

**VICTORIA LAURA DESENSI
CURRICULUM VITAE**

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. 2011: Psychology, Indiana University
Dissertation Title:
Making a good impression: Exploring the process of impression validation.
Committee Members:
Dr. Robert Rydell, Dr. Zakary Tormala, Dr. Steven Sherman, Dr. Edward Hirt

Specialization: Social Psychology
Minor: Quantitative Psychology

M.Ed. 2023: Curriculum and Instruction, University of Cincinnati

B.A. 2004: Psychology, Miami University (*Magna Cum Laude*)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Wilmington College

2010 – Present: Associate Professor of Psychology

2023 – Present: Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Wilmington College

PY130 Introduction to Psychology

PY336 Social Psychology

PY235 Ethical and Social Responsibility in Psychology

PY233 Careers in Psychology

PY496 Capstone in Psychology

PY342 Positive Psychology

PY331 Health Psychology

PY350A2 Topics: Learning How to Learn

PY350-16 Topics: Applied Social Psychology

PY350-1 Topics: Sport Psychology

PY350G-SS-6 Topics: Cross-Cultural Psychology

PY350-19 Topics: Psychology of Stigma

HO230-11 Honors Seminar: Exploring Research

HO230-34 Honors Seminar: Community Engagement

PY231 Developmental Psychology

PY430 Motivation and Emotion

PY356 Intimate Relationships
PY350 Media Psychology
PSY329 Organizational Behavior
PSY423 Groups at Work
PSY338 Conflict Resolution

GRANTS AND ENDORSEMENTS

2025: \$5000 grant from the Merrill Evans Innovation Fund
2021: Inclusive Teaching in Higher Education Endorsement (Ohio Professional Development Consortium)
2016: \$10,000 mini-grant, Mental Health Recovery Services of Warren and Clinton Counties
2013: Wilmington College professional development grant

MICROCREDENTIALS AND CERTIFICATES

2024: Go2Knowledge Micro-credential: Empower and Excel Challenge (6 hours)
2024: Go2Knowledge Micro-credential: Tutoring Center Administration (6 hours)
2023: Teaching Professor Conference 2021 On-Demand: Educational Development (Certificate)
2023: Teaching Professor Conference 2021 On-Demand: Best of (Certificate)

HONORS AND AWARDS

2023: Exemplary Course Design Award (Ethical and Social Responsibility in Psychology)
2022: Exemplary Course Design Award (Positive Psychology)
2021: Exemplary Course Design Award (Introduction to Psychology- Online Asynchronous)
2017: STP Early Career Travel Award
2006: College of Arts & Sciences Fall Travel Award
2004-09: Chancellor's Fellowship, Indiana University
2005: Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Past research interests have included attitudes and social cognition, persuasion, metacognition, and impression formation
- Other research interests have included issues at the intersection of social and clinical psychology, particularly as they pertain to the topic of psychological disorder stigma.
- Current research interest in the scholarship of teaching and learning, with a particular interest in course design to support student mental health and mastery of learning outcomes.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

DeSensi, V.L. (2024). Embedding social and emotional learning (SEL) design to support college student well-being and learning outcomes: A review of the relevant literature. *Journal of the National Organization for Student Success*, 1(1), 70-78. <https://doi.org/10.61617/jnoss.25>

DeSensi, V.L. & Jurs, B.S. (2017). Coverage of psychological disorder stigma in introductory psychology. *North American Journal of Psychology*, 19(3), 717-730.

DeSensi, V.L. (2011). Making a good impression: Exploring the process of impression validation. Doctoral Dissertation

Tormala, Z.L., Petty, R.E., & DeSensi, V.L. (2010). Multiple roles for minority sources in persuasion and resistance. R. Martin & M. Hewstone (Eds.), *Minority influence and innovation: Antecedents, processes, and consequences*. London: Psychology Press.

Clarkson, J.J., Tