

Michael D. Baker, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY, TALLAHASSEE, FL

Ph.D. in Social Psychology, 2010

Dissertation Title: Mating Cues and Declarative Memory: Signaling the Presence of Desirable Mental Skills

Advisor: Jon Maner, Ph.D.

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY, TALLAHASSEE, FL

M.S. in Social Psychology, 2007

Thesis Title: Risk-taking as a Mating Strategy: The Roles of Sexual Arousal, Motivation, and Situational Context in Risky Behavior

Advisor: Jon Maner, Ph.D.

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY, HUNTSVILLE, TX

B.S. in Psychology, 2002

Thesis Title: Parental Mate Preferences for Self and Children

Advisor: Rowland S. Miller, Ph.D.

Minor in Philosophy and a specialization in Statistics.

Graduated Magna Cum Laude with Highest Honors

RESEARCH INTERESTS

I am interested in the role fundamental social motivations and emotions play in social cognitive processes such as decision-making, attention, and memory. My current work focuses on the effects of mating related cues on health-related behaviors. Additional interests include the impact of fundamental social motives on decision making and memory, social influence, and self-presentation.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Baker, M. D., Owens, B. T., Utter, R. L., Boachie, R. J., & Keith, D. R. (2021). Boundary conditions for gender differences in risk taking. *Journal of Risk Research*, , 1-10.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13669877.2021.1962953>

Vohs, K., Schmeichel, B., Lohmann, S., Gronau, Q. F., Finley, A. J., whenyoup, I., ... Albarracín, D. (2021, February 4). A Multi-Site Preregistered Paradigmatic Test of the Ego Depletion Effect. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/e497p>

Baker, M.D., Strickland, A., & Fox, N. (2019) Choosing a meal to increase your appeal: How relationship status, sexual orientation, dining partner sex, and attractiveness impact nutritional choices in social dining scenarios. *Appetite*, 133, 262-269.

Baker, M.D., Nabell, M.E., Thomas, N., Hall, A., Sloan, H.N., Utter, R.A., Beringer, J. (2019) Going the Distance, Going for Speed: Honest Signaling and the Benefits of Exercising with an Opposite-Sex Partner. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 40, 167-175.

Baker, M., Sloan, H. N., Hall, A., Leo, J., & Maner, J. (2015). Mating and Memory: Can Mating Cues Enhance Cognitive Performance?. *Evolutionary Psychology*, 13, 1-6.

- Gailliot, M. T., Gitter, S. A., Baker, M. D., & Baumeister, R. F. (2012). Breaking the rules: Low trait or state self-control increases social norm violations. *Psychology, 3*(12), 1074-1083.
- Baker, M. & Maner, J. (2009). Male risk-taking as a context-sensitive signaling device. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, 45*, 1136-1139.
- Baker, M. & Maner, J. (2008). Risk-Taking as a situationally sensitive male mating strategy. *Evolution and Human Behavior, 29*, 391-395.
- Cruise, K., Colwell, L., Lyons, P., Baker, M. (2003) Prototypical Analysis of Adolescent Psychopathy: Investigating the Juvenile Justice Perspective. *Behavioral Sciences & the Law, 21*, 829-846

IN PRESS

No articles in press as of February 2022.

INVITED PUBLICATIONS

- Baker, M. (2021). Evolutionary social psychology. In T. K. Shackelford *The SAGE handbook of evolutionary psychology* (pp. 2-27). SAGE Publications Ltd, <https://www.doi.org/10.4135/9781529739435.n1>
- Baker, M. & Hall, A. (2017). Risk-Taking Behavior (Young Male Syndrome). In R. Dunbar (Ed.) *Reference Module in Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Psychology*. Elsevier/Academic Press. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-809324-5.06546-9>, <http://scitechconnect.elsevier.com/neurorefmod/>
- Baker, M.D. (2012). Risk-Taking Behavior (Young Male Syndrome). In V. Ramachandran (Ed.) *The Encyclopedia of Human Behavior, 2nd Edition*. Elsevier/Academic Press.
- Maner, J. & Baker, M. (2007). Dominance, Evolutionary. In R. Baumeister & K. Vohs (Eds.) *Encyclopedia of Social Psychology*. Sage Publications.
- Baker, M. D. (2003). Book Review of Darwinian Happiness by Grinde, Bjorn. *Across-Species Comparisons and Psychopathology Newsletter/Bulletin, 4*, 22-23.

UNDER REVIEW, UNDER REVISION, AND IN PREPARATION

- Baker, M.D., Fox, N., Utter, R.A., Owens, B., Davis, K. & Boachie, R. (in preparation) Accelerate to Get a Mate: Mating Cues and Motives Interact to Improve Male Exercise Performance.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

- Baker, M.D. (2019, October). To Be Healthy or Hot? The Impact of Health and Mating Primes on Exercise Performance. *Society of Southeastern Social Psychologists*, Johnson City, TN.
- Baker, M.D. (2018, October). Hot to Trot: The Impact of Mating-related Stimuli and Mating Motives on Athletic Performance. *Society of Southeastern Social Psychologists*, Raleigh, NC.
- Baker, M.D. (2003, June). Parental mate preferences for self and child. *Human Behavior and Evolution Society*, Lincoln, NE.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Baker, M. D. (2019, October). To Be Healthy or Hot: The Impact of Health and Mating Primes on Exercise Performance. *42nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Southeastern Social Psychologists*, Johnson City, TN.

Baker, M. D. (2018, October). Hot to Trot: The Impact of Mating-related Stimuli and Mating Motives on Athletic Performance. *41st Annual Meeting of the Society for Southeastern Social Psychologists*, Raleigh, NC.

Baker, M.D., Nabell, M.E., Thomas, N., Hall, A., Sloan, H.N., & Utter, R.A. (2017, January). Going the Distance, Going for Speed: Honest Signaling and the Benefits of Exercising with an Opposite-Sex Partner. *Society for Personality and Social Psychology*, San Antonio, TX.

Baker, M. D. & Thomas, N. (2015, May). Mating Motives and Male Athletic Performance. *Human Behavior and Evolution Society, 27th Annual Conference*, Columbia, MO.

Thomas, N. & Baker, M. D. (2012, April). The Cheerleader Effect: Mating Cues Enhance Athletic Performance. *North Carolina Psychological Foundation*, Charlotte, NC.

Baker, M.D. & Maner, J.K. (2010, January) Exposure to Mating Cues Enhances Memory Retrieval. *Society for Personality and Social Psychology*, Las Vegas, NV.

Baker, M.D. & Maner, J.K. (2009, January) Male risk-taking as a context-sensitive signaling device. *Society for Personality and Social Psychology (Evolutionary Preconference)*, Tampa, FL.

Baker, M.D. & Maner, J.K. (2005, January) Domain-specific Risk-taking: A case for modular decision-making. *Society for Personality and Social Psychology (Evolutionary Preconference)*, New Orleans, LA.

Baker, M.D. & Miller, R.S. (2004, January) Mate preferences in parents and their young adult offspring. *Society for Personality and Social Psychology*, Austin, TX.

Cruise, K. R., Lyons, P. M., Hauser, L. L., & Baker, M. D. (2002). Prototypical analysis of adolescent psychopathy: The juvenile justice perspective. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Psychology-Law Society, Austin, TX.

GRANT APPLICATIONS (UNFUNDED)

Research

2004: Baker, M. D. Exploring the Impact of Fundamental Motives on Social Behavior and Cognition, GOV-National Science Foundation (NSF).

2018: Baker, M. D. Employing Episodic Future Thinking About Mating Opportunities to Induce Lower Cigarette Consumption, GOV-National Science Foundation (NSF).

Teaching

2016: Baker, M.D. APA Summer Undergraduate Research Opportunity Grant, APA Science Directorate. Amount requested: \$19,908.

2010: Wirtz, D., Baker, M., & Maag, L., Technology-Enabled Transformation of Introductory Psychology: From Gatekeeper to Gateway for College Success, Next Generation Learning Challenges

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, East Carolina University, August 2014 – Present. Independently conducting empirical research, mentoring undergraduate and master's level thesis projects, supervising undergraduate research assistants (5-8 per semester), designing and teaching upper and lower division undergraduate lecture and laboratory courses, and providing academic advising to approximately 20 undergraduate students per semester. Serving as secretary on the ECU Faculty Senate Admissions and Retention Committee (2020 – present) and on departmental committees including the Public Relations Committee and Website Committee as well as coordinating the department's Undergraduate Research Match System starting in spring 2021. Coordinated the departmental graduate recognition ceremony and served as faculty advisor to Psi Chi and the Psychology Club from 2014-2017. Served as Undergraduate Program Director for the Department of Psychology from 2014-2017. Additional duties during that time included serving on the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Council and the Assessment Review Committee, chairing the Psychology Department's Undergraduate Committee, serving as the Unit Assessment Coordinator for the Psychology Department's annual SACS reports and relevant activities, and supervising the Psychology Advising and Tutoring Center.

