

## Abigail L. Kleinsmith, Ph.D.

*Visiting Assistant Professor of Psychology*

Skidmore College

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### Research Interests

Perceptual expertise; music cognition; the eye-mind link in expert music reading

### Education & Employment

- **2022 – present:** Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, *Skidmore College (Saratoga Springs, NY)*
- **2022:** Ph.D., Cognitive Psychology, *University at Albany, SUNY (Albany, NY)*
  - Thesis Title: *Expertise Effects on Visual Change Detection in the Music Reading Domain: Evidence from Eye Movements* (Dr. Heather Sheridan)
- **2021 – 2022:** Teaching Fellow, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, *Augustana College (Rock Island, IL)*
- **2015:** M.A., Cognitive Psychology, *University at Albany, SUNY (Albany, NY)*
  - Thesis Title: *Key Generalization of Recognition Memory for Melodies* (Dr. W. Trammell Neill)
- **2012:** B.A., Psychology, *State University of New York at Oswego (Oswego, NY)*

### Teaching Experience

<i>Skidmore College</i>	
<b>2022-present</b>	The Psychology of Expertise (PS 312; 4 cr.)
	Perception (PS 225; 3 cr.)
	Music Cognition (PS 336; 4 cr.)
	Cognition (PS 218; 4 cr.) *
<i>Augustana College</i>	
<b>2022</b>	Statistics (PSYC 240; 3 cr.)
	First-Year Inquiry (FYI 102; 3 cr.)
<b>2021</b>	Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 100; 3 cr.)
<i>University at Albany, SUNY</i>	
<b>2018-2020</b>	Memory and Cognition (APSY 381; 3 cr.) *
<b>2015-2017</b>	Statistical Methods in Psychology (APSY 210; 3 cr.)
<b>2015</b>	Memory and Cognition (APSY 381; 3 cr.)

\* asynchronous (online) delivery

## Publications

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### Journal Articles

Sheridan, H. & Kleinsmith, A. L. (2021). Music reading expertise affects visual change detection Evidence from a music-related flicker paradigm. *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 75(9), 1643-1652.

<https://doi.org/10.1177%2F17470218211056924>

Kleinsmith, A. L., & Neill, W. T. (2018). Recognition of transposed melodies: Effects of pitch distance and harmonic distance. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 25(5), 1855-1860. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13423-017-1406-5>

Kleinsmith, A. L., Friedman, R. S., & Neill, W. T. (2017). Reinvestigating the impact of final ritardandi on music evaluation and felt musical tension. *Psychomusicology: Music, Mind, and Brain*, 27(4), 267-280.

<https://doi.org/10.1037/pmu0000195>

Friedman, R. S., Neill, W. T., Seror, G. A., & Kleinsmith, A. L. (2017). Average pitch height and perceived emotional expression within an unconventional tuning system. *Music Perception*, 35(4), 518-523.

<https://doi.org/10.1525/mp.2018.35.4.518>

Kleinsmith, A. L., Friedman, R. S., & Neill, W. T. (2016). Exploring the impact of final ritardandi on evaluative responses to cadential closure. *Psychomusicology: Music, Mind, and Brain*, 26(4), 346-357. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pmu0000159>

Neill, W. T., & Kleinsmith, A. L. (2016). Spatial negative priming: Location or response? *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 78(8), 2411-2419. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13414-016-1176-6>

### Book Chapters

Sheridan, H., Maturi, K. S., & Kleinsmith, A. L. (2020). Eye movements during music reading: Towards a unified understanding of visual expertise. In E. Schotter & K. Federmeier (Eds.), *The psychology of learning and motivation*, Vol. 73 (pp. 119 - 156). Academic Press. <https://doi.org/10.1016/bs.plm.2020.07.002>

## Presentations

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### Oral Presentations

Kleinsmith, A. L. and Sheridan, H. *The perceptual specificity of expertise in music reading: Evidence from eye movements*. 20<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Eye Movements (ECEM), Alicante, Spain. August 21, 2019.

Kleinsmith, A. L., Belli, V. F., Bostwick, J. M., & Neill, W. T. *The perceptual structure of major and minor chords*. 17<sup>th</sup> annual Auditory Perception, Cognition, & Action Meeting (APCAM), New Orleans, LA, USA. November 15, 2018.

Kleinsmith, A. L. & Neill, W. T. *Effects of pitch distance and harmonic similarity on recognition of transposed melodies*. 15<sup>th</sup> annual Auditory Perception, Cognition, and Action Meeting (APCAM), Boston, MA, USA. November 17, 2016.

Kleinsmith, A. L., Friedman, R. S., & Neill, W. T. *Exploring the impact of final ritardandi on evaluative responses to cadential closure*. Local Music Cognition Symposium, Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY, USA February 27, 2016.

## **Poster Presentations**

Spear, A. I. (*presenter*), Johnson, R. L., Ashby, J., & **Kleinsmith, A. L.** (2023, November). *To boldly go where no text has gone before: The effects of boldface letters on eye movements in reading*. The Psychonomic Society meeting, San Francisco, CA, USA.

**Kleinsmith, A. L.** & Sheridan, H. (2019, November). *Rotating music scores affects experts more than novices: Evidence from eye movements*. The Psychonomic Society meeting, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

**Kleinsmith, A. L.** & Sheridan, H. (2018, November). *Visual complexity interacts with music reading expertise: Evidence from eye movements*. The Psychonomic Society meeting, New Orleans, LA, USA.

**Kleinsmith, A. L.** & Sheridan, H. (2018, May). *Visual expertise in a music reading flicker paradigm*. Vision Sciences Society meeting, St. Pete Beach, FL, USA.

Friedman, R. S. & **Kleinsmith, A. L.** (2017, July). *Reinvestigating the psychological function of final ritardandi*. Society for Music Perception and Cognition meeting, San Diego, CA, USA.

**Kleinsmith, A. L.** & Neill, W. T. (2016, November). *Where's the key? A test of octave equivalence in recognition memory for melodies*. The Psychonomic Society meeting, Boston, MA, USA.

Belli, V. F. (*presenter*), **Kleinsmith, A. L.**, & Neill, W. T. (2016, November). *The influence of inversions on the perception of major and minor chords*. Auditory Perception, Cognition, and Action Meeting (APCAM), Boston, MA, USA.

Neill, W. T. & **Kleinsmith, A. L.** (2015, November). *The testing effect in memory: more benefit for better learned material*. The Psychonomic Society meeting, Chicago, IL, USA.

**Kleinsmith, A. L.** & Neill, W. T. (2015, November). *The effect of key distance on recognition of non-diatonic melodies*. Auditory Perception, Cognition, and Action Meeting (APCAM), Chicago, IL, USA.

**Kleinsmith, A. L.** & Neill, W. T. (2014, November). *Where's the key? Recognition memory for diatonic and nondiatonic melodies*. The Psychonomic Society meeting, Long Beach, CA, USA.

Neill, W. T. & **Kleinsmith, A. L.** (2014, May). *Spatial negative priming: Location or response?* Vision Sciences Society meeting, St. Pete Beach, FL, USA.

**Kleinsmith, A. L.**, Bostwick, J., Seror III, G., & Neill, W. T. (2013, November). *Key generalization of recognition memory for melodies*. The Psychonomic Society meeting, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

## Workshops, Colloquia, and Invited Guest Lectures

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### *University at Albany, SUNY*

Year	Title	Description
2019	Girls Inc. Eureka! program workshop	Helped develop and implement four one-hour interactive workshops about EEG and eye tracking for 8th grade girls interested in STEM in the greater Albany area.
2018	Microsoft Excel Workshops	Developed and implemented workshops for intermediate use of Microsoft Excel for data analysis
	<i>Within-Subjects Designs</i>	Invited guest lecture; Research Methods in Psychology
	<i>Expertise Effects in a Music Reading Paradigm</i>	Invited guest lecture; The Psychology of Expertise
2017	<i>What Our Eyes Can Tell Us About the Brain</i>	Colloquium lecture for Intro Psych students
2014	<i>Music Cognition: Studying Brains with Music</i>	Colloquium lecture for Intro Psych students

## Mentoring Experience

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### *Undergraduate Mentorship in Behavioral Research Labs*

- *Lab Directors: Dr. Heather Sheridan* (Fall 2015 – Spring 2022) and *Dr. W. Trammell Neill* (Fall 2012 – Spring 2015)
- Trained and supervised 50+ undergraduate research assistants across two different research labs, e.g.,
  - Instruction and training regarding protocol and expectations of a working in psychology research lab
  - Creation and management of schedules and timetables for data collection
  - Implementation of weekly training workshops to use technical apparatuses (eye tracker and EEG)
  - Organization and supervision of stimulus creation
  - Provided mentorship and advice for students considering graduate school and related exams; provided letters of recommendation
  - Assisted with statistical analysis and interpretation for multiple student's Honors/senior theses

### *Undergraduate Mentorship Outside of the Classroom*

- **Community Assistant for a Psychology Living-Learning Community (L-LC)** (Fall 2016 – Spring 2017)  
([http://www.albany.edu/student\\_engagement/living-learning/](http://www.albany.edu/student_engagement/living-learning/))
  - Engaged in community-building events for a select group of 25 freshmen interested in psychology; organized and planned weekly meetings and events (academic study sessions, community service, résumé critiques and career advice, social events, etc.)
- **Club Advisor: To Write Love On Her Arms** (Spring 2017 – Spring 2018)
  - This is a student-organized suicide prevention and awareness organization.
  - Assisted student leaders with organizing a suicide prevention and awareness walk on campus in collaboration with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP).

## Academic Honors, Awards, and Grants

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### *University at Albany, SUNY*

- **Recipient of the 2022-2023 Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award**
- **Recipient of the 2019-2020 President's Excellence in Teaching Award**
- Nominated for The Daniel and Wendy J. L. Keyser Teaching Excellence Award (2020; 2019)
- **University at Albany Benevolent Research Grant for Graduate Students (2017): \$250.00**
- **Graduate Initiatives Grant (2014): \$249.00**
- **Initiatives for Women Endowment award (2014): \$500.00**
- **Graduate Initiatives Grant (2013): \$200.00**

*last updated February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024*