

CURRICULUM VITAE

ALAYNA E. SHOENFELT

945 Center Drive
Gainesville, FL 32601
ashoenfelt@ufl.edu

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- ❖ Face and Gaze Perception
- ❖ Social Cognition & Decision-Making
- ❖ Adult Lifespan Development and Aging
- ❖ Susceptibility to Deception, Financial Fraud, and Cyberattacks
- ❖ Eye-tracking Methodology

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Psychology, University of Florida** *In progress*
Department of Psychology, Gainesville, FL
Cumulative GPA, 4.0
Dual Specialization: Developmental Psychology and Behavioral & Cognitive Neuroscience
Dissertation: *The Role of Eye-gaze in Trust-related Decision Making in Aging*
- M.S., Psychology, University of Florida** December 2023
Department of Psychology, Gainesville, FL
Cumulative GPA, 4.0
Dual Specialization: Developmental Psychology and Behavioral & Cognitive Neuroscience
Master's Thesis: *Effects of Chronic Intranasal Oxytocin Administration on Face Processing in Aging: An Eye Tracking Study*
- B.A., Honors in Psychology, Indiana University of Pennsylvania** December 2020
Department of Psychology, Indiana, PA
Cumulative GPA, 4.0
Minor in Biomedical Science
Honors Thesis: *The Influence of a Potential Human Pheromone on Anxiety and Emotion Detection*

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Shoenfelt, A.,** Isaacowitz, D. M., & Ebner, N. C. (2025). Eye Tracking in Aging: Challenges, Best Practices, and Novel Frontiers. [Special Issue] *ACM Trans. Appl. Percept.*
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3733834>
- Pehlivanoglu, D., **Shoenfelt, A.,** Hakim, Z., Heemskerk, A., Zhen, J., Huentelman, M., Grilli, M.D., Wilson, R.C., Turner, G., Spreng, R.N., & Ebner, N.C. (2024). Phishing vulnerability compounded by older age, APOE4 genotype, and lower cognition. *PNAS Nexus.*
<https://doi.org/10.1093/pnasnexus/pgae296>
- Shoenfelt, A.,** Pehlivanoglu, D., Lin, T., Ziaei, M., Feifel, D., & Ebner, N.C. (2024). Effects of chronic intranasal oxytocin on visual attention to faces vs natural scenes in older adults. *Psychoneuroendocrinology*, 164, 107018. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psyneuen.2024.107018>
- Horta, M., **Shoenfelt, A.,** Lighthall, N. R., Perez, E., Frazier, I., Heemskerk, A., Lin, T., Wilson, R.C., & Ebner, N. C. (2024). Age-group differences in trust-related decision-making and learning. [Special Issue] *Scientific Reports.* <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-50500-x>

Ebner, N. C., Pehlivanoglu, D., & Shoenfelt, A. (2023). Financial fraud and deception in aging. *Advances in Geriatric Medicine and Research*, 5(3). <https://doi.org/10.20900/agmr20230007>

SUBMITTED MANUSCRIPTS & PREPRINTS

Perez, E., Shoenfelt, A., Lighthall, N.R., Frazier, I., El-Shafie, D., Lin, T., & Ebner, N.C. (under review). The Social Iowa Gambling Task (S-IGT): A novel paradigm for investigating social learning and decision making. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/s5xq9>

GRANTS

Pilot Research Grant: Scientific Research Network on Decision Neuroscience & Aging (SRNDNA) (NIH 1R24AG076847-03) January 2025 – December 2025

Project Title: *Age-Related Deception Detection Deficits in Face-to-Face Dyadic Interactions: A Mechanistic Analysis*

PI: Alayna Shoenfelt, M.S.

Co-PIs: Kylie Wright, M.S. & Natalie Ebner, Ph.D.

