

## **Thomas Crawford**

*(Last update August, 2025)*

Murray State University

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### **Education**

Arizona State University

Tempe, Arizona

Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology

August 2008 – August 2014

Major GPA: 3.93

Georgia College & State University

Milledgeville, Georgia

B.S. in Psychology

Graduated: May 2008

GPA: 3.53

Psychology GPA: 3.55

### **Awards, Honors, and Memberships:**

Recipient, Hope Scholarship: Fall 2004-Spring 2008

Dean's List

President's List

Psi Chi National Honors Society in Psychology: 2007

### **Research Positions Held**

2024-Present PI: Cognitive Psychology Lab at Murray State University

Department of Psychology, Murray State University

Duties: Initiate, plan, and conduct research on various topics within the realm of Psychology, with a focus on Cognitive Psychology. Create programs and surveys and administer them to participants. Collect and analyze data with statistical software. Write research for submission to academic journals. Oversee undergraduate research assistants.

2020-Present Retention Analyst, Bethel University

Duties: Design surveys and other data collection methods to assess factors driving student retention at Bethel University. Collect and analyze quantitative and qualitative data. Synthesize data and analyses into reports for the administration.

2014-2020 Research Lead: Psychology Lab at Bethel University

Department of Psychology, Bethel University

- Duties: Initiate, plan, and conduct research on various topics within the realm of Psychology, with a focus on Cognitive Psychology. Create programs and surveys and administer them to participants. Collect and analyze data with statistical software. Write research for submission to academic journals.
- 2008-2014      Research Assistant: Prototype Abstraction Lab,  
Department of Psychology, Arizona State University  
Advisor: Dr. Don Homa
- Duties: Investigating how humans categorize, with a focus in multi-modal perception, partial exemplars, and dynamic behavior: created physical and digital stimuli, scheduled research participants, and collected and analyzed data.
- Research Assistants Supervised:  
Coy Mathewson (2012)                      Cade Bartlett (2012)  
Richard Denton (2009-2010)              Matt Zimberg (2010-2011)  
Steven Sprague (2012-2013)
- 2009-2014      Research Collaborator: Perception, Ecological Action, & Learning Lab,  
Department of Psychology, Arizona State University  
Advisor: Dr. Mike McBeath
- Duties: Adding input to prospective research, ongoing research in visual perception and auditory attention.
- 2007-2008      Research Assistant: Infant Cognition Lab  
Department of Psychology, Georgia College & State University  
Advisor: Dr. Karen Bendersky
- Duties: Running college age students for multiple studies: administering surveys and computer mental rotation tasks, input and statistical analysis of collected data.

## **Teaching Positions**

Fall 2024 – Present

Assistant Professor of Psychology  
College of Humanities and Fine Arts, Murray State University

Courses Taught: Introduction to Psychology, Principles and Methods of Statistical Analysis, Principles & Methods of Psychological Research, Personality Theories.

Duties: Creating and giving lectures on all course material, generating and grading assignments, papers, presentations, exams, and other methods of assessment, holding office hours, attending monthly faculty meetings.

Fall 2014 – Fall 2024

Associate Professor of Psychology  
College of Arts and Sciences, Bethel University

Courses Taught: Introduction to Psychology, Social Psychology, Psychological Statistics, Research Methods, Positive Psychology, Industrial/Organizational Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Personality Theories, Contemporary Issues in Psychology, History of Psychology, Learning and Behavior

Duties: Creating and giving lectures on all course material, generating and grading assignments, papers, presentations, exams, and other methods of assessment, holding office hours, attending monthly faculty meetings, assisting in Institutional Effectiveness reviews and course management, advising students in registration and graduation.

### **Professional Associations**

Environment and Behavior Academic Journal  
Reviewer 2020-Present  
Association for Psychological Science  
Member 2008-2013

### **Publications**

Dye, R., Crawford, T., & McBeath, M. (2014). Absence of lateral navigational bias in young children. *Perceptual and Motor Skills*, 119(1), 292-300.

Phuong Do, Donald Homa, Ryan Ferguson, & Thomas Crawford (2012). Haptic Concepts, Haptics Rendering and Applications, Dr. Abdulmotaleb El Saddik (Ed.), ISBN: 978-953-307-897-7, InTech.

### **Ongoing Research Interests**

- Effect of Categorization Experience on Stimulus Similarity
- Dynamics of Categorization: Order Effects and Perturbations
- Self Directed Learning in Categorization Behaviors
- Individual Differences in Categorization Strategy Use
- Collaborative Work on ABA Client Complexity

### **Presentations**

Wood, A., Miles, D., Uhlik, C., Robertson, I., Nelson, K., Herrmann, K., Cushen, P., Crawford, T. (2025). Exploring the Predictors of Academic Motivation in University Students. Poster presented at 2025 Meeting of Midwest Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

- Crawford, T. (2025) *The Effect of Presentation Order on Stimulus Categorization and Similarity*. Poster presented at 2025 Meeting of Midwest Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Crawford, T., & Homa, D. *Modification of Rules vs. Decision Bounds in Category Learning*. Poster presented at the 2014 Meeting of the Psychonomics Society, Los Angeles, CA.
- Crawford, T., Fine, J., & Homa, D. *Hysteresis in Categorization: Fuzzy Logic Makes Fuzzy Boundaries*. Poster presented at the 2012 Meeting of the Psychonomics Society, Minneapolis, MN.
- Crawford, T. (2011, December). *Evidence of Dynamic Behavior in Categorization*. Poster presented at the 2011 UA-ASU Cognitive Conclave, Tuscon, Arizona.
- Brimhall, R., Crawford, T., & McBeath, M. (2011, November). *The Mass Effect Bias: Lighter Objects do not necessarily go further*. Poster presented at the 2011 Meeting of the Psychonomics Society, Seattle, Washington.
- Crawford, T. & Homa, D. (2011, May) *The Effect of Partial Exemplar Experience on Ill-Defined, Multi-modal Categories*. Poster to be presented to the 2011 Association for Psychological Science annual convention, Washington, D.C.
- Binns, D., Bendersky, K., Crawford, T.M., Ollom, T., Stover, J.H., Wigert, B., Furrer, S.D. (2008, May). *Drawing ability and hand gesturing: Predictions of Mental Rotation Task Accuracy*. Poster presented to the 2008 Association for Psychological Science annual convention, Chicago, I.L.

## **Departmental Service**

- 2024-Current    Member of AI Taskforce, Murray State University
- 2024-Current    Advisor of Psychology Club and PSI CHI Chapter, Murray State University
- 2017-2024       Department Coordinator of Psychology Department, Bethel University  
                          2018-2019: Lead Faculty Search  
                          2019-2021: Lead Curriculum Review and Evaluation  
                          Managed Budget, Institutional Effectiveness Reports, and Course Rotations
- 2018-2021       Retention Assessment and Strategies Committee, Bethel University  
                          2018-2021: Chairperson

Assessed students' feelings about Bethel, Bethel's academic offerings/support mechanisms, and administration's successes/failures to improve student retention

- 2015-2017    Co-Advisor for the Psychology Club of Bethel University  
Fall 2016: Helped Organize Suicide Awareness Program
- 2011-2013    Cognition, Action, and Perception Graduate Student Association  
President  
Petitioned for and received \$2000 in funds for the 2012 ASU  
Cognitive Colloquium from the GPSA of ASU.
- March 2011    ASU Cognitive Colloquium: Working Memory and Cognitive Control  
Member of Discussion Panel

**SKILLS:**

**Proficiency in:**

OpenSesame, PSPP and SPSS, Google Classroom and Related Apps, Blackboard Learning Systems software, SONA-systems, CANVAS systems.

**Working knowledge of:**

E-Prime, Psycho-Py, Fruityloops, SAS, R, winbugs, computer hardware.

**REFERENCES:**

Dr. Mike McBeath, Professor of Psychology  
Department of Psychology  
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