Teaching Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, East Carolina University, August 2010 – July 2014. Designing and teaching upper and lower division undergraduate lecture and laboratory courses, providing academic advising to undergraduate students, mentoring undergraduate thesis students, coordinating the departmental graduate recognition ceremony, serving as faculty advisor to Psi Chi and the Psychology Club, serving on departmental committees such as the Public Relations Committee, Website Committee, and the Undergraduate Council, independently conducting empirical research.

Instructor for Undergraduate Courses, Department of Psychology, Florida State University, August, 2005 – August 2010. Designed and taught multiple upper and lower division lecture courses.

Departmental Assistant, Department of Psychology, Florida State University, June, 2004 – August, 2005. Coordinated mass pre-screening of research pool subjects. Assisted professors of introductory psychology and social psychology in logistical and grading matters. Provided additional assistance with instruction of social psychology material to students in Spring, 2005.

Lab Manager, Department of Psychology, Florida State University, August, 2004 – April, 2006. Oversaw recruiting, interviewing, and selection of undergraduate research assistants. Organized and managed assignments of research assistants to graduate supervisors.

Social Psychology Research Assistant, Department of Psychology, Sam Houston State University, April, 2001 – June, 2003. Worked with faculty advisor to design and conduct original research on mate preferences.

Clinical Psychology Research Assistant, Department of Psychology, Sam Houston State University, August, 2000 – April, 2001. Assisted with coordination of survey study on adolescent psychopathy. Coded and assisted in evaluating participants' responses.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad hoc reviewer for:

Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics (2011)
European Journal of Social Psychology (2012)
Evolutionary Psychology (2013 – 2020)
Challenges (2017)
Psychological Science (2017)
Journal of Experimental Social Psychology (2018)
Evolutionary Psychological Science (2018)
Brain Sciences (2019)
Scientific Reports (2021)
Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin (2021 & 2022)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Total years of teaching experience: 17

Formal Training: Florida State University: Psychology Teaching Practicum, January – August, 2006

Certification: Florida State University: Program for Instructional Excellence, August 2007

Courses taught: Introductory Psychology, Research Methods in Psychology, Ethnocultural Psychology, Social Psychology, and Psychology of Personality

Additional courses I would be willing and able to teach: Sophomore or Senior level Seminar in Evolutionary Psychology or Research Conducted by Local Faculty Members, Advanced Social Psychology (Graduate Level)

Class size: Ranging from 20 seat labs to 252 seat auditoriums

Instructional format: Both face-to-face and asynchronous online

Mentor for Undergraduate Psychology Student Thesis Projects, Department of Psychology, Florida State University, August 2009 – August 2010. Department of Psychology, East Carolina University, August 2011 – Present. Responsible for guiding a undergraduate students through the process of developing a research question, designing an experiment to test that question, writing an APA format scientific research proposal, conducting research, analyzing data, and presenting the results. Five theses mentored as of February 2016, all but the most recent project (which is still in progress) were presented at local, national, and/or international conferences. 100% graduate school acceptance rate for former thesis students.

Supervisor and Mentor for Undergraduate Research Assistants, Florida State University, June 2004 – August 2010. East Carolina University, 2014 – Present. Responsible for training and supervising undergraduate research assistants to help with various aspects of research projects including literature review, stimulus development, IRB application procedures, execution of experimental protocols, data entry, and data coding.

AWARDS, HONORS, AND NOMINATIONS

East Carolina University Campus Living Honored Instructor Award, Fall 2019
East Carolina University Campus Living Honored Instructor Award, Spring 2019
East Carolina University Campus Living Honored Instructor Award, Fall 2018
East Carolina University Honors College Faculty Mentor Award, 2017
East Carolina University Department of Psychology MVP for Distinguished Service Award, 2016
Hazel Stapleton Excellence in Teaching Award, 2015
Psi Chi Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching, 2014
North Carolina Board of Governors Distinguished Professor for Teaching Award (Nominated), 2013
Psi Chi Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching, 2013
Psi Chi Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching, 2012
Florida State University Conference Presentation Grant, 2010
Florida State University Conference Presentation Grant, 2009
Brigham Award for Excellence in Research (Honorable Mention), 2009
Program for Instructional Excellence Teaching Certificate, 2007
Florida State University Conference Presentation Grant, 2005
Dean's List, Sam Houston State University, 2000-2002

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Southeastern Society for Social Psychologists, Member 2018 - Present
Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Student Member 2003 – 2010, Member 2010 - Present
Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Student Member 2003 – 2010, Member 2010 - Present
Society for the Study of Motivation, Member 2014- 2016
Association for Psychological Science, Member 2014 – 2016
Psi Chi International Psychology Honor Society: Member 2001 – Present; Sam Houston State University Chapter President 2001-2002, East Carolina University Chapter Faculty Advisor 2010 - 2017