

THOMAS MORRIS

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Research Interests

Cybersecurity, Cyber Hygiene, Human-Centered Computing, Machine Voice, Education Technology

Education

Doctor of Philosophy / Old Dominion University / Anticipated 2026

Human Factors Psychology GPA: 3.93

Bachelor of Science / Eastern Kentucky University / 2021

Psychology – Brain and Cognitive Science GPA: 4.0

Bachelor of Science / Eastern Kentucky University / 2021

Computer Science – Computer Technology GPA: 3.7

Research Experience

The Psychology of Design Laboratory

Research Assistant – Aug. 2021 – Present

Assisted with various projects related to the human factors of cybersecurity.

Cognitive and Human Factors Laboratory

Research Assistant – Aug. 2019 – Aug. 2021

Assisted with various projects related to the human factors of education technology.

Machine Learning and Deep Learning Laboratory

Research Assistant – Jan. 2020 – Jun. 2021

Explored how machine learning can be used to shape user experience and interactions.

Psycho-Physiological Laboratory

Research Assistant – Jan. 2021 – May 2021

Gained experience in collecting and analyzing psychophysiological data, including EEG.

McNair Summer Research Opportunity Program

MSROP Intern – May 2020 – July 2020

Completed an intensive graduate study preparation and research program under the guidance of a faculty supervisor.

Academic Experience

Old Dominion University

Psychology 410 Human Cognition / May 2022 – Present

Instructor: Dr. Xiao Yang

Graded the assignments, provided feedback, and moderated the discussions of over 50 students. Students were able to contact me directly for help with the course.

Psychology 424 Physiological Psychology / May 2022 – Present

Instructor: Dr. Xiao Yang

Helped ensure that the Canvas course and assignments were correct. Guided students through any technical issues that arose. Provided additional assistance as needed.

Psychology 318W Research Methods / Jan. 2022 – May 2022

Instructor: Dr. Krystall Dunaway

Lead a lab section that met twice a week with the goal of completing a class research project. Presented supplemental lecture content and in-class activities. Provided feedback to students in the form of graded assignments, writing feedback, and individual meetings.

Psychology 410 Human Cognition / Aug. 2021 – May 2022

Instructor: Dr. Ivan Ash

Moderated, graded, and provided feedback on the online discussions of over 150 students.

Eastern Kentucky University

IT – Student IT Support / Jan. 2021 – May 2021

Supported student computer systems and other IT needs as part of a 3-credit hour computer science internship. Worked as part of a team to redesign new-hire online training.

Student Success Center – Tutor / Jan. 2020 – Jan. 2021

Tutored students in math, computer science, statistics, psychology, and writing skills.

Psychology 200 Introduction to Psychology – Teaching Assistant / Aug. 2020 – Dec. 2020

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Winslow

Lead 2 groups of 10-15 students in small group sessions and provided 1-on-1 assistance to students in the form of weekly office hours. This course was delivered fully remotely through Blackboard.

Publications

Morris, T.W., & Still, J.D. (2022). *Cybersecurity Hygiene: Blending Home and Work Computing* [Manuscript in progress]. Department of Psychology, Old Dominion University.

Morris, T. W., & Chen, H-T. M. (2021). Voice's effect on student effort ratings and recall performance while under cognitive stress. *Proceedings of the 2021 International Annual Meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society*, Baltimore, MD: The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1071181321651070>

Morris, T. W., & Chen, H-T. M. (2020). The influence of voice on pedagogical agent's persona and recall performance. *Proceedings of the 2020 International Annual Meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society*, Chicago, IL: The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1071181320641111>

Conference Presentations

Morris, T. W., & Chen, H-T. M. (2022, May 19). *Examining the Impact of Machine Voice and Student Characteristics on Learning Outcomes*. [Poster presentation]. Pedagogicon, Richmond, KY, United States.

Morris, T. W., & Chen, H-T. M. (2021, May 17). *Influence of pedagogical agent's voice on effort ratings and recall performance*. [Poster presentation]. Pedagogicon, Richmond, KY, United States.

Morris, T. W., Chen, H-T. M., McClure, K. L., & Boggs, J. L. (2021, April 22). *How does machine voice influence effort and recall?* [Poster presentation]. EKU's Annual Social Science Undergraduate Research Symposium, Richmond, KY, United States.

Morris, T. W., & Kim, D. W. (2021, April 21). *Exploring big data using Hadoop MapReduce: 17 – 19 monthly maximum and minimum snowfall in Kentucky*. [Oral presentation]. Computer Science Living and Learning Community, Richmond, KY, United States. [Invited].

Morris, T. W., Chen, H-T. M., Boggs, J. L., & McClure, K. L. (2021, April 17). *The effect of synthesized voice on effort and recall in cognitively stressful situations* [Poster presentation]. 40th Annual Mid-America Undergraduate Psychology Research Conference, Charleston, IL, United States.

Morris, T. W., & Chen, H-T. M. (2021, April 17). *The effects of voice and information processing framework on cognitive trust and recall* [Poster presentation]. Kentucky Psychological Association Spring Conference, Louisville, KY, United States.

Morris, T. W., & Chen, H-T. M. (2021, April 5-9). *Voice's effect on effort and recall: the role of cognitive stress* [Poster presentation]. Lincoln Memorial University Blue Ridge Undergraduate Research Conference, Harrogate, TN, United States.

Morris, T. W., & Chen, H-T. M. (2020, November 6). *Voices' influence on effort ratings and recall performance* [Poster presentation]. 2020 Kentucky Academy of Science Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY, United States.

Morris, T. W., & Chen, H-T. M. (2020, October 1). *Does machine voice matter? The effects of voice on effort and recall* [Poster presentation]. Baylor University McNair Research Conference, Waco, TX, United States.

Morris, T. W. (2020, August 17). *Making the most of the McNair Scholars Program* [Oral presentation]. McNair Fall 2020 Colloquium, Richmond, KY, United States.

Morris, T. W. (2020, August 17). *15 tips for remote presentations* [Oral presentation]. McNair Fall 2020 Colloquium, Richmond, KY, United States.

Morris, T. W., & Chen, H-T. M. (2020, May 15). *The influence of an audio agent's voice on student perception and recall* [Poster presentation]. Pedagogicon, Richmond, KY, United States.

Morris, T. W., & Chen, H-T. M. (2020, April 24). *The impact of an agent's voice on student perception and recall* [Oral presentation]. Mid-America Undergraduate Psychology Research Conference, Evansville, IN, United States.

Other Writings

Morris, T. (2022, January 19). Opinion: Virginia must adopt a stronger data privacy law. pilotonline.com. *The Virginia-Pilot*. <https://www.pilotonline.com/opinion/columns/vp-ed-column-morris-0120-20220119-xwwrjkk25zcv5akqzeggzmvrem-story.html>

Morris, Thomas W. (2021, May 13). NASA's Mars 2020 Perseverance Rover: A Win for Computer Science. *EKU Online*. <https://ekuonline.eku.edu/computer-science/blog/nasa%E2%80%99s-mars-2020-perseverance-rover-win-computer-science>

Awards & Grants

Psi Chi Research Award (2021)

The Psi Chi Research Award is presented each year to the undergraduate student who conducts the best research project during that year. Faculty are asked to nominate student research projects for the award by submitting the student's name and a copy of the research paper to the Awards Committee.

EKU Department of Psychology: Outstanding Senior Award (2021)

This annual award is presented to an outstanding Senior Major in Psychology who has achieved excellence in academic work, shows significant scholarly promise, and has manifested genuine professional identification and constructive investment in the field.

Blue Ridge Undergraduate Research Conference (2021)

The poster presentation "Voice's Effect on Effort and Recall: The Role of Cognitive Stress" placed 1st in the Psychology division.

EKU Department of Psychology Student Research Funding (2020)

PI: Thomas Morris CO-I: Dr. Michael Chen

Amount: \$282.00

EKU Psychology Student Research Funding grant is designed to help support outstanding students cover the costs associated with research. This grant covered the cost to recruit participants through Amazon's MechanicalTurk subject pool.

Kentucky Academy of Science Student Competition (2020)

The poster presentation "Voices' Influence on Effort Ratings and Recall Performance" placed 1st in the Social Sciences division.

McNair Scholarship (2019-2021)

\$3,000 per academic year award for students in the ECU McNair Scholars program that maintain good academic standing.

Barnes and Noble Textbook Scholarship (2020-2021)

An institutional award of \$1000 per academic year to be used to purchase textbooks at the ECU Bookstore.

HFES Council of Technical Groups Student Presenter Award (2020)

An award provided to students who are authors of accepted papers or posters for the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting. Provides up to \$599 in conference related expenses.

MSROP Scholar Stipend (2020)

\$2,800 federal stipend paid in three installments upon successful completion of required activities and materials as part of the McNair Summer Research Opportunities Program. An additional \$200 institutional award was also awarded upon successful completion of the program. A \$300 award was also made available to aid in the purchase of research supplies.

Colonel Scholarship (2017-2019)

\$3,000 per academic year award for students entering ECU with a college GPA of 3.50-3.74.

Volunteer Experience

Reader/Judge – Virginia Junior Academy of Science Research Symposium (Mar. 2022 – May 2022)

Volunteered to screen, read, and score original research papers submitted by students in grades seven through twelve. Listened to oral presentations of selected research papers and completed scoring to determine the winning paper.

Judge – Virginia State Science and Engineering Fair (April 9, 2022)

Interviewed and scored approximately 10 student-led science projects from various high schools in Virginia.

Lab Tour Guide – Scholars Day (Feb. 26, 2022)

Presented an overview of the Psychology of Design lab's research to groups of undergraduate students and their parents as part of the ODU College of Science's Scholars Day. Guided groups of students through the Psychology of Design lab facility and research tools.

Alumni Outreach – HFES Executive Board – ODU Student Chapter (Aug. 2021 – Present)

The alumni outreach chairperson is responsible for updating and maintaining the alumni mailing list. In addition, the chairperson is responsible for planning the annual alumni dinner, which includes

contacting all alumni. The chairperson is also responsible for reaching out to alumni for help or as a potential guest speaker.

Honors

- Psi Chi • McNair Scholar • President's Award • Dean's List • Dean's Award

Membership in Professional Organizations

- HFES • IEEE • ACM • APA