

TODD J. WILLIAMS

Curriculum Vitae | 24.01.2023

1307 Au Sable Hall | Department of Psychology | Grand Valley State University | Allendale | MI | 49401
todd_williams@gvsu.edu

Doctor of Philosophy (2009)

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology
University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada

Dissertation Title: Extrinsic contingency focus and reactions to idealized body images in advertising media.

Bachelor of Arts (2001)

Psychology, Awarded with Distinction
University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada,

Academic Employment

Associate Professor, <i>Grand Valley State University</i> , Psychology	(08.2014 – Present)
Assistant Professor, <i>Grand Valley State University</i> , Psychology	(08.2008 – 08.2014)
Teaching/Research Assistant, <i>University of Alberta</i> , Psychology	(08.2003 – 08.2008)
Research Consultant, <i>University of Alberta</i> , Art and Design	(07.2005 – 06.2008)
Instructor, <i>University of Alberta</i> , Psychology	(01.2007 – 08.2007)

Research Grants

Grand Valley State University (05.2021 - 09.2021) Student Summer Scholars Program (S3)
Machiavellianism and Coping Strategies. [Student – Lily Kedzuch], \$7,750 USD.

Grand Valley State University (05.2020 - 09.2020) Student Summer Scholars Program (S3)
Machiavellianism and Morality. [Student – Elise Richards], \$6,000 USD.

Grand Valley State University (03.2018 – 07.2018) REACH Scholars Program *Awareness of Belief Change* [Co-supervisor – Michael Wolfe, Ph.D.; Student – Alexander Denison], \$6,750 USD.

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Grand Valley State University (05.2014 - 09.2014) Student Summer Scholars Program (S3) *I can't remember: The effects of lying and Machiavellianism on people's ability to recall past events*. [Co-Supervisor – Michael Wolfe, PhD; Student - Isaac Simon], \$6,000 USD.

Grand Valley State University (05.2014-09.2014) Student Summer Scholars Program (S3) *Desire for cognitive consistency as a potential explanation for poor recollection of past beliefs* [Co-Supervisor – Michael Wolfe, PhD; Student – John Hessler], \$6,000 USD.

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (07.2009–06.2010) – Killam Cornerstone Grant “*Luxury of the North*” [Collaborator; PI- Tim Antoniuk], \$45,100 CAD. (\$28,000 CAD in kind support from Droog)

Manuscripts in Progress

Williams, T. J., Richards, E., Monaghan, C., & Wolfe, M. B. (draft). Machiavellianism and Morality.

Williams, T. J., Wolfe, M., & Denison, A. (draft). Awareness of Belief Change Predicts Increased Information Seeking.

Williams, T. J., Kedzuch, L., Wolfe, M. & Denison, A. (draft). Machiavellian Views and Tactics are Associated with Coping Strategies and Life Satisfaction.

Hart, L., Wolfe, M., Williams, T. J. & Russel, G. (draft) Belief Change After Reading Predicts Argumentative Essay Content

Peer Reviewed Publications

Wolfe, M. B. & Williams, T. J., Dewey, E., Mitchell, J., Pomp, A. & Wolfe, B. (In Press). Awareness of health change is associated with weight loss following bariatric surgery. *Health Psychology*.

Monaghan, C., Bizumic, B., Williams, T., & Sellbom, M. (2020). Two-dimensional Machiavellianism: Conceptualization, theory, and measurement of the views and tactics dimensions. *Psychological Assessment*, 32(3), 277–293. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pas0000784>

Wolfe, M. B. & Williams, T. J. (2018). Poor metacognitive awareness of belief change. *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 71, 1898-1910. DOI: 10.1080/17470218.2017.1363792

Wolfe, M. B. & Williams, T. J. (2017). Effects of text content and beliefs on informal argument evaluation. *Discourse Processes*, 54, 446-462. DOI: 10.1080/0163853X.2017.1319654