Total Award: \$24,000

National Institute on Aging T32 Fellowship August 2023 – August 2025

Training Program: Research Training in Non-Pharmacological Interventions for Cognition in Aging, MCI, and Alzheimer's Disease (T32AG020499)

Mentor: Dr. Natalie Ebner

Director: Dr. Michael Marsiske

HONORS AND AWARDS (\$85,000+ TOTAL)

Trish Ring Research Award May 2025 – May 2026

Award: \$3000

Project: *Age-Related Deception Detection Deficits in Face-to-Face Dyadic Interactions*

Gerber Developmental Psychology Research Award March 2025

Award: \$2000

Jaquelin Goldman Dissertation Fellowship August 2025 – August 2026

Award: 12-month stipend support

Jaquelin Goldman Research Award January 2025 – August 2025

Award: \$5000

Project: *Age-Related Deception Detection Deficits in Face-to-Face Dyadic Interactions*

Department of Psychology Travel Award December 2024

Award: \$750

Workshop: Spring 2025, Dyadic Longitudinal Data Analysis (virtual)

Cluff Aging Research Award March 2024

Award: \$1,250

Department of Psychology Travel Award March 2024

Award: \$750

Conference: Summer 2024, World Congress on Neurohypophysial Hormones in Atlanta, GA

Jaquelin Goldman Research Award December 2023 – August 2024

Award: \$5000

Project: *An Eye Towards Aging: Gaze Perception of Naturalistic and Computer-Generated Faces Across the Lifespan*

Graduate Student Council Travel Award

December 2023

Award: \$350

Conference: Spring 2024, Social Affective Neuroscience Society Meeting in Toronto, ON, CA.

Department of Psychology Travel Award

December 2023

Award: \$750

Conference: Spring 2024, Social Affective Neuroscience Society Meeting in Toronto, ON, CA.

Jaquelin Goldman Spring Scholarship

May 2023 – August 2023

Award: \$6000

Funding to be used in Summer 2023

Jaquelin Goldman Research Award

December 2022 – August 2023

Award: \$5000

Project: *A Neural Network Approach to Understanding Fake News Detection Across the Adult Lifespan*

Sallie P. Ashe Travel Award

December 2022

Award: \$500

Conference: Spring 2023 Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference in Dallas, TX

Department of Psychology Travel Award

November 2022

Award: \$750

Conference: Spring 2023 Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference in Dallas, TX

Jaquelin Goldman Spring Scholarship

May 2022 – August 2022

Award: \$6000

Funding to be used in Summer 2022

Jaquelin Goldman Research Award

December 2021 – August 2022

Award: \$4997

Project: *Oxytocin and Aging Study*

Graduate Student Council Travel Award

December 2021

Award: \$350

Conference: Spring 2022 Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference in Dallas, TX
(cancelled due to COVID-19)

Sallie P. Ashe Travel Award

December 2021

Award: \$500

Conference: Spring 2022 Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference in Dallas, TX
(cancelled due to COVID-19)

Department of Psychology Travel Award

November 2021

Award: \$600

Conference: Spring 2022 Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference in Dallas, TX
(cancelled due to COVID-19)

Undergraduate Summer Opportunity for Applying Research

June - August 2020

Award: \$2000

Project: *Beliefs and Knowledge Regarding Covid-19*

Research Experience for Summer Scholars

June - August 2019

Award: \$1500

Project: *The Effects of Systemic Dopamine Administration on the Behavior of Orange Head Cockroaches (Eublaberus Posticus)*

PRESENTATIONS

*Denotes an undergraduate mentee

Shoenfelt, A., Pehlivanoglu, D., Lin, T., Ziaei, M., Feifel, D., & Ebner, N. C. (May, 2024). *Effects of chronic intranasal oxytocin on visual attention to faces vs natural scenes in older adults*. Poster at the 14th World Congress on Neurohypophysial Hormones, Atlanta, GA, USA.

Shoenfelt, A., Pehlivanoglu, D., Lin, T., Ziaei, M., Feifel, D., & Ebner, N. C. (April, 2024). *Chronic intranasal oxytocin effects on visual attention to social vs nonsocial stimuli in older adults* Poster at the Social & Affective Neuroscience Society Conference, Toronto, ON, CA

Shoenfelt, A., Pehlivanoglu, D., Lin, T., Feifel, D., & Ebner, N. C. (November, 2023). *Effects of chronic intranasal oxytocin on visual attention to social vs nonsocial stimuli in older adults*. Poster at the Society for Social Neuroscience Conference (virtual).

Pehlivanoglu, D., **Shoenfelt, A.**, Horta, M., Lin, T., Woods, A., Feifel, D., & Ebner, N. C. (November, 2023). *Temporal Dynamics of Oxytocin in Aging: Putting the Tri-Phasic Model into Test*. Talk at the Society for Social Neuroscience (virtual).

Warren, R.*, El-Shafie, D., **Shoenfelt, A.**, Heemskerk, A., Lin, T., Ebner, N.C., (November, 2023). *State-trait anxiety moderates age effects on theory of mind*. Poster at the Fall Undergraduate Research Symposium at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL, USA.

Kantor, M.*, **Shoenfelt, A.**, Pehlivanoglu, D., Heemskerk, A., Hakim, Z., Grilli, M., Huentelman, M., Turner, G., Spreng, N., & Ebner, N.C. (April, 2023). *Susceptibility to Online Deception in Aging*. Poster at the Undergraduate Research Symposium at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL, USA.

Kantor, M.*, **Shoenfelt, A.**, Pehlivanoglu, D., Heemskerk, A., Hakim, Z., Grilli, M., Huentelman, M., Turner, G., Spreng, N., & Ebner, N.C. (April, 2023). *Susceptibility to Online Deception in Aging*. Poster at the PGSO Undergraduate Research Forum at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL, USA.

Horta, M. H., **Shoenfelt, A.**, Perez, E., Frazier, I., Heemskerk, A., Lin, T., Lighthall, N. R., & Ebner, N. C. (February, 2023). *Age differences in trust-related decision-making*. North Central Florida Society for Neuroscience Annual Chapter Conference, Gainesville, FL, USA.

Shoenfelt, A.E., Pehlivanoglu, D., Lin, T., Krol, K., Perkeybile, A., Connelly, J., & Ebner, N. C. (February, 2023). *Associations Between Oxytocin Receptor Gene Methylation and Emotional Face Processing in Older Adults*. Poster at the Dallas Aging and Cognition conference in Dallas, TX, USA.

Horta, H., **Shoenfelt, A.E.**, Perez, E., Frazier, I., Heemskerk, A., Lin, T., Lighthall, N.R., Ebner, N.C. (February, 2023) *Age differences in trust-related decision-making and learning*. Talk at the Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference, Dallas, TX, USA.

Pehlivanoglu, D., **Shoenfelt, A.E.**, Heemskerk, A., Hakim, Z., Zhen, J., Huentelman, M., Grilli, M. D., Wilson, R. C., Turner, G., Spreng, R. N., & Ebner, N. C. (February, 2023). *Phishing in-the-Lab and in-the-Wild: Older age, APOE4 and Cognitive Status Predict Particular Susceptibility to Online Scams*. Talk at the Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference, Dallas, TX, USA.

Shoenfelt, A., Pehlivanoglu, D., Heemskerk, A., Hakim, Z., Grilli, M., Huentelman, M., & Ebner, N.C. (2022, February). *Susceptibility to Email Phishing in Older Adults and Individuals at Particular Risk for Alzheimer's Disease*. Poster accepted for the Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference in Dallas, TX (cancelled due to COVID-19).

Shoenfelt, A., Pehlivanoglu, D., Heemskerk, A., Hakim, Z., Grilli, M., Huentelman, M., & Ebner, N.C. (2022, January). *Susceptibility to Email Phishing in Older Adults and Individuals at Particular Risk for Alzheimer's Disease*. Poster presented at the 12th Annual North Central Florida Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience Conference in Gainesville, FL.

Shoenfelt, A., & Perillo, J. (2020, October). *Investigating Covid-19 Beliefs and Consequences*. Invited poster presentation at the Natural Sciences and Mathematics Advancement Council Meeting held virtually in Indiana, PA.

Shoenfelt, A., & Perillo, J. (2020, August). *Beliefs and Knowledge Regarding Covid-19*. Paper presented virtually at the annual Indiana University of Pennsylvania Undergraduate Summer Opportunities for Applying Research symposium, Indiana, PA.

Fouts, A., **Shoenfelt, A.**, Wright, S., & Perillo, J.* (2020, May). *Conspiracy beliefs about Covid-19: An investigation of predictors and consequences*. Paper presented at the semi-annual Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Psychology Department Colloquium, Indiana, PA.

*co-presented by the first three authors, listed alphabetically

Shoenfelt, A., & Farrell, W. (2019, August). *The effects of systemic dopamine administration on the behavior of Orange Head Cockroaches (Eublaberus Posticus)*. Poster presented at the annual Indiana University of Pennsylvania Research Experience for Summer Scholars symposium in Indiana, PA.

WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

Dyadic Longitudinal Data Analysis Spring 2025
SMaRT Workshops, Drs. Kate Thorson and Amie Gordon

Practicum AI Summer 2023
University of Florida, Dr. Matthew Gitzendanner

Dynamic Models of Decision-Making Fall 2022
University of Florida, Dr. Peter Kvam

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Role: Instructor, University of Florida Fall 2024
Course: General Psychology (PSY2012)

Role: Teaching Assistant, University of Florida Course: Developmental Psychology (DEP3053) Instructor: Dr. Marina Klimenko	Spring 2022
Role: Guest lecturer, University of Florida Lecture: Emotional Development Course: Developmental Psychology (DEP3053) Instructor: Dr. Shani Kerr	Fall 2021
Role: Guest lecturer, University of Florida Lecture: Social Development Course: Developmental Psychology (DEP3053) Instructor: Dr. Shani Kerr	Fall 2021
Role: Teaching Assistant, University of Florida Course: Developmental Psychology (DEP3053) Instructor: Dr. Shani Kerr	Fall 2021
Role: Peer Mentor, Indiana University of Pennsylvania Course: Research Design and Analysis I (PSYC 290) Instructor: Dr. Krys Kaniasty	Fall 2019

MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Mentee: Reese Chadwick Program: Senior Thesis Project: Age-related Differences in the Integration of Face Cues and its Impact on Trustworthiness Evaluations PI: Natalie Ebner, Ph.D.	Spring 2024 - Current
Mentee: Maya Kantor Program: CLAS University Scholars Program Project: Linking APOE4 Carrier Status and Loneliness to Financial Fraud in Aging Populations PI: Natalie Ebner, Ph.D.	Fall 2022 - Current

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Perez, E., **Shoenfelt, A.**, Horta, M., Ebner, N.C., & Lighthall, N.R. (2024, January 22) Facing wolves in sheep's clothing: How younger and older adults differ in trust-related decision-making and learning. *Behind the Paper by Springer Nature*. <https://communities.springernature.com/posts/facing-wolves-in-sheep-s-clothing-how-younger-and-older-adults-differ-in-trust-related-decision-making-and-learning>

SERVICE

Journal reviews:

<i>ACM Transactions on Applied Perception</i> (invited reviewer)	2024
<i>Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences</i> (reviewer in training)	2024
<i>The International Journal of Psychophysiology</i> (reviewer in training)	2023
<i>Psychology and Aging</i> (reviewer in training)	2022
<i>Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology</i> (reviewer in training)	2022

Volunteer and Organizational Service:

Updated 08/01/2025

Role: Lead Graduate Student Organizer 2024
Program: Jacquelin Goldman & Trish Calvert Ring Speaker Series: Dr. Derek Isaacowitz

Role: Reviewer 2023
Program: UF Journal of Undergraduate Research

Role: Volunteer 2022
Program: Brain Awareness Week, North Central Florida Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience

SKILLS

Technical Skills and Coding Languages:

- Eye-tracking data extraction/processing in SR Research Eyelink Data Viewer
- EEG/ERP data processing in EEGLAB and ERPLAB in MATLAB
- Behavioral coding in Mangold INTERACT
- Adobe Photoshop
- Design and data collection in Qualtrics, REDCAP
- Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint
- R/Rstudio, STATA, MATLAB, Jamovi, SPSS

Statistical Skills:

- Linear and logistic regression
- Multilevel modeling