

Abstracts

of the 2026 Middle Tennessee Psychological Association Conference

Volume 34 • April 2026

#MTPA2026

2026 MTPA CONFERENCE

Academic Classroom Building (ACB)
Middle Tennessee State University
Murfreesboro, Tennessee
Saturday April 25, 2026

REGISTRATION/WELCOME

Registration
Lobby, First Floor
Academic Classroom Building
8:30 am-10:00 am

POSTER SESSIONS

Lobby and Atrium, First and Second Floors
Academic Classroom Building
Poster session I
9:00 am-9:45 am

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Academic Classroom Building 104
10:00 am-11:00 am
Dr. Jessica Gaby (she/her)
Department of Psychology, Middle
Tennessee State University

**The Subconscious Sense: How
Olfactory Information Influences
Our Daily Lives**

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Academic Classroom Building
Concurrent sessions
11:15 am-12:15 pm
Session 1—Room 110
Session 2—Room 112

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2026 MTPA CONFERENCE

<https://psychology.mtsu.edu/mtpa/>

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POSTER SESSION I

9:00 am-9:45 am; Lobby and Atrium, First Floor

- 1001
Withdrawn
- 1002
More Than Correct or Incorrect: Exploring Correlated Scoring Methods in Spelling Assessments. Cameryn Vongphachanh (she/her) and Wiebke Meyer (she/her), *Middle Tennessee State University*
Stuart Bernstein (he/him) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*
- 1003
Sleep, Family Context, and Academic Functioning in Community Youth: Extending an Ongoing Boys & Girls Club Partnership. Trinity Johnson (she/her), *Middle Tennessee State University*
Megan Zeringue (she/her) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*
- 1004
Investigating the Relationship Between Socioeconomic Status and Engagement with App-Based Treatment Among Older Adults. Sophia Hession (she/her) and Margaret C. Fahey (she/her), *Middle Tennessee State University*
Margaret C. Fahey (she/her) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*
- 1005
Prosperity Beliefs Under Stress: Relations with Religious Doubt and Well-Being. Claire R. Simmons¹ (she/her), Shiann A. Roker¹ (she/her), Mckenna Buz'Zard¹ (she/her), Mary Evans Cooper¹ (she/her), Grace Henry¹ (she/her), Aaron Barnes¹ (he/him), Douglas S. Krull² (he/him), Joseph J. Horton³ (he/him), and Jonathan P. Miller¹ (he/him)
¹*Lipscomb University*, ²*Northern Kentucky University*, ³*Grove City College*
Douglas S. Krull² (he/him), Joseph J. Horton³ (he/him), and Jonathan P. Miller¹ (he/him) faculty advisors
- 1006
Does Structure Building Predict Pyramid Power Belief Formation? Cody Kimbrell (he/him) and William Langston (he/him), *Middle Tennessee State University*
William Langston (he/him) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*
- 1007
Internalizing Issues and Sleep Disturbances in Children. Karlee Cantrell (she/her) and Megan A Zeringue (she/her), *Middle Tennessee State University*
Megan A Zeringue (she/her) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*
- 1008
Aging, Creativity, and Brain Microstructure: A Diffusion Tensor Imaging Investigation. Erika E. Prante¹ (she/her), Ashlyn B. Miller¹ (she/her), Gamze Mert¹ (she/her), Sara N. Hauter¹ (she/her), Karen M. Botros¹ (she/her), Tara M. Kirkpatrick¹ (she/her), Michelle L. Houston² (she/her), and James R. Houston¹ (he/him)
¹*Middle Tennessee State University*, ²*Vanderbilt Health*
James R. Houston¹ (he/him) faculty advisor
- 1009
Exploring the Associations among Pain and Normative Age-Related Cognitive Decline: Resting-State Power Spectral Density & N-Back Performance. Gamze Mert (she/her), Karen M. Botros (she/her), Karim Al-Amin (he/him), Mallory G. Smith (she/her), Erika E. Prante (she/her), Ashlyn B. Miller (she/her), Sara N. Hauter (she/her), Talia W. Sanford (she/her), Maya El Said (she/her), and James R. Houston (he/him), *Middle Tennessee State University*
James R. Houston (he/him) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*

1010

Exploring the Associations among Pain and Normative Age-Related Cognitive Decline: Visual Search Performance and Event-Related Potentials. Talia W. Sanford (she/her), Sara N. Hauter (she/her), Maya El Said (she/her), Ashlyn B. Miller (she/her), Erika E. Prante

(she/her), Mallory G. Smith (she/her), Gamze Mert (she/her), Karen M. Botros (she/her), Karim Al-Amin (he/him), and James R. Houston (he/him), *Middle Tennessee State University*
James R. Houston (he/him) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

11:15 am-12:15 pm; Concurrent, Various Rooms

• ACB Room 110 •

(11:15)

Comparing the Self-Reference Experience Component to Global Experience Measures in Predicting Belief Formation. Selvia Ibrahim (she/her), Acacia Zuniga (she/her), Meaghan Bynum (she/her), Evan Kirk (he/him), and Tyla Tyrell (she/her), *Middle Tennessee State University*
William Langston (he/him) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*

(11:30)

A Linear Regression Analysis of Experience Scene Components. Liz Parolini (she/her), Autumn Cadieux (she/her), Moriah Thomas (she/her), and Vanshika Jaikumar (she/her), *Middle Tennessee State University*
William Langston (he/him) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*

(11:45)

Implicit and Explicit Components in Belief Models. Rhys Stephens (they/them), Evan Crouse (he/him), Cecilia Bush (she/her), Shariya Jackson (she/her), and Alex Chukas (she/her), *Middle Tennessee State University*
William Langston (he/him) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*

(12:00)

Religious, LGBTQ+, Gender, And Racial Prejudice in Traditional Religious, Spiritual but not Religious, and Witch Populations. Jada Collier (she/her) and William Langston (he/him), *Middle Tennessee State University*
William Langston (he/him) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*

• ACB Room 112 •

(11:15)

Social Preference in Dominant versus Submissive Rats. Sophie Duffy (she/her) and Dr. Annie Galizio (she/her), *Middle Tennessee State University*
Dr. Annie Galizio (she/her) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*

(11:30)

Rhythms in Syllable Emphasis: Exploring Lexical Stress Sensitivity in Older Adults with Links to Speech-in-Noise Perception, Rhythm Skills, and Musical Training. Elizabeth Lawrence¹ (she/her), Will Hiser² (he/him), Jeffrey Eum³ (he/him), Terrin Tamati⁴ (she/her), Srishti Nayak² (she/her), and Cyrille Magne¹ (he/him)
¹*Middle Tennessee State University*, ²*Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC)*, ³*Vanderbilt University*, ⁴*The Ohio State University*
Terrin Tamati⁴ (she/her), Srishti Nayak² (she/her), and Cyrille Magne¹ (he/him) faculty advisors

(11:45)

What's Out There, and Will It Replicate? Using Existing Data to Predict Outcomes for a Study of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena. James W. Lowe (he/him) and William Langston (he/him), *Middle Tennessee State University*
William Langston (he/him) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*

(12:00)

Affective Resonance and Cognitive Conflict: Empathy's Role in Alpha and N400 Responses to Incongruent Music-Language Priming. Madison Ramsby (she/her), *Middle Tennessee State University*
Cyrill Magne (he/him) faculty advisor, *Middle Tennessee State University*