

Nicholas E Murray

Master's in Psychiatry Research Student | PROSIT Lab

Curriculum Vitae

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About Me

- I am a student, writer, and musician aiming to pursue a PhD in Clinical Psychology so I can practice clinically and continue research.
- My academic experience is in youth anxiety, psychiatric epidemiology, attention, and the philosophy of psychology.
- In the PROSIT Lab, I am working on predicting daily anxiety symptoms in youth and adults via real-time, objective assessment of anxiety-related behaviour using smartphone mobile sensing technology.

Skills

- R-programming / data-analysis / visualization
- Python data-analysis (basic)
- REDCap programming for questionnaire studies
- Academic knowledge translation (e.g., scholarly articles; conference presentations).
- Lay knowledge translation (e.g., blogging; science and mental health promotion, both in-person and via social media)

Education

- 2022 - 2024 **Master's in Psychiatry Research (Dalhousie University)**
Thesis Project: Objective Behavioural Comparison of Youth and Adult Anxiety:
A Mobile Sensing Approach
Supervisors: Dr. Sandra M. Meier, Dr. JianLi Wang
- 2018 - 2022 **Bachelor of Science, First Class Honours in Psychology and Philosophy (Dalhousie University)**
Thesis Project: Is Gaze-Cuing More Like Endogenous or Exogenous Orienting?
Supervisors: Dr. Raymond M. Klein, Richard S. Drake
Honours GPA: 4.1 / 4.3

Professional Affiliations

- 2022 - Present **Associate Fellow (DIVERT Mental Health)**
- 2022 - Present **Student Member (Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Science)**
- 2021 - Present **Student Member (Canadian Positive Psychology Association)**

Research & Scholarly Experience

- 2021 - Present **Volunteer/Research Assistant/MScP Student (PROSIT Lab, Dalhousie University/IWK Health Centre)**
Research in youth psychiatry, including applications of mobile-sensing for real-time behavioural comparison of youth and adults with anxiety problems. Responsibilities include recruitment, data analysis in R, operating a knowledge translation booth at the Discovery Centre in Halifax, NS, study design, project management, blog writing, and collaborating with lab members on various youth psychiatry projects.
- 2019 - Present **Volunteer/Honours Student/Research Assistant (Klein Lab, Dalhousie University)**
Experimental research in attention, including the attentional blink, gaze-cuing, applications of the Attention Network Test to mental disorders (e.g., schizophrenia). Responsibilities include running and co-designing experiments, assisting graduate students with meta-analyses, co-managing the Attention Network Test Database. Accomplishments include co-organizing the CSBACS 2022 Annual Meeting, writing an honours thesis, and managing the Klein Lab social media accounts.
- 2022 **Co-Organizer, Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science 2022 Annual Meeting**
Co-organized a 300+ attendee conference held in Halifax, NS in July, 2022. Accomplishments include co-authoring the conference program, scheduling presenters, assembling and training a team of 16 volunteers, managing and operating the registration desk, and coordinating security with the Halifax Convention Centre.

Scholarships, Awards & Recognitions

- 2023-2024 **2023 Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine Graduate Studentship (\$15,000)**
Organization: Provided by the DeWolfe Research Fund
Awarded to support MSc in Psychiatry Research thesis project.
- 2023 **Canada Tri-Agency Graduate Scholarships – Master's (\$17,500; currently on alternate list)**
Organization: Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- 2022 **Undergraduate Summer Research Award (\$6000)**
Organization: Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
Awarded to expand honours research and get a headstart on graduate research.
- 2022 **Roland Puccetti Award (Nomination)**
Organization: Dalhousie University, Department of Philosophy.
Nominated twice for best philosophy seminar project (one on treating morally injured, suicidal soldiers; one refuting universalist solutions to the problem of induction).
- 2022 **Student Engagement Award**
Organization: Dalhousie University, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience
Awarded for academic excellence and outstanding engagement in a course on Hormones & Behaviour.
- 2021 **In-Course Scholarship (\$375)**
Organization: Dalhousie University
Awarded for outstanding academic achievement in psychology and philosophy courses.
- 2020 **In-Course Scholarship (\$375)**
Organization: Dalhousie University
Awarded for outstanding academic achievement in psychology and philosophy courses.
- 2018 **Entrance Scholarship (\$2000)**
Organization: Dalhousie University
- 2018 **Richard Conrad Scholarship (\$2500)**
Organization: Steele Auto Group
Awarded for academic excellence and commitment to a career in mental health.

Non-Research Employment Experience

- 2023 - 2024 **Stay Connected Mental Health Peer Supporter (Dalhousie Counselling and Psychological Services)**
Provide free, confidential, drop-in mental health support to Dalhousie students at regular office hours. Plan and run social media and in-person advertising campaigns for Peer Support. Accompanied by training in bystander intervention; equity, diversity, and inclusivity; suicide prevention; other basic mental health skills.
- 2018 - 2021 **Barista (Apartment 3 Espresso Bar, Sackville, NS)**
- 2016 - 2018 **Cashier (McDonald's Canada, Sackville, NS)**

Volunteer & Extracurricular Experience

- 2021 - Present **Core Team Lead & Editor-in-Chief (Canadian Positive Psychology Association)**
Joined in June 2021 as a Student Ambassador. Prompted in January 2022 to Editor-in-Chief of the CPPA Students Medium blog, and again in July 2023 as a Core Team Lead of the Student Ambassador Program. Core Team Lead responsibilities include recruitment, surveying members for feedback, and various administrative duties. Editorial responsibilities include editing 18-24 student written (and reviewed) blogs per year, contributing Essays. Hosted webinar in 2021 on science literacy with Dr. Jennifer Stamp from Dalhousie University.
- 2018 - Present **Writer (On Things Psychological, Subject Matter Unknown)**
Personal knowledge translation blogs for psychology and philosophy. 2020 Essay introducing the philosophy of Thomas Hobbes used by an Irish beacon school for a lecture on the George Floyd protests in a course on politics and society. 2020 Essay introducing Sigmund Freud used to teach psychoanalytic theory in Dalhousie Psychoanalysis Book Club.

