

Sydney Garlitch, Ph.D.
Psychology Department
Grand Valley State University
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Positions Held

2024-present	Affiliate Professor Grand Valley State University
2022-2024	Assistant Professor Millikin University

Education

2022	Ph.D. University of North Carolina at Greensboro Advisor: Christopher Wahlheim Dissertation: <i>Examining the Associations Between Adult Age Differences, Attention, and Episodic Memory Updating</i>
2019	M.A. Major: Psychology University of North Carolina at Greensboro Thesis: <i>The Role of Attentional Fluctuation in Recollecting Episodic Changes</i> Advisor: Christopher Wahlheim
2016	B.S. Major: Psychology Grand Valley State University Magna Cum Laude

Teaching Experience

Grand Valley State University
Affiliate Professor

2024-present

- PSY 364 Life Span Developmental Psychology (Winter 2025)
- PSY 364 Life Span Developmental Psychology (Fall 2025)
- PSY 301 Child Development (Fall 2025)

Millikin University
Assistant Professor

2022-2024

- PS 450 Psychology Research Capstone (Spring 2024, Spring 2023)
- PS 240 Lifespan Development (Spring 2024)

- PS 360 Advanced Statistics and Experimental Psychology (Spring 2024, Fall 2023)
- PS 303 Cognitive Neuroscience (Spring 2024, Fall 2022)
- PS 332 Memory and Cognition (Fall 2023)
- PS 360 Event Cognition (Spring 2023)
- PS 315 Sensation and Perception (Spring 2023)
- PS 130 Introductory Psychology (Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023)
- PS 360 Biopsychosocial Aspects of Aging (Fall 2022)

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Instructor

2021-2022

- PSY 375 Psychology of Aging (Spring 2022)
- PSY 121 General Psychology (Fall 2021)

Teaching Assistant

2018-2020

- PSY 250 Developmental Psychology (Spring 2020)
- PSY 455 Social/Personality Development (Spring 2020)
- PSY 311 Research Methods in Psychology Lab (Fall 2019)
- PSY 310 Statistics in Behavioral Science Research (Spring 2019)
- PSY 311 Research Methods in Psychology Lab (Fall 2018)
- PSY 483 Human Memory (Spring 2018)

Teaching Interests

Lifespan Development; Introductory Psychology; Cognitive Psychology; Research Methods; Psychology of Aging

Publications

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Wahlheim, C. N., Fiedler, J. L., **Garlitch, S. M.**, & Weidler, B. J. (2025). Self-reported attention to changes and associations with episodic memory updating. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 140, 104577.

Wahlheim, C. N., **Garlitch, S. M.**, *Mohamed, R. M., & Weidler, B. J. (2024). Associations among attentional state, retrieval quality, and mnemonic discrimination. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 139, 104554.

Wahlheim, C. N., Smith, S. T., **Garlitch, S. M.**, & Wiley, R. W. (2023). Interpolated retrieval retroactively increases recall and promotes cross-episode memory interdependence. *Learning & Memory*, 30, 151-163. <https://doi.org/10.1101/lm.053782.123>

Wahlheim, C. N., **Garlitch, S. M.**, *Mohamed, R. M., & Weidler, B. J. (2023). Self-reported encoding quality leads to lure rejections and false alarms. *Learning & Memory*, 30(4), 96-100. <https://doi.org/10.1101/lm.053751.123>

Garlitch, S. M., Richmond, L. L., Ball, B. H., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2022). Adult age differences in subjective context retrieval in dual-list free recall. *Memory*, 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09658211.2022.2139846>

Garlitch, S. M., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2021). Directing attention to event changes improves memory updating for older adults. *Psychology and Aging*, 36(4), 475-490. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pag0000503>

Magliano, J. P., Kurby, C. A., Ackerman, T., **Garlitch, S. M.**, & Stewart, J. M. (2020). Lights, camera, action: The role of editing and framing on the processing of filmed events. *Journal of Cognitive Psychology*, 32(5-6), 506-525. <https://doi.org/10.1080/20445911.2020.1796685>

Garlitch, S. M., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2020). The role of reminding in retroactive effects of memory for older and younger adults. *Psychology and Aging*, 35(5), 697-709. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pag0000427>

****Garlitch, S. M.**, & Wahlheim, C. N. (2020). The role of attentional fluctuation during study in recollecting episodic changes at test. *Memory & Cognition*, 48(5), 800-814. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13421-020-01018-4>

Wahlheim, C. N., & **Garlitch, S. M.** (2020). Adult age differences in the use of temporal and semantic context in dual-list free recall. *Psychology and Aging*, 35(1), 143-157. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/pag0000425>

Book Chapters

Wahlheim, C. N., **Garlitch, S. M.**, & Kemp, P. L. (2021). Context differentiation and reminders in episodic memory updating. In K. D. Federmeier & L. Sahakyan (Eds.), *The Psychology of Learning and Motivation*, (Vol. 75).

**Best article of the year award.

*Undergraduate student co-author.

Conference Presentations

Kurby, C. A., **Garlitch, S. M.**, Hall, A. L., & Magliano, J. P. (2025, November 22). *Film editing and event segmentation in older adults*. 66th Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Denver, CO, United States.

Garlitch, S. M., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2023, March 20). *A direct comparison of updating from semantic and episodic memory* [Paper presentation]. 95th Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL, United States.

Garlitch, S. M., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2022, November 19). *A direct comparison of updating from semantic and episodic memory* [Poster presentation]. 63rd Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA, United States.

Garlitch, S. M., Wahlheim, C. N., Richmond, L. R., & Ball, B. H. (2022, April 7-10). *Adult age differences in the dynamics of context retrieval: Subjective remembering in dual-list free recall* [Poster presentation]. Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA, United States.

Garlitch, S. M., Wahlheim, C. N., Richmond, L. R., & Ball, B. H. (2021, November 20). *Adult age differences in free recall dynamics and subjective reports of retrieved context* [Poster presentation]. 62nd Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Virtual.

Kemp, P. L., **Garlitch, S. M.,** Loaiza, V. M., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2021, November 20). *The role of correction saliency in misinformation reminder effects on memory and beliefs* [Poster presentation]. 62nd Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Virtual.

Garlitch, S. M., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2020, November 20). *Directing attention to event changes improves memory updating for older adults* [Poster presentation]. 61st Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Virtual.

Garlitch, S. M., Alexander, T. R., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2020, April 18). *Directing attention to changes improves event memory for older and younger adults* [Poster presentation]. Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA, United States. (Conference canceled)

Garlitch, S. M., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2020, March 21). *Directing attention to changes improves event memory for older adults* [Paper presentation]. North Carolina Cognition Conference, Durham, NC, United States. (Conference canceled)

Garlitch, S. M., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2019, November 15). *The role of attention in recollecting episodic changes* [Poster presentation]. 60th Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Montréal, QC, Canada.

*Infante Arismendi, C. D., **Cody, S. M., & Wahlheim, C. N.** (2019, April 4). *Spatial cueing effects on memory for event change* [Poster presentation]. 13th Thomas Undergraduate Research and Creativity Expo, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC, United States.

Cody, S. M., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2019, March 23). *The role of attentional fluctuation in recollecting episodic changes* [Poster presentation]. North Carolina Cognition Conference, Raleigh, NC, United States.

Cody, S. M., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2018, November 17). *Retroactive effects of memory in older and younger adults: The role of remembering change* [Poster presentation]. 59th Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New Orleans, LA, United States.

*Infante Arismendi, C. D., **Cody, S. M.**, & Wahlheim, C. N. (2018, November 2-4). *Spatial cueing effects on memory for event change* [Poster presentation]. 3rd SoCon Undergraduate Research Forum, Spartanburg, SC, United States.

Cody, S. M., & Wahlheim, C. N. (2018, February 17). *Retroactive effects of memory in older and younger adults: The role of remembering change* [Poster presentation]. North Carolina Cognition Conference, Chapel Hill, NC, United States.

Cody, S. M., & Kurby, C. A. (2016, February 19). *Film editing, event segmentation, and memory in older adults* [Poster presentation]. 11th Arts & Sciences of Aging Conference, Grand Rapids, MI, United States.

Cody, S. M., & Chen, J. (2016, February 19). *Changes in speed in older and younger adults* [Poster presentation]. 11th Arts & Sciences of Aging Conference, Grand Rapids, MI, United States.

Invited Talks

Resolving Interference and Updating Long-Term Memory, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, February 24, 2023.

Examining Adult Age Differences and the Role of Attention in Memory Updating, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI (Virtual), November 15, 2021.

Undergraduate Mentoring Experience

Millikin University

Senior Honor's Psychology Capstone

- Emily Kemp, Spring 2023
- Mackenzie Jones, Spring 2024

Senior Psychology Capstone

- Danielle Farrar, Spring 2024
- Hayley Fitzpatrick, Spring 2024

Scholarships and Awards

2021	Incentive Award, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, The Graduate School
2020	Psychonomic Society Graduate Conference Award
2020	Lindsey Award, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Department of Psychology

2020	Best Article Award in <i>Memory & Cognition</i>
2020	Elizabeth Duffy Graduate Scholarship, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Department of Psychology
2017	Greensboro Graduate Scholar Award, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Department of Psychology

University Service

December 2023-February 2024	Criminal Justice Search Committee Member (Millikin University)
February 2023	Long-Vanderburg Scholarship Interviewer (Millikin University)
August 2023-May 2024	Council on Student and Academic Standards Member (Millikin University)

Professional Activities

Ad-Hoc Reviewer

Memory
Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition
Memory and Cognition

Professional Affiliations

2023-present	Member of Society for the Teaching of Psychology
2022-present	Member of Midwestern Psychologist Association
2020-present	Member of Women in Cognitive Science

Specialized Training

Open Education Resources Bootcamp	July 10-August 13, 2023; Millikin University (asynchronous mini-course)
Intro to R for Data Analysis	May 2018; University of North Carolina at Greensboro