ELIZABETH S. COUNTERMAN

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Education

Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Massachusetts

Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience and Behavior, summa cum laude, May 2010

Cumulative Grade Point Average: 3.99/4.0

Awards: Phi Beta Kappa, Sarah Williston Scholar, Sarah Williston Prize Triple Recipient, Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, Psi Chi National Psychology Honor Society, Bernice MacLean Award for Biology, Mount Holyoke Leadership Award

University of St Andrews, Scotland, Spring 2009

Student in the Faculty of Science; studied Organic and Biological Chemistry

Research Experience

Neuroscience and Behavior Honors Thesis, Mt. Holyoke College, 2009 – 2010

• Investigated the involvement of the dorsal and ventral streams of visual perception in precision grasping and susceptibility to visual illusions, advised by Dr. Joseph Cohen.

M.I.T. Summer Research Program, Cambridge, MA, Summer 2009

• Worked in the Gabrieli Lab in the Brain and Cognitive Sciences Department on an fMRI investigation of the neural development of source memory from age eight to adulthood.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst. Cognitive Sci. Dept. Researcher, Troy, NY, Summer 2008

• Worked with Dr. Mark Changizi on data collection and shaping of the theory that language has evolved to mimic the sound patterns of natural events (paper in review)

Work Experience

Tong Lab Research Assistant, Vanderbilt University, June 2010 – present

- Extensive fMRI experience, including stimulus programming and data collection, preprocessing, and analyses in BrainVoyager and MATLAB. Also skilled at retinotopic mapping of visual cortex.
- Currently investigating visual working memory for complex objects (faces) in fMRI and behavioral experiments of my own design.
- Wide array of lab manager tasks, including working with the IRB, assisting in grant writing, purchasing equipment and scan time, and organizing job candidate visits.

Psychology Statistics Homework Grader, Mt. Holyoke College, Fall 2008

Camp Is-Sho-Da Unit Counselor, East Greenbush, NY, Summer 2007

· Planned and led creative and educational outdoor camp activities for 5 – 14-year-olds

Volunteer/ Leadership Experience

C.A.U.S.E. Co-Chair and Web Manager, Mt. Holyoke College, Spring 2008 - 2010

• As leader of 9 board members of Mt. Holyoke's campus-wide service organization, I advised and solved problems for over 20 ongoing projects in surrounding communities, and worked to engage students in meaningful on- and off-campus service initiatives.

Project Coordinator and Tutor, Hussein Family Tutoring Program, 2006 – 2010

- Tutored 6 of the family's 15 children weekly to improve school performance
- As project coordinator, I recruited and trained over 50 Mt. Holyoke student volunteers, organized transportation, and addressed any problems the children or tutors faced.

Special Skills

MATLAB, Psychtoolbox, BrainVoyager, freesurfer/FSL, MS Office Suite, SPSS, FaceGen, Adobe Photoshop, iWeb, Dreamweaver