

Curriculum Vitae

CARLOS R. SALAS

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Education:

- Currently pursuing PhD in Cognitive Psychology at the University of Illinois at Chicago (2009-Present)
- Graduated in 2009 with honors from California State University Long Beach with a Bachelors Degree in Psychology.
- Graduated in 2007 with honors from the Cerritos College Psychology and Speech Communication programs with Associate in Arts Degrees.

Research Interests:

- Epistemic Rationality and other factors that influence affect vs. evidence based reasoning.
- Conceptual Change/Belief Revision
- Cognitive Factors that influence Text Processing/Comprehension
- The Role of Expertise/Domain-Knowledge in Learning from Text and Problem Solving.
- Metacomprehension and Metamemory

Research Positions Held and Undergraduate Research Experience:

- Fall 2009-Present **Graduate Student Researcher**
Currently working on a research program aimed at Improving Metacomprehension and Self-Regulated Learning from Scientific Texts. This project is funded by Grant R305B070460 to Thomas D. Griffin, Keith W. Thiede and Jennifer Wiley from the Cognition and Student Learning Program of the Institute of Education Sciences.
- Summer 2009 **Summer Research Assistant**
Served as a Research Assistant the University of Illinois at Chicago in Collaboration with Dr. Thomas Griffin as part of the UIC-Transitions to the Doctorate Program. I collected additional data and conducted more fine-grained analyses for the UIC-SROP project 2008 (see Summer 2008).
- Spring 2008-2009 **Project Manager**
Served as project manager in Dr. William Kelemen's Memory and Cognition Lab, Cal State University, Long Beach. Responsible for the completion of an independent research study that investigates the potential interactive effects of

exercise induced arousal and personality trait differences on cognitive performance and metacognitive accuracy. My tasks included the completion of a literature review, designing the experiment, completing an IRB proposal, training and supervising research assistants, analyzing data from the pilot study, and running participants.

Fall 2008-2009

Co-Investigator

Co-investigator on a study examining whether the state-dependent memory effects of exercise-induced physiological arousal extend to metamemory. My duties included designing the study, writing a research proposal for IRB approval, running participants, data entry, and writing an APA style manuscript.

Fall 2008-2009

Research Assistant

Served as an RA in Dr. Guido Urizar's Stress and Health Laboratory. Principle role is as an interviewer in a study utilizing the Trier Social Stress Task (TSST, Kirschbaum et al., 1993) to assess whether a mother's prenatal levels of cortisol production (sampled through oral swabs) predict post-partum depression. Duties include interviewing and debriefing the participants.

Summer 2008

Summer Research Assistant

Conducted a study at the University of Illinois at Chicago in collaboration with Dr. Thomas Griffin as part of the UIC-SROP. This study examined the relationship between prior beliefs, prior knowledge of complex scientific theories, and epistemic values (affect vs. evidence based reasoning), as they interact to affect comprehension and metacomprehension of belief relevant text (consistent vs. inconsistent w/ prior beliefs). This study employed a head mounted eyetracker to assess whether comprehension differences are due to qualitatively different reading behaviors that vary in relation to epistemic values. My duties included the completion of a literature review, programming the study in E-prime, running participants, data analysis and interpretation, and generation of an APA style manuscript.

Fall 2007- 2009

Research Assistant

Worked as an RA in Dr. William Kelemen's Memory and Cognition Lab at Cal State University Long Beach. Involved in a study designed to assess the effects of nicotine gum in conditions of cigarette abstinence as well as non-abstinence on attention, memory, and metacognition. My duties included reviewing relevant literature, scheduling participants, running the experiment, scoring the measures, coding and entering the data into the SPSS database, and performing the initial descriptive and inferential statistical analyses.

Summer 2007

Research Trainee

NIMH-COR Scholar research trainee in Career Opportunities in Research Program at Cal State University Long Beach. I worked with a research team to conduct a secondary data analysis on a subset of a larger survey study that

investigated the relationships among cultural values, identity and psychological distress.

Spring 2006

Research Assistant

-Summer 2006

Served as an RA in Dr. Kimberley J. Duff's social cognition laboratory. Worked as part of a lab group and assisted in the design of a study investigating the relationship between stereotypes, selective attention, and change blindness.

Fall 2005

Research student

I devised and conducted an experiment in an undergraduate research methods course on the effects of conformity and gender stereotypes on memory of a scene depicting social interaction in the workplace.

Publications:

Salas, C., Minakata, K., Kelemen, W.L. (under review). Walking Before Study Can Improve Memory and Absolute Metamemory Accuracy in College Students. *Journal of Sport & Exercise Psychology*.

Conference Presentations:

Griffin, T. & Salas, C. (2009, November). Reduced Comprehension of Explanatory Texts due to Emotional Prior Beliefs and their Incoherent Conceptual Frameworks. Poster to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Chicago, IL.

Salas, C., & Griffin, T. (2009, July). Belief Basis Effects on text comprehension: superior cognitive framework coherence or increased effortful reading processes? Poster presented at the University of Illinois at Chicago SROP Research Symposium.

Salas, C., Minakata, K., & Kelemen, W.L. (2009, May). Walking Improves Word Recall but does not influence Metamemory accuracy. Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Science in San Francisco, CA.

