

Title:

Behavioral and Cognitive Neurology Research

Faculty Mentor:

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Description of Research:

We perform neurobehavioral research in almost all cognitive domains including: memory, language, attention, emotion, executive functions, creativity, perception and motor-procedural skills. The research performed in our laboratories uses a variety of methods including, studying patients with degenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's, fronto-temporal lobar degenerations, and parkinsonian disorders, as well as patients with other neurological disorders that affect cognition such as stroke, epilepsy and head trauma. We also study cognitive changes associated with aging and even cognitive functions in normal people. Our major method of study is by performing neurobehavioral-neuropsychological testing, however, we also do use functional imaging (primarily fMRI), structural imaging, transcranial magnetic stimulation and a variety of other techniques. Our research is, in general, hypothesis driven, but we also take advantage of "experiments of nature." Students will learn about the development of a priori hypotheses, development of methods to test these hypotheses, data analysis and interpretation as well as the writing of research reports. Almost every student who has worked with us has been an author of a paper that has been published in a journal or presented and at a scientific meeting.