- Hayes, J., Schimel, J., Williams, T. J., Howard, A., Webber, D. & Faucher, E. (2015). Worldview accommodation: Selectively modifying committed beliefs provides defense against worldview threat. *Self and Identity*, 14, 521-548.
- Williams, T. J., Schimel, J., Hayes, J. & Usta, M. (2014). Following and resisting body image ideals in advertising: The moderating role of extrinsic contingency focus. *Self and Identity*, 14, 398-418. DOI: 10.1080/15298868.2013.836133
- Galen, L., Williams, T. J. & Ver Wey, A. (2014). Personality ratings are influenced by religious stereotype and group identity bias. *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*, 24, 282-297. DOI:10.1080/10508619.2013.837658
- Williams, T. J., Schimel, J., Hayes, J. & Faucher, E. (2012). The effects of existential threat on reading comprehension of worldview affirming and disconfirming information. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 42, 602-616.
- Williams, T. J., Schimel, J., Hayes, J. & Martens, A. (2010). The moderating role of extrinsic contingency focus on reactions to threat. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 40, 300-320.
- Hayes, J., Schimel, J., & Williams, T. J. (2008). Fighting death with death: The buffering effects of learning that worldview violators have died. *Psychological Science*, 19, 501-507.
- Hayes, J., Schimel, J., Faucher, E. H., & Williams, T. J. (2008). Evidence for the death thought accessibility hypothesis II: Threatening self-esteem increases the accessibility of death thoughts. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 44, 600-613.
- Strachan, E., Schimel, J., Arndt, J., Williams, T., Solomon, S., Pyszczynski, T., & Greenberg, J., (2007). Terror Mismanagement: Mortality salience exacerbates phobic and compulsive behaviors. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 33, 1137-1151.
- Schimel, J., Hayes, J., Williams, T. J. & Jahrig, J. (2007). Is death really the worm at the core? Converging evidence that worldview threat increases death-thought accessibility. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 92, 789-803.
- Schimel, J., Wohl, M. J. A. & Williams, T. J. (2006). Terror management and trait empathy: Evidence that mortality salience promotes reactions of forgiveness among people with empathic (vs. non-empathic) worldviews. *Motivation and Emotion*, 30, 217-227.
- Williams, T. J., Schimel, J., & Gillespie, M. (2003). The security of obedience: Evidence that mortality salience promotes conformity to authority among individuals raised by authoritarian parents. In J. Gifford & G. Zenzulka-Mailloux. Eds. *Culture and the State: Alternative Interventions*, Vol. 4. Edmonton, AB: University of Alberta CRC Studio.

Community Reports

Brace, K., McHolme, L., Smith, T. & Williams, T. J. (2013). Community Literacy Initiative: Literacy Needs and Opportunities in Grand Rapids Hope Zones. Grand Rapids, MI. Literacy Center of West Michigan.
<http://www.literacycenterwm.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/2014-Hope-Zone-CNA-Report.pdf>

McHolme, L. & Williams, T. J. (2013). Community Literacy Initiative: Literacy Volunteer Survey Report. Grand Rapids, MI. Literacy Center of West Michigan.
<http://www.literacycenterwm.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Literacy-Volunteer-Report1.pdf>

Recent Refereed Presentations (Bolded names indicate student mentees)

Wolfe, M. & Williams, T. J. (Accepted for presentation: June, 2023). *Comprehension as a Function of Belief Consistency: Null Results*. Paper presented at the 33rd Conference of the Society for Text & Discourse, Oslo, Norway.

Hart, L., Wolfe, M., **Russell, G.**, & Williams, T. J. (July, 2022). *Belief change after reading predicts argumentative essay content*. Paper presented at the 32nd Conference of the Society for Text & Discourse, Virtual.

Hart, L., **Russell, G.**, Wolfe, M. & Williams, T. J. (April, 2022). *Information about past beliefs influences current beliefs*. Poster presented at the Annual Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

Kedzuch, L., Williams, T. J., & Wolfe, M. (April, 2022). *Machiavellian views and tactics and their associations with coping strategies, locus of control and life satisfaction*. Poster presented at the Annual Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

Russell, G., Williams, T. J., **Denison, A.**, Wiernik, B. & Wolfe, M. (April, 2022). *Machiavellian views and tactics: Association with workplace values and vocational interests*. Poster presented at the Annual Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

Thompson, C., Williams, T. J., **Richards, E.**, **Denison, A.**, & Wolfe, M. (April, 2022). *Differentiating Machiavellian views and tactics: Associations with moral foundations*. Poster presented at the Annual Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

Wolfe, M. B., Williams, T. J., Dewey, E. N., & Wolfe, B. M., (November, 2021). Poor metacognitive awareness of health change following bariatric surgery. Paper presented at the conference of the Psychonomic Society, Virtual.

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- Wolfe, M. B., Williams, T. J., **Denison, A. J., Rose, M., Gilbert, H., & Olsen, K.** (July, 2020). *Does misinformation about past beliefs influence current beliefs*. Paper presented at the 30th Conference of the Society for Text & Discourse, Virtual.
- Williams, T. J., **Denison, A. J.**, & Wolfe, M. B., (February, 2019). *Machiavellianism predicts careless responding if incentive is present*. Poster presented at the 21st Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Research Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Williams, T. J., Wolfe, M. B., Moore, S., **Denison, A.**, & Monaghan, C. (September, 2019). *Awareness of belief change and information seeking*. Paper presented by invitation at the Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue (Québec, Canada)
- Wolfe M. B., Williams, T. J., & **Denison, A.** (July, 2019). *Association between awareness of belief change and information seeking*. Paper presented at the 29th Conference of the Society for Text & Discourse, New York, NY.
- Williams, T. J., Wolfe, M. B., **Simon, I. & Denison, A. J.** (February, 2019). *Memory, machiavellianism, lies and latent semantic analysis*. Poster presented at the 20th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Research Conference, Portland, OR.
- Denison, A. J., Wolfe, M. B., Williams, T. J., **Ciagala, K. & Evans, T.** (February, 2019). *Awareness of belief change predicts novel information seeking*. Poster presented at the 20th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Research Conference, Portland, OR.
- Monaghan, C., Bizumic, B., Williams T. J. & Selbom, M. (March, 2018). *Two-dimensional measure of Machiavellianism*. Poster presented at the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Research Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Williams, T. J. (April, 2017). *The role of fear and existential anxiety in social and political judgement*. Paper presented by invitation at the Center for Inquiry Lecture Series, Grand Rapids, MI
- Williams, T. J. (February, 2017). *The role of fear and existential anxiety in social and political judgement*. Paper presented by invitation at the Back to Basics Lecture Series (Sponsored by the Haustein Center), Grand Rapids, MI
- Wolfe M. B., Williams, T. J., **Confer, S., Johnson, B. & Lambert, K.** (August, 2017). *Metacognitive awareness of belief change*. Paper presented at the 27th Conference of the Society for Text & Discourse, Philadelphia, PA.
- Williams, T., Dillard, A. & **Confer, S.** (June, 2017). *The influence of gender and expressed emotion on judgments of individuals with disabilities*. Poster presented at the 1st International Symposium on Intergroup Communication. Thessaloniki, Greece.
- Wolfe M. B., Williams, T. J., **Rydecki, K. & Loutzenhiser, D.**, (July, 2016). *Argument evaluation biases change following belief change*. Paper presented at the 26th Conference of the Society for Text & Discourse, Kassel, Germany.

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Williams, T. J., Dillard, A., **Toth, M., & Confer, S.**, (June, 2016). *The intersection of emotion, gender and physical ability on the judgement of others*. Poster presented at the 77th conference of the Canadian Psychological Association, Victoria, BC.

Wolfe M. B., **Simon, I. D.**, Williams, T. J., & **Hessler, J. K.**, (August, 2015). *Lying and telling the truth: Machiavellianism as a moderator of the influence of lying on later memory*. Paper presented at the 25th conference of the Society for Text & Discourse, Minneapolis, MN.

Williams, T. J., Dillard, A. & **Desautels, A.** (2015, February). *The role of facial expressions on perceptions of individuals with disabilities*. Poster presented at the 15th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Research Conference, Long Beach, CA.

Simon, I., Hessler, J., Williams, T. J. & Wolfe, M. B. (2015, February). *Machiavellianism moderates the relationship between lying and recall of past events*. Poster presented at the 15th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Research Conference, Long Beach, CA.

Hessler, J., Simon, I., Wolfe, M. B., Williams, T. J. & Moore, S. (2015, February). *The role of cognitive consistency in memory for beliefs after belief change*. Poster presented at the 15th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Research Conference, Long Beach, CA.

Williams, T. J. (August, 2014). *Information Literacy in the Field of Psychology*. Invited Panel Discussant. Michigan Instruction Exchange (MIX) Conference, Allendale, MI.

Wolfe M. B., Williams, T. J., **Geers, C. G., Hessler, J. K., & Simon, I. D.** (August, 2014). *Belief change and memory for previous beliefs after comprehension of contentious scientific information*. Paper presented at the 24th conference of the Society for Text & Discourse, Chicago, IL.

Williams, T., **Hessler, J., Simon, I.**, Hayes, J. & Schimel, J. (2014, February). *I am top shelf: The effect of image oriented advertising and extrinsic contingency focus on attitudes toward high and low status consumer products*. Poster presented at the Attitudes Pre-conference at the 14th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Research Conference, Austin, TX.

Williams, T., Galen, L. & **Ver Wey, A** (2014, February). *Ratings of prosocial personality traits are contaminated by religious stereotype bias*. Poster presented at the 14th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Research Conference, Austin, TX.

Media

Krauss Whitbourne, S. (2020, February). 12 Signs that you are Dealing with a Master Manipulator. Psychology Today.

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<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/fulfillment-any-age/202002/12-signs-you-re-dealing-master-manipulator>

McRaney, D. (2018, March). You are not so smart – Episode 124: *Belief Change Blindness*.
<https://youarenotsosmart.com/podcast/>

Fracassi, J. (2017, February). *GVSU professor to discuss "Fear and Anxiety" as part of lecture series* [Newspaper] Grand Valley Lanthorn.

Grand Valley State University (2015, May 8). *Faculty Spotlight*. [Webpage profile; YouTube].
<https://www.gvsu.edu/admissions/spotlight.htm?spotlightId=B22D2E63-FA90-B92B-94D693F3990ECBA0>

Kalinoski, S. (2012, April 11). *The Psychology of Gas Prices*. [Television broadcast]. Grand Rapids, MI: WZZM13

Mitchell, L. (2012, October 28). *Film Projection Series Sparks Cross-Discipline Dialogue*. [Newspaper] Grand Valley Lanthorn.

Martinez, S. (2011, December, 14). *Secret Santa Giving Continues: More than 40 layaway bills paid off at Grand Rapids Kmart*. [MLive Online Newspaper] Retrieved from
http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2011/12/secret_santa_giving_at_grand_r.html

Otman, H. (2010, December, 5). *Like a Little Invades GVSU Campus*. [Newspaper] Grand Valley Lanthorn.

Teaching Experience

Psychology 400: *Advanced Research Methods in Psychology*. Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI.

Psychology 300: *Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology*. Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI.

Psychology 360: *Social Psychology*. Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI.

Psychology 101: *Introduction to Psychology*. Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI.

Psychology 105: *Individual and Social Behavior*. University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB.

Professional Service

Ad Hoc Reviewing

Cognitive Processes

Death Studies

European Journal of Social Psychology

Journal of Experimental Social Psychology

Journal of Forensic Psychology Research and Practice

Journal of Personality

Journal of Personality and Social Psychology

Motivation and Emotion

Plos One

Political Psychology

Psychological Reports

Self and Identity

Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology