., Madi, Z., Mazubane, T., Methola, B., Mhlakwaphalwa, T., Mlandu, N., Nkubungu, K., Pan, T., Samuels, R., Williams, S., Fifer, W., Amso, D., Donald, K.A., & Gabard-Durnam, L.J. (2023, September). *Neural activity during statistical learning and associations with household chaos*. Poster presented at the FIT'NG Society Meeting in Santa Rosa, CA.

McCormick, S.A., Bosco, C., Zieff, M.R., Miles, M., Jacobs, C.A., Williams, S., Bradford, L., Davel, L., Knipe, C., Madi, Z., Mazubane, T., Methola, B., Mhlakwaphalwa, T., Mlandu, N., Nkubungu, K., Pan, T., Samuels, R., Williams, S., Fifer, W., Amso, D., Donald, K.A., & Gabard-Durnam, L.J. (2023, September). *Resting state neural activity in the first year of life and associations with household chaos*. Poster presented at the Flux Society Meeting in Santa Rosa, CA.

McCormick, S.A., Barry, J.C.⁺, Chary, M., & Deater-Deckard, K. (2022, April). *Associations between parental and child mental-state language, household chaos, and theory of mind in father-preschooler dyads*. Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society Bi-ennial conference in Madison, WI.

Anderson, C., Cousins, E., Arredondo, M.G., Devarajan, K., Zuñiga, L., Golden, N., Lee, N., Keisling, B., Bryant, R., Fernandez, N., Chacón-Vargas, K., Burrows, B., Vik, R., Kang, S., **McCormick, S.A.** (2020, November). *BRiDGE: Enhancing Diversity and Inclusion in Lecture Series with Broader Impacts and Mentoring Opportunities*. Poster presented at the Soil Science Society of America Meeting, online due to COVID-19.

McCormick, S.A., Chary, M.C., Helm, A.F., & Deater-Deckard, K. (2020, November). *Links between father-child EEG asymmetry, temperament, and behavior*. Poster presented at the Occasional Temperament Conference, online due to COVID-19.

- Arredondo, M.G., Devarajan, K., Anderson, C., Bechtold, E., Bryant, R., Burrows, B., Chacon-Vargas, K., Cousins, E., Egwuatu, A., Fernandez, N., Golden, N., Kashyap, S., Kiesling, B., **McCormick, S.A.**, Vik, R. (2019, December). *BRiDGE: Enhancing Lecture Series with Broader Impacts and Mentoring Opportunities*. Poster presented at the American Geophysical Union Centennial Meeting in San Francisco, CA.
- Hong, Y., **McCormick, S.A.**, Deater-Deckard, K., Bell, M.A. (2019, March). *Role of Household Chaos in the Association Between Supportive Parenting and Child Emotion Regulation*. Poster to be presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference in Baltimore, MD.
- Normil, P.⁺, **McCormick, S.A.**, Deater-Deckard, K. (2018, August). *Development of Executive Function in Families*. Poster presented at the UMass LSAMP Undergraduate Research Conference, Amherst, MA.
- Xie, W., **McCormick, S.A.**, Westerlund, A., Bowman, L.C., Cataldo, J.K., Zhou, A.M., Nelson, C.A. (2018, July). *The Development of Cortical Source Responses to Emotional Expressions in the First Year of Life*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies in Philadelphia, PA.
- McCormick, S.A.**, Deater-Deckard, K., Bell, M.A. (2018, May). *Household chaos and the link between temperament and physiology in predicting child internalizing behaviors*. Poster presented at the Occasional Temperament Conference in Murcia, Spain.
- McCormick, S.A.**, Chary, M.C., Deater-Deckard, K., Bell, M.A. (2017, May). *The Role of Stability in Frontal EEG Asymmetry and Correlates of Household Chaos and Behavior in Early Childhood*. Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Science Conference in Boston, MA.
- McCormick, S.A.**, Westerlund, A., Bowman, L.C., Zhou, A.M., Cataldo, J.K., Nelson, C.A. (2017, April). *Neural Correlates of Emotional Face Processing and Anxious Behaviors in Early Childhood: An ERP Study*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference in Austin, TX.
- Perdue, K.L., Cataldo, J.K., **McCormick, S.A.**, Westerlund, A., Nelson, C.A. (2016, October). *fNIRS reveals distinct infant emotional face processing*. Poster presented at the Society for functional Near Infrared Spectroscopy Biennial Meeting in Paris, France.
- McCormick, S.A.**, Westerlund, A., Bowman, L.C., Dinardo, P.D., Zhou, A.M., Nelson, C.A. (2016, May). *Discrimination of Emotional Faces in Infancy and Early Childhood: A Longitudinal ERP Study*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies in New Orleans, LA.
- Bowman, L.C., **McCormick, S.A.**, Westerlund, A., Dinardo, P.B., Zhou, A.M., Nelson, C.A. (2016, May). *Infant predictors of childhood social competence: The role of temperament and neural correlates of emotion-perception*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies in New Orleans, LA.
- Perdue, K.L., Westerlund, A., **McCormick, S.A.**, Ravicz, M., Nelson, C.A. (2015, June). *Age-dependence of emotional face processing in infants as measured with functional near-infrared spectroscopy*. Poster presented at the Organization for Human Brain Mapping Meeting in Honolulu, HI.
- McCormick, S.A.**, Westerlund, A., Vanderwert, R.E., Dinardo, P.B., Nelson, C.A. (2015, March). *Discrimination of Negative and Positive Emotions in the First Year of Life: An ERP Study*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference in Philadelphia

