

Curriculum Vitae

Sommer R. Thorgusen, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor (Clinical), Dept. of Psychology, University of Utah
Licensed Psychologist (UT License #9788408-2501)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

2014 **Ph.D., Clinical Psychology**, University of Utah, *Salt Lake City, UT*; APA-accredited
2013 – 2014 **Psychology Internship**, Southwest Consortium Pre-doctoral Psychology Internship,
New Mexico Veterans Affairs Health Care System, *Albuquerque, NM*; APA-accredited
2010 **M.S., Psychology**, University of Utah, *Salt Lake City, UT*; APA-accredited
2003 **B.S., Geography**, University of California, *Santa Barbara, CA*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Psychological Association
Society for Clinical Neuropsychology (APA, Division 40)
Utah Psychological Association

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2016 - Present **Clinical Training Committee**, Department of Psychology, University of Utah
2012 **Psychology Department Internship Support Coordinator**, University of Utah
2011 **Professional Issues & Ethics Committee**, *Student Representative*, Department of
Psychology, University of Utah
2010 – 2014 **International Neuropsychological Society Student Liaison Committee**, *Founding Chair*
2010 – 2012 **Clinical Training Committee**, *Student Representative*, Department of Psychology,
University of Utah

AWARDS

2012 Clayton Award for Excellence in Research, *Dept. of Psychology, University of Utah*
2012 Commendation for Clinical Service, *Dept. of Psychology, University of Utah*
2011 Women in Leadership Edith Kaplan Scholarship, *National Academy of Neuropsychology*
2011 Commendation for International Service, *Dept. of Psychology, University of Utah*
2008 Clayton Fellowship for Incoming Students, *Dept. of Psychology, University of Utah*

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

2016 - Present **Clinical Supervisor**, University of Utah Counseling Center, *Salt Lake City, UT*

- 2014 – 2015 **Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellow**, VA Puget Sound, *Seattle, WA*
Fellowship Training Director: Stephen McCutcheon, Ph.D.; Neuropsychology
Specialty Director: Kathleen Pagulayan, Ph.D.
Rotations: Mental Health Clinic, Supervisors: Kathleen Pagulayan, Ph.D., Phuong Chau,
Ph.D.; Geriatrics Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC), Supervisor: Emily
Trittschuh, Ph.D.
- 2013 – 2014 **Neuropsychology Psychology Intern**, Southwest Consortium of Predoctoral
Psychology Internships, *Albuquerque, NM*
Internship Director: Evelyn Sandeen, Ph.D., ABPP
Rotations: VA Neuropsychology Clinic (12 months), Supervisors: Kathy Haaland,
Ph.D., ABPP-CN, Joseph Sadek, Ph.D., ABPP-CN, Rex Swanda, Ph.D., ABPP-CN;
Inpatient Psychiatry Ward and Outpatient Mental Health (6 months), New Mexico VA
Healthcare System, Supervisors: Elizabeth Sullivan, Ph.D., Evelyn Sandeen, Ph.D.,
ABPP; First Nations Community Healthsource (6 months), Supervisor: Anita Treloar, Ph.D.
- 2012 – 2013 **Neuropsychology Trainee**, Primary Children’s Medical Center, Behavioral Health
Clinic, *Salt Lake City, UT*, Supervisor: Robert Burr, Ph.D.
- 2011 – 2013 **Psychology Trainee**, University of Utah Hospital Department of Physical Medicine &
Rehabilitation, *Salt Lake City, UT*, Supervisors: Steve Sheppard, Ph.D., RJ Courtney,
Ph.D., Justin McKenzie, Ph.D.
- 2012 – 2013 **Psychology Trainee**, Valley Mental Health, *Salt Lake City, UT*, Supervisor: John
Malouf, Ph.D.
- 2011 – 2012 **Neuropsychology Trainee**, Outpatient Neuropsychology Clinic, University of Utah
Department of Neurology *Salt Lake City, UT*; Supervisor: Angela Eastvold, Ph.D.,
ABPP-CN
- 2011 – 2012 **Psychology Trainee**, Assessment and Referral Services, *Salt Lake City, UT*; Supervisor:
Kelly Lundberg, Ph.D.
- 2010 – 2012 **Psychology Trainee**, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Practicum, University Counseling
Center, *Salt Lake City, UT*; Supervisor: Michael Himle, Ph.D.
- 2010 – 2011 **Neuropsychology Trainee**, Center for Alzheimer’s Care, Imaging and Research,
University of Utah Department of Neurology, *Salt Lake City, UT*; Supervisors: Gordon
Chelune, Ph.D., ABPP-CN, Kevin Duff, Ph.D., ABPP-CN, *Salt Lake City, UT*
- 2009 – 2010 **Psychology Trainee**, Psychological Assessment Practicum, University Counseling
Center, *Salt Lake City, UT*; Supervisors: Paula Williams, Ph.D., Judy Miller, Ph.D.
- 2009 – 2013 **Neuropsychology Trainee**, Neuropsychology Clinic, University of Utah Department
of Psychology; Supervisor: Yana Suchy, Ph.D.

SELECTED CLINICAL WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

- 2018 **Cross Cultural Mental Healthcare of Non-Binary and Transgender Adults** (one-day
workshop); Jordan Rullo, Ph.D., ABPP, Utah Psychological Association, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2018 **Psychopharmacology Update** (one-day workshop); Morgan T. Sammons, Ph.D., ABPP,
Utah Psychological Association, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2014 **Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for Veterans** (one-day workshop); Jennifer
Villardaga, Ph.D., Veterans Training Support Center, Seattle, WA
- 2013 **Motivational Interviewing** (one-day workshop); J. Annette Brooks, Ph.D. & Brian Kersh,

- Ph.D., New Mexico VA Health Care System, Albuquerque, NM
- 2013 **Prolonged Exposure Therapy** (two-day workshop); Diane Castillo, Ph.D., New Mexico Veterans Affairs Health Care System, Albuquerque, NM
- 2012 **Acceptance & Commitment Therapy** (two-day workshop); Michael Twohig, Ph.D., Utah State University, Logan, UT

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught, University of Utah

- Spring 2018 Personality Assessment (graduate)
- Fall 2017 Science and Practice of Clinical Psychology (undergraduate)
- Fall 2016 - Present Psychological Assessment Practicum (graduate, two-semester course)
- Fall 2016 Psychopathology (graduate)
- Spring 2011 Memory & Cognition in Everyday Life (undergraduate)

Teaching Assistant Positions

- Fall 2012 Cognitive Assessment (graduate), *University of Utah*
- Spring 2010 Quantitative Methods II (graduate), *University of Utah*

Guest Lectures & Presentations

- 2015 Presenter: Epilepsy in Older Adults, *Geriatrics Didactic Series, VA Puget Sound Health Care System, American Lake Campus, Tacoma, WA*
- 2014 Co-Presenter with Kathleen Pagulayan, Ph.D.: Mild Traumatic Brain Injury, *Intern Seminar, VA Puget Sound Health Care System, Seattle, WA*
- 2014 Presenter: Diagnosis of Mild Cognitive Impairment and Dementia using DSM-5, *Intern Seminar, New Mexico VA Health Care System, Albuquerque, NM*
- 2013 Presenter: Intracranial Tumors, *Neuropsychology Rounds, New Mexico VA Health Care System, Albuquerque, NM*
- 2012 Guest Lecturer: Memory in Daily Life, *various Senior Centers, Salt Lake City, UT*
- 2009 Guest Lecturer: Neuropsychology of Emotion, *in Cognitive Psychology (Instructor: Jason Watson, Ph.D.), Department of Psychology, University of Utah*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2014 – 2015 **Post-Doctoral Research Assistant**, Supervisor: Kathleen Pagulayan, Ph.D., VA Puget Sound Mental Illness Research Education Clinical Center (MIRECC), *Seattle, WA*
- 2008 – 2014 **Graduate Research Assistant**, Supervisors: Yana Suchy, Ph.D., Jason Watson, Ph.D. University of Utah, Department of Psychology
- 2009 **Graduate Research Assistant**, Supervisor: Kelly Davis Garrett, Ph.D. LDS Hospital Dept. of Geriatrics, *Salt Lake City, UT*
- 2007 – 2008 **Research Assistant**, Supervisors: James Levy, Ph.D., Norman Foster, M.D. Center for Alzheimer's Care, Imaging, and Research (CACIR), University of Utah, Department of Neurology, *Salt Lake City, UT*

2006 – 2008 **Research Assistant**, Supervisors: Jason Watson, Ph.D., Paula Williams, Ph.D., Keith Renshaw, Ph.D., University of Utah, Department of Psychology, *Salt Lake City, UT*

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Williams, P. G., Rau, H. K., Suchy, Y., **Thorgusen, S. R.**, & Smith, T. W. (2017). On the validity of self-report assessment of cognitive abilities: Attentional control scale associations with cognitive performance, emotional adjustment, and personality. *Psychological assessment*, 29(5), 519.
- Thorgusen, S.R.**, Suchy, Y., Chelune, G.C., & Baucom, B.R. (2016). Neuropsychological Practice Effects in the Context of Cognitive Decline: Contributions from Learning and Task Novelty. *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society*, 22(4), 453-466.
- Franchow, E. I., Suchy, Y., **Thorgusen, S. R.**, & Williams, P. (2013). More than education: Openness to experience contributes to cognitive reserve in older adulthood. *Aging Science*, 1(109), 2.
- Kraybill, M. L., **Thorgusen, S. R.**, & Suchy, Y. (2013). The push-turn-taptap task outperforms measures of executive functioning in predicting declines in functionality: Evidence-based approach to test validation. *The Clinical Neuropsychologist*, 27(2), 238-255.
- Suchy, Y., Chelune, G., Franchow, E. I., & **Thorgusen, S. R.** (2012). Confronting patients about insufficient effort: The impact on subsequent symptom validity and memory performance. *The Clinical Neuropsychologist*, 26(8), 1296-1311.
- Dennison, P. E., Roberts, D. A., **Thorgusen, S. R.**, Regelbrugge, J. C., Weise, D., & Lee, C. (2003). Modeling seasonal changes in live fuel moisture and equivalent water thickness using a cumulative water balance index. *Remote Sensing of Environment*, 88(4), 442-452.

Other Published Work

- Mackaronis, J. E., & **Thorgusen, S. R.** (2013). An insider perspective: Developmental challenges moving from graduate school to internship and beyond. *Psychotherapy Bulletin*, 48(4), 13-17.
- Thorgusen, S. R.**, & Suchy, Y. (2013). The Neuropsychology of Psychopathology. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, 28(5), 508-509. [Book Review]

SELECTED POSTER PRESENTATIONS

(*Undergraduate Students Supervised)

- Rau, H.K., **Thorgusen, S.R.**, Peterson, S.K., Morelli, D.K., Peskind, E.R., Raskind, M.T., & Pagulayan, K.F. *Intra-individual variability on neuropsychological measures in OEF/OIF/OND Veterans: Associations with blast-related mTBI and PTSD*. Abstract accepted for poster presentation at the 44th Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Boston, MA.
- Thorgusen, S.R.**, Suchy, Y., Chelune, G.C., & Baucom, B.R. *Examining a Theoretical Model of Practice Effects and Cognitive Decline: Contributions of Learning and Response to Task Novelty*. Poster presented at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society in Denver, CO.
- Thorgusen, S.R.** & Suchy, Y. (2013, February). *Exploring the Relationship Between Low IQ and Invalid Effort Testing*. Poster presented at the 41st Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society in Waikaloa, HI.
- Thorgusen, S. R.**, *Shahrebani, M., *Karino, W., & Suchy, Y. (2012, February). *Age and Gender Differences in a Motor Learning Task*. Poster presented at the 40th Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Montreal, BC, Canada.

- Thorgusen, S.R.**, *Bowman, D., & Suchy, Y. (2011, November). *Detection of Subclinical Executive Weakness Using Simple Choice Reaction Time*. Poster presented at the 31st Annual Meeting of the National Academy of Neuropsychology in Marco Island, FL.
- *Bowman, D., **Thorgusen, S.R.**, Suchy, Y. (2011, March). *A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words: Effects of Emotional Distracters on Executive Task Performance*. Abstract for poster presentation at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in Ithaca, NY.
- *Bowman, D., **Thorgusen, S.R.**, Suchy, Y. (2011, February). *The effects of emotion on executive functioning*. Abstract for poster presentation at the Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research in Ogden, UT.
- Thorgusen, S.**, Suchy, Y., Rau, H., Williams, P. (2011, February). *Emotional Distracters Affect Task Performance under High Executive Demands*. Poster presented at the 39th annual meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Boston, MA.
- Thorgusen, S.**, Suchy, Y., Rau, H., Williams, P. (2010, October). *Negative emotional distracters impair set maintenance in a switching task*. Abstract for poster presentation at the 30th annual meeting of the National Academy of Neuropsychology in Vancouver, B.C.
- Thorgusen, S.R.**, Watson, J.M., & Williams, P.W. (2010). *Working memory predicts neuroticism*. Abstract for poster presentation at the 38th Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Acapulco, Mexico.
- Thorgusen, S.R.**, Watson, J.M., Miller, A.E., Kesner, R., Levy, J.A., & Lambert, A. (2009) *Preservation of False Memory in Amnesic Mild Cognitive Impairment*. Abstract for poster presentation at the 29th Annual National Academy of Neuropsychology Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Thorgusen, S.R.**, Watson, J.M., Miller, A.E., Kesner, R., Levy, J.A., & Lambert, A. (2009) *The information that patients with mild cognitive impairment do not forget*. Abstract for oral presentation at the 79th Annual Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Conference, Albuquerque, NM.
- Thorgusen, S.R.**, Renshaw, K.D., Chambless, D.L. (2008). *Relatives who attribute non-disorder related events to their anxiety disorder benefit less from exposure therapy*. Abstract for poster presentation at the 42nd Annual Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Conference, Orlando, FL.