

Lauren D. Garner

Doctoral Student

Lgarner@nd.edu

South Bend, IN

(817) 889 - 7633

EDUCATION

University of Notre Dame

- PhD Psychology: Cognition, Brain & Behavior (Summer 2027 expected)
- Advisor: Matthew K. Robison | *Controlled Attention & Memory Lab*

University of Notre Dame

- MA Psychology: Cognition, Brain & Behavior (May 2026)
- 4.0 GPA
- Advisor: Matthew K. Robison | *Controlled Attention & Memory Lab*

Grand Canyon University

- MS Psychology, 2019
- Summa Cum Laude (3.97 GPA)

Harding University

- BS Cognitive Neuroscience, 2017
 - Magna Cum Laude (3.89 GPA)
 - Minor in Music
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AWARDS

Notre Dame Kaneb Center for Teaching Excellence Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award

- April 2026 | Nominated by department faculty for demonstrating excellent teaching
- \$100 cash prize, certificate

Franco Institute Annual Research Theme Grant

- 2025-2026 Competitive internal grant for \$5,000
- Proposal to study The Franco Institute's Annual Research Theme "How Should We Hold Attention?"

Doctoral Fellowship at University of Notre Dame

- 2024-present; 100% tuition coverage and \$38,000 stipend over 12 months

Psychonomic Society Graduate Travel Award

- 2024; Competitive award for \$750 travel stipend for graduate students attending conference

Naval Research Enterprise Fall Engagement Program

- October 2024; 40-hr internship with Naval Research Laboratory | \$575 stipend
- Supervisor: Mark Livingston

Dean's Doctoral Assistantship Fellowship at UTA

- 2023; 100% tuition coverage and \$19,000 stipend over 9 months

PEER REVIEWED PAPERS

Garner, L.D. & Robison, M.K. (*in press*). The cognitive energetics of sustained attention: Ability, desire, or both? *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory & Cognition*.

Garner, L.D. & Robison, M.K. (2026). To what extent do cognitive abilities, conscientiousness & physical activity predict academic success? *Acta Psychologica*, 262, 106097.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actpsy.2025.106097>

Robison, M.K., Garner, L.D., Campbell, S. (2025). Quiet eyes: Visual gaze stability predicts intra- and interindividual differences in attention control. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 154(12), 3500. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1037/xge0001877>

Robison, M.K., Campbell, S., Garner, L.D., Sibley, C. & Coyne, J. (2025). A comprehensive psychometrics of cognitive ability measures: Reliability, practice effects, and the stability of latent factor structures across retesting. *Behavioral Research Methods*. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13428-025-02897-8>

Garner, L.D., Mohammed, R. & Robison, M.K. (2025). Setting specific goals improves cognitive effort, self-efficacy, and sustained attention. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception & Performance*. 51(7), 895–910. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xhp0001331>

Garner, L.D. & Robison, M.K. (2025). Individual differences in attention capture, control, and working memory. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception & Performance*, 51(2), 243–259.
<https://doi.org/10.1037/xhp0001264>.

Robison, M.K. & Garner, L.D. (2024). Pupillary correlates of individual differences in n-back task performance. *Attention, Perception & Psychophysics*. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13414-024-02853-2>.

Garner, L.D., Shuman, J. & Robison, M.K. (2023). Piece-rate time-based incentives improve sustained attention. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*, 13(3), 342–353.
<https://doi.org/10.1037/mac0000141>.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Robison, M.K., **Garner, L.D.**, Walatka, A.H. & Campbell, S. (*under review*). Does who we sample matter for researching individual differences in cognition? *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*.

Garner, L.D. & Robison, M.K. (*in progress*). Short-form videos and meditation: investigating the relationship and acute effect on sustained attention.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Notre Dame

- Controlled Attention & Memory Laboratory | Dr. Matthew K. Robison
 - Graduate Research Assistant 2024-present
 - Manage undergraduate research assistants
 - Prepare manuscripts for publication
 - Data aggregation and formal analysis
 - Generation and implementation of novel research projects
 - Inter-institutional collaborative projects
 - Process and analyze pupil and gaze data
 - Faculty Meeting Graduate Representative 2025-2026
 - Attend all department faculty meetings
 - Disseminate pertinent information to graduate students
 - Represent graduate student issues to faculty and department leaders

The University of Texas at Arlington

- Controlled Attention & Memory Laboratory | Dr. Matthew K. Robison
 - Research Assistant Volunteer 2022-2023, ran participants
 - Graduate Research Assistant 2023-2024
 - Review literature and construct manuscripts
 - Develop novel studies using pupillometry or other physiological measures with various cognitive tasks
 - Run participants, manage cash receipts
 - Data transfer, aggregation in R
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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Notre Dame

- Striving for Excellence in Teaching Workshop Program
 - Certificate of completion awarded Fall 2025
- Instructor of Record
 - Methods in Behavioral Science
 - Fall 2025, Spring 2026
 - Class size: 18-27, 4 credit hours
 - Developed curriculum and exams
 - Designed research-backed assignments to promote learning and engagement
 - Supervised TAs in student research proposal manuscript
- Teaching Assistant
 - Cognitive Neuroscience | Spring 2025 | Dr. Vanessa Chan-Devaere
 - Class size: 130
 - Guest lecture "Attention"
 - Developed exam questions, graded student assignments, held exam review sessions
 - Cognitive Psychology | Fall 2024 | Dr. Vanessa Chan
 - Class size: 60
 - Guest lecture "Sustained Attention"
 - Developed exam questions, graded student assignments, held exam review sessions

Legacy Classical Christian Academy

- Dual credit Introductory Psychology 2022-2023
 - Curriculum approved through Colorado Christian University
 - Biology 2021-2023, Latin III 2021-2022, Music 2019-2022
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CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Garner, L.D. & Robison, M.K. (2026, April 10). *Short-form videos and meditation: investigating the acute effect on sustained attention*. [Poster presentation]. Dorothy Day & Thomas Merton Culture and the Public Good Symposium, Notre Dame, IN, United States.

- Garner, L.D. & Robison, M.K. (2025, November 20-23). *Consistently inconsistent? Assessing the construct validity and reliability of measures of intraindividual variability in cognitive performance*. [Poster presentation]. Psychonomic Society 66th Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, United States.
- Garner, L.D. & Robison, M.K. (2025, June 11-14). *To what extent do cognitive abilities, conscientiousness, and physical activity predict academic performance?* [Poster presentation]. Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition Biennial Meeting, County Kildare, Ireland.
- Garner, L.D. & Robison, M.K. (2024, November 20-23). *Setting specific goals improves cognitive effort, self-efficacy, and sustained attention*. [Poster presentation]. Psychonomic Society 65th Annual Meeting, New York City, NY, United States.
- Garner, L.D. & Robison, M.K. (2023, November 15). *Pupillary correlates of individual differences in n-back task performance*. [Poster presentation]. Symposium for Individual Differences in Cognition, San Francisco, CA, United States.
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RESEARCH IMPACT

Scientific American

- Graham-Shaw, K. (2024, August 15). *Pupil dilation reveals better working memory*. Scientific American. <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/pupil-dilation-reveals-better-working-memory/>
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PEER REVIEWING JOURNALS

- Imaging Neuroscience
 - Psychological Research
 - Cognitive Research: Principles and Implications
 - Visual Cognition
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PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Psychonomic Society 2023-present

Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition 2024-present