- 2017 - Present **Guitarist (JMN Through the Night)**
Volunteer with funk-rock band to play for Knox United Church services, community coffee houses, meetings of the Sackville Association for Parents of Autistic Children, and most recently, the 2023 Eastern Passage Music for Mental Health Day. Play professional gigs in Nova Scotia (e.g., Pizzatown Cobequid, Gus's Pub, The Loose Cannon)
- 2020 - 2022 **Academic Representative (Dalhousie Association of Psychology Students)**
Responsible for organizing and hosting events for psychology and neuroscience students. Accomplishments include surveying 250 second-year students and hosting a writing workshop to assist with their first scientific papers (70 attendees in the live event, dozens requested the recording afterwards), co-founded Dalhousie Psychoanalysis Book Club, organized virtual graduate program expo with six graduate programs across Canada, co-organized multiple honours info seminars, course selection workshops and study sessions.
- 2020 - 2021 **Peer Mentor (Dalhousie University, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience)**
Mentored younger students on course selection, study techniques, applications to labs and research opportunities.

Publications

1. Klein, R.M., Ishigami, Y., & **Murray, N.E.** (2023). Slippage of the attentional beam when searching in space and in time. *Cognition*, 241. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2023.105610>
2. **Murray, N.E.**, Drake, R.S., & Klein, R.M. (2023). *Is Gaze-Cuing More Like Endogenous or Exogenous Orienting?* [Manuscript accepted for publication]. *Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/cep0000315>
3. **Murray, N.E.**, Marin-Dragu, S., Cormier, M., Sheikh, S., Mamani, G.M., Li, S., Muzamil, M., Bagnell, A., Sherry, S.B., Orji, R., Stewart, S.H., Meier, S.M. (2023). *Investigating Associations of Social Media Use Motives and Mental Well-Being in Adolescents Not Receiving Mental Health Treatment* [Manuscript in preparation]. Department of Psychiatry, Dalhousie University.
4. Burns, H., Hurst, A., Garay, P., **Murray, N.E.**, Stewart, S.H., Mejia, J., Bagnell, A., Klein, R.M., Meier, S.M. (2023). *Attentional Biases for Dynamic Stimuli and Associations with Social Skills in Emerging Adults with Anxiety* [Manuscript in preparation]. Department of Psychiatry, Dalhousie University.
5. **Murray, N.E.** (2023). *Schizophrenia and the Attention Network Test: A Meta-Analysis* [Manuscript in preparation]. Department of Psychiatry, Dalhousie University.

Conference Presentations & Abstracts

1. **Murray, N.E.**, Marin-Dragu, S., Cormier, M., Sheikh, S., Mamani, G.M., Li, S., Muzamil, M., Bagnell, A., Sherry, S.B., Orji, R., Stewart, S.H., Meier, S.M. (2023). *Investigating Associations of Social Media Use Motives and Mental Well-Being in Adolescents Not Receiving Mental Health Treatment* [Accepted for oral presentation]. Dalhousie University Department of Psychiatry Research Day, Halifax, NS.
2. **Murray, N.E.** (2023, July). *Schizophrenia and the Attention Network Test: A Meta-Analysis*. [Oral presentation]. Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Science 2023 Annual Meeting, Guelph, ON.
3. **Murray, N.E.** (2023, May 26). *Moral Injury and PTSD Are Distinct, but Must Be Treated Insofar as They Interact*. [Oral presentation]. Dalhousie Professional & Research Education Program Graduate Research Day Conference, Halifax, NS. <http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.10003.45607>
4. **Murray, N.E.**, Meier, S.M., & Wang, J. (2023, March 11). *Objective Behavioral Comparison of Youth and Adult Anxiety: A Mobile Sensing Approach*. [Poster presentation]. Crossroads 2023 Interdisciplinary Health Research Conference, Halifax, NS. <http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.10065.71529>
5. Klein, R.M., Feltmate, B., Ishigami, Y., & **Murray, N.E.** Is There One "Beam" of Attention for Searching in Space and Time? [Conference presentation abstract]. *Journal of Vision*, 22(14):4106. <https://doi.org/10.1167/jov.22.14.4106>
6. **Murray, N.E.** (2022, July 18). *Is Gaze-Cuing More Like Endogenous or Exogenous Orienting?* [Poster presentation]. Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Science 2022 Annual Meeting, Halifax, NS. <http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.33396.53121>
7. **Murray, N.E.** (2022, May 27). *Is Gaze-Cuing More Like Endogenous or Exogenous Orienting?* [Poster presentation]. Dalhousie Psychology and Neuroscience In-House Conference, Halifax, NS.

Contributed Blog Posts & Essays

1. **Murray, N.E.** (2023, February 2). *What is Mobile Sensing?* [Essay]. PROSIT Lab. <http://prosit.meierlab.info/blog-mobilesensing.html>
2. **Murray, N.E.** (2021, October 6). Nicholas Murray | Student Success Series. [Essay]. CPPA Students Medium. <https://cppastudents.medium.com/nicholas-murray-student-success-series-ff6a9065146e>

3. **Murray, N.E.** (2021, August 10). Strategic Reading for Clearer Thinking. [Essay]. CPPA Students Medium. <https://cppastudents.medium.com/strategic-reading-for-clearer-thinking-42b16abf3cfb>