Miguel, H.O., Westerlund, A., **McCormick, S.A.**, Nelson, C.A. (2014, May). *Developmental Trajectory of Face Processing for Positive and Negative Emotions: Where Do Babies Look?* Poster presented at the 4th UK Paediatric Neuropsychology Symposium in London, U.K.

Montoya, L., Vanderwert, R.E., Westerlund, A., **McCormick, S.A.**, Nelson, C.A. (2014, April). *ERP Differences in Infants' Ability to Discriminate Emotions*. Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society Meeting, Boston, MA.

McCormick, S.A., Hadley, H., Scott, L.S. (2013, April). *The Effects of Early Individual Level Training on the Processing of Human Faces in Early Childhood*. Poster presented at the Massachusetts Statewide Undergraduate Research Conference, Amherst, MA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record	Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience (Psych 391RR) University of Massachusetts Amherst Semesters Taught: Summer 2022, Summer 2021, Winter 2021
	Developmental Psychology (Psych 350) University of Massachusetts Amherst Semesters Taught: Fall 2019, Summer 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018
Teaching Assistant	Research Methods (Psych 241) University of Massachusetts Amherst Spring 2017
	Introduction to Psychology (Psych 100) University of Massachusetts Amherst Fall 2016
Other Teaching	Ethics in Psychological Research Graduate Instructor Conduct workshops (~8 per semester/summer) introducing fundamental concepts of conducting ethical research for new undergraduate research assistants, with a focus on human subjects research. Responsible for updating and revising the content of this training. Summer 2018 – Fall 2021
	Guest Lecture, "Emotion" Courses: Developmental Psychology, Honors Developmental Psychology University of Massachusetts Amherst Spring 2022, Spring 2020, Spring 2019

SERVICE & OUTREACH

2019 – 2022	BRiDGE Committee BRiDGE is a student-led program that features early career scholars from underrepresented backgrounds as part of a departmental lecture series to combat attrition of graduate students from underrepresented backgrounds.
2016 – 2022	Psychological and Brain Sciences Graduate Student Diversity Committee <i>Co-chair, Fall 2017 – Spring 2019</i>
2019 – 2021	First-Year Mentoring Group Developed programming to help first-year students acclimate to graduate student life.

- 2016 – 2021** **College Matters for U**
UMass Center in Springfield/Healthy Development Initiative
Engage K – 12 students in interactive sessions on STEM topics and research careers
- 2018 – 2020** **CNS Graduate Student Advisory Council**
Represent department graduate students and advise the Dean and administration of CNS.
- 2018 – 2020** **UMass PBS Graduate Studies Committee**
Assist in reviewing and revising policies and procedures of the graduate program
- 2018 – 2019** **Brain Science Outreach**
Chestnut Middle School, Springfield, MA
Develop and run weekly workshops for 6th – 8th grade students on STEM topics
- 2017** **UMass Developmental Recruitment Day Planning Committee**
- 2013 – 2016** **PRADA/IMPACT, Boston Children’s Hospital**
I.M.P.A.C.T. (Interactive Music Performance At Children’s hospiTal)
Engage BCH patients through volunteer-led music workshops

REVIEW EXPERIENCE

Ad hoc reviewer: *Scientific Reports – Nature; Journal of Family Psychology; Collabra: Psychology; Child Development; Journal of Child and Family Studies; Journal of Family Violence; Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry; Early Child Development and Care; Current Psychology; Infant and Child Development*

Conference reviewer: Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development (BCCCD) 2023 Conference; ICIS Infancy 2024 Conference

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for Research in Child Development; International Congress for Infant Studies; Association for Psychological Science; Cognitive Development Society; Cognitive Neuroscience Society; International Society for Developmental Psychobiology; Flux; Fetal, Infant, and Toddler Neuroimaging Group