Salas, C., & Griffin, T. (2008, August). Understanding the Theory of Evolution: How Prior Beliefs, Belief Basis, Rationality, and Reading Behavior affect one's Comprehension. Paper presented at the University of Illinois at Chicago SROP Research Symposium.

Salas, C. (2008, April). The Effects of Personality and Exercise on Metacognitive Accuracy. Poster presented at the Psych Day Poster Fair at California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, CA.

Fulton, E.K., Salas, C., White, K.R., & Kelemen W.L. (2008, April). Nicotine Withdrawal Impairs Memory, Confidence, and Metacognitive Accuracy. Poster presented at the 88th Western Psychological Association Annual Conference in Irvine, CA.

Roberson, Richard & Salas, Carlos (2007, November). Ethnic Identity and Psychological Distress as Moderated by Ethnic Group Status. Poster presented at the National COR Colloquium in Albuquerque, NM.

Salas, C., Ojeda, D., Luna, A., Villapudua, A. (2006, March). Memory, conformity, and gender stereotypes. Paper presented at the Honors Transfer Council of California Conference hosted at the University of California Irvine, Irvine, CA. Poster presented at the 86th Western Psychological Association Annual Conference, Palm Springs, CA.

Teaching Experience:

Fall 2008 Semester **Teaching Assistant**
Served as a Teaching Assistant at Cerritos College for a psychology research method course under the supervision of Dr. Johanna Walthall. Duties included preparing and teaching the laboratory section, grading student papers and exams, holding tutorial/office hours, reviewing student experimental proposals, supervising data collection, and assisting with data analysis.

Academic Service and Leadership Positions:

Fall 2006 Served as Student Representative in the Cerritos College Accreditation Committee for Standard I, WASC.

Fall 2006 Appointed voting student member in Cerritos College Hiring Committee for the Dean of Liberal Arts.

Summer 2006 Appointed voting student member in the Cerritos College Hiring Committee for CalWORKS Coordinator.

Spring 2005-
Spring 2006 Elected Senator, Cerritos College Student Body Government

Fall 2005 Elected President, Psi Beta Chapter Cerritos College

Spring 2005 Elected Vice President, Psi Beta Chapter Cerritos College

Graduate Fellowships

2009-2012 **Abraham Lincoln Pre-Doctoral Fellowship**
Award includes \$40,000 stipend and full tuition remission for two years (first year and dissertation year).

Undergraduate Fellowships

2008-2009 **Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Fellowship**
Award includes a \$3,000 grant to be distributed for conference travel expenses, graduate school application fees, GRE test and score reporting fees, research material expenditures, and travel to graduate school interviews. Fellowship also includes a fully funded summer internship research stipend (\$8-10,000) to be applied at a research university of my choice (pending the securing of a summer 2009 faculty advisor).

2007-2009 **The National Institute of Mental Health-Career and Opportunities in Research (NIHM-COR) Fellowship**
 Fellowship provides a 2-year \$20,000 stipend (\$10,000 a year) and full tuition remission. Training program consisted of a 2-year intensive research methodology and quantitative analyses seminar. Requirements included completion of a senior thesis and concurrent involvement in a research laboratory.

Other Academic Honors and Awards:

2008 Received Lucia Morales Award for Excellence in Research and Academics
 2008-09 Nominated by CSULB’s Psychology Department as an Outstanding Senior in Psychology
 2008 -09 Received National Hispanic Fund Scholarship (\$2,000)
 2008 Accepted into the Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP) 2008 at the University of Illinois at Chicago (\$3,500)
 2008 Erica Wohldmann Poster Presentation Award (\$500)
 2008 Western Psychological Association Regional Psi Chi Research Poster Award (\$500)
 2007-08 President’s List, 3 Consecutive Semesters, California State University Long Beach
 2007 Inducted into Psi Chi National Honors Society in Psychology
 2007-08 Received National Hispanic Fund Scholarship (\$2,000)
 2007 Graduated with Honors, Cerritos College
 2006 Completed Scholars Honors Program
 2006 Certificate of Academic Achievement in Psychology presented by the Committee of Psychology Teachers at Community Colleges of the American Psychological Association
 2006 Associated Students of Cerritos College Silver Falcon Award
 2005 Associated Students of Cerritos College Gold Falcon Award
 2005 Psi Beta Chapter Fully Funded Travel Award to the American Psychological Association Convention in Washington D.C. (\$1,600)
 2005 Inducted into Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society, Cerritos College
 2005 Associated Students of Cerritos College Silver Falcon Award
 2005 Inducted into Psi-Beta Psychology Honors Society, Cerritos College
 2005 Dean’s List, Spring and Fall semesters, Cerritos College
 2004 Accepted into Scholars Honors Program, Cerritos College

Association Memberships:

APS Student Affiliate (2008-Present)
 APA Student Affiliate (2005-2006)
 WPA Student Member (2005-Present)
 Skeptics Society Student Member (2005-Present)

Software Skills and other training:

Experience with Microsoft Office including: Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft PowerPoint. Working knowledge of SPSS. Experience utilizing reference software including EndNote, Refworks, and Reference Manager. Working knowledge of E-Prime experiment generator. Working knowledge of eyetracking technology including Tobii infra-red eyetracker with Gaze Tracker software

and SR Research Eyelink II head mounted eyetracker. Working familiarity with Experiment Builder software. Completed IRB Human Subjects Training.

References:

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