

# Tessa M. Jordan

## *Curriculum Vitae*

Department of Psychology  
Grand Valley State University  
2127 Au Sable Hall Cell  
1 Campus Drive  
Allendale, MI 49401-9403  
Office (616) 331-9236  
Email [jordant@gvsu.edu](mailto:jordant@gvsu.edu)

---

### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Associate Professor Grand Valley State University 2015-present

### EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of New Mexico Psychology [2014]

B.A. University of New Mexico Psychology [2006]

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests are in developmental psychology, particularly cognitive development with a specific focus on conceptual development in early childhood. My primary line of research examines the nature of developmental change in pre-school aged children's understanding of living things (plants and animals) and nonliving things (tools and toys). I also investigate the development of young children's concepts of time and their understanding of identity.

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Autry, K.S., **Jordan, T.**, Girgis, H., & Falcon, R. (2020). The development of young children's mental timeline in relation to emergent literacy skills. *Journal of Cognition and Development*, 21, 1-22.

**Margett-Jordan, T.**, Falcon, R. G., & Witherington, D. C. (2017). The development of preschoolers' living kinds concept: A longitudinal study. *Child Development*, 88, 1350-1367.

Gaspelin, N., **Margett-Jordan, T.**, & Ruthruff, E. (2014). Susceptible to distraction: Children lack top-down control over spatial attention capture. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 22, 461-468.

**Margett, T. E., & Witherington, D. C.** (2011) The nature of preschoolers' concept of living and artificial objects. *Child Development*, 82, 2067-2082.

Witherington, D. C. & **Margett, T. E.** (2011). How conceptually unified is the dynamic systems approach to the study of psychological development? *Child Development Perspectives*, 5, 286- 290.

Witherington, D. C. & **Margett, T. E.** (2010). The dynamic interplay of theory and method through time: Essay review of Dynamic Process Methodology in the Social and Developmental Sciences. *Human Development*, 53, 160-165.

Witherington, D. C., Campos, J. J., Harriger, J. A., Bryan, C., & **Margett, T. E.** (2010). Emotion and its development in infancy. In G. Bremner and T. D. Wachs (Eds.), *The Wiley-Blackwell handbook of infant development, Vol. 1, Basic Research, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (pp. 568-591). Cambridge: Blackwell.

Witherington, D. C. & **Margett, T. E.** (2009). Systems and dynamic systems: The search for inclusive merger. *Human Development*, 52, 251-256.

#### **MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION**

**Jordan, T.,** Witherington, D.C., & Corker, K. (in preparation). Preschoolers' psychological and biological understanding of living kinds and artifacts: A longitudinal study. *Cognitive Development*

**Jordan, T.,** Witherington, D.C., & Corker, K. (in preparation). The development of preschooler's understanding of identity.

#### **POSTERS & PRESENTATIONS**

Stewart, J.M, & **Jordan, T.** (2019, March). The development of young children's understanding of identity. Poster Presentation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Southwest Michigan Psychology Undergraduate Conference.

Stewart, J.M, & **Jordan, T.** (2019, April). What makes a dog a dog? Preschoolers' understanding of identity. Oral presentation at GVSU's Student Scholars Day.

Stewart, J.M, & **Jordan, T.** (2018, December). The development of children's understanding of identity. Oral presentation at GVSU's Psychology Department Student Presentation Day.

**Margett-Jordan, T.,** Autry, K., Girgis, G., (2017, April). Influence of Reading on the Development of the Left-Right Mental Timeline. Poster presentation at *Society for Research on Child Development biannual conference*.

Schoel, M., & **Margett-Jordan, T.** (2017, April). The development of children's mental timeline. Poster presentation at GVSU's Student Scholars Day.

Schoel, M., & **Margett-Jordan, T.** (2016, November). The development of children's mental timeline. Oral presentation at GVSU's Psychology Department Student Presentation Day.

**Margett-Jordan, T.** (September, 2016). Susceptible to distraction: Children lack top-down control over spatial attention capture. Oral presentation at GVSU's Psychology Research Colloquium Series.

## **GRANTS**

12/2019 CSCE Research Mini Grant

12/2018 CSCE Dissemination Travel Grant

01/2017 Pew FTLC Faculty Conference Travel Grant

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

2010-Present Member, American Psychological Association

2008-Present Member, Society for Research on Child Development

## **SERVICE**

Fall 2022 – present– Psychology Department Personnel Committee

Fall 2020 – present –Student Success Network Executive Council

Spring 2019 – present – Student Success Network Faculty Partner

Fall 2019 - present – Psychology Retention Committee, Chair

Fall 2015 – present – Developmental Teach Circle Committee

Fall 2022 – Laker Experience Day

Fall 2019 – Winter 2020 – Psychology Advisory Committee

Fall 2019 – Winter 2020 – Faculty Learning Community: first year student support

Fall 2019 – Employability Skills Network, Community based research

Fall 2019 – CLAS Pre-professional Advising, mock MMI interviewer

Fall 2019 – Falls Majors Fair

Fall 2019 – Laker Experience Day

Fall 2017 – Winter 2020 – CLAS Faculty Development Committee

Fall 2016 – Fall 2018 – Psychology Research Colloquium

Spring 2016, 2017, 2019, 2020, & 2022 – Faculty Discussant at GVSU's Transition Orientation Program

Fall 2015, Fall 2019, & Winter 2020 – Psychology Faculty Meeting Recorder

Winter 2016 – CLAS Awards of Distinction Interviewer

Winter 2016 – Psychology Film Series Committee Member