

## **Matt G. Evans**

October 2024

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### **EDUCATION**

#### **University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC)**

Ph.D., Cognitive Psychology

Expected June 2026

- High-Level Perception Lab
- Advisor: Nicolas Davidenko
- Research Focus: cognitive impacts, representation, and function of involuntary musical imagery

#### **University of California, Santa Cruz**

M.S., Cognitive Psychology

June 2023

#### **University of California, Santa Cruz**

B.S. *summa cum laude*, Cognitive Science

June 2020

#### **De Anza College**

Transferred June 2018

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

#### **Graduate Researcher**

Sep 2020 - Present

Ph.D. Student, High-Level Perception Lab, UCSC - Dr. Nicolas Davidenko

- Designed and implemented a novel line of research using multiple methodologies to explore various aspects of Involuntary Musical Imagery (INMI, or “earworms”).
- Discovered novel evidence that veridical absolute pitch representation in INMI is widespread, automatic, and does not rely on short term memory.
- Discovered novel evidence that INMI episodes are reduced as a result of a graded increase in working memory load.

#### **Undergraduate Research Assistant**

Dec 2018 - June 2020

High Level Perception Lab, UCSC - Dr. Nicolas Davidenko

#### **Undergraduate Research Assistant**

Dec 2018 - June 2020

Human-Robot Interaction Lab, UCSC - Dr. Leila Takayama

## LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE EXPERIENCE

### Men's Feminist Consciousness Raising Group

October 2024 - Present

- Conceived and initiated a group for men and male-adjacent members of the Psychology department

### Graduate Student Representative (Cognitive Area)

Sep 2021 - June 2023

- Served as a liaison between graduate students and faculty/department staff
- Advocated for graduate student issues and needs
- Planned and executed Visiting Day for prospective new graduate students
- Hosted quarterly Graduate Student town hall meetings to allow for current students to share progress, receive guidance, and express concerns to be raised to faculty and staff

### Resident Assistant

June 2019 - June 2020

Porter College/Kresge College, UCSC

- Lived with 47 new and continuing UCSC students, serving as a point of contact to help with personal and academic issues.
- Planned and executed social and educational programs.
- Assisted with move-in, move-out, and various administrative duties including lockouts, incident reports, policy enforcement, and conflict mediation.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Graduate Teaching Assistant

Jan 2021 - Present

University of California, Santa Cruz

Courses taught:

- Advanced Qualitative Methods - *Dr. Kim Cardilla* Winter 2021
- Cognition: Fundamental Theories - *Dr. Jason Samaha* Spring 2021
  - Guest Lecture: Mental Imagery
- Learning and Memory - *Dr. Benjamin Storm* Summer 2021
- Cognition: Fundamental Theories - *Dr. Kelsey James* Summer 2021
- Developmental Psychopathology - *Dr. Kim Cardilla* Fall 2021
- Cognition: Fundamental Theories - *Dr. Jason Samaha* Winter 2022
- Research Methods - *Dr. Benjamin Storm* Spring 2022
- Cognition: Fundamental Theories - *Andrew Guydish, M.S.* Summer 2022
- Perception - *Dr. Nicolas Davidenko* Fall 2022
  - Guest Lecture: Music Perception - Illusions and Earworms
- Introduction to Psychological Statistics - *Dr. Kim Cardilla* Winter 2023

- Deception - *Dr. Travis Seymour* Spring 2023
- Learning and Memory - *Dr. Travis Seymour* Summer 2023
- Advanced Quantitative Methods - *Dr. Kim Cardilla* Fall 2023
- Research Methods in Psychology - *Dr. Courtney Bonam* Winter 2024
- Advanced Quantitative Methods - *Dr. Kim Cardilla* Spring 2024
- Developmental Psychopathology - *Dr. Kim Cardilla* Fall 2024

### **Teaching Assistant**

Jan 2018 - June 2018

De Anza College - Shannon Hasset

### **Small Group Tutor**

Mar 2018 - June 2018

De Anza College - Leah Lane

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

Travel Award | International Conference of Music Perception  
and Cognition 2023

August 2023

Best Presentation: Social Sciences Division | Graduate  
Symposium, UCSC

May 2023

Travel Award | Society of Music Perception  
and Cognition 2022 Conference

August 2022

Re-Entry STARS Scholarship | University of California, Santa Cruz

June 2021

Bruce Bridgeman Fellowship | University of California, Santa Cruz

September 2020

Re-Entry STARS Scholarship | University of California, Santa Cruz

June 2019

Sylvia Miller Scholarship | University of California, Santa Cruz

Fall 2018 - Spring 2019

Dean's List | University of California, Santa Cruz

Winter 2019 - Summer 2019

Transfer Award Scholarship | University of California, Santa Cruz

Sept 2018

Dean's List | De Anza College

Fall 2017 - Spring 2018

## **LABORATORY SKILLS**

- Proficiency in MATLAB
- Experimental design and iteration
- CITI Training for research using human participants
- Conducting semi-structured interviews
- Academic writing in APA style

## **PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **Research Articles**

- Evans, M. G., Gaeta, P., & Davidenko, N. (2024). Absolute pitch in involuntary musical imagery. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 1-12.

### **Conference Talks**

- Absolute Pitch in Involuntary Musical Imagery, *SMPC2022, Portland, OR*
- Absolute Pitch in Involuntary Musical Imagery, *ICMPC17-APSCOM7, Tokyo, Japan*
- Looping in your head: A Corpus Analysis of Sung “Earworm” Fragments, *ICMPC17-APSCOM7, Tokyo, Japan*
- The Systematic Impact of Cognitive Load on Involuntary Musical Imagery, *SMPC2024, Banff, Alberta*

### **Invited Talks**

- Guest Lecture, Introduction to Psychology, University of Illinois, Professor Allison Nguyen
- Guest Lecture, Survey of Psychology, University of Hawaii at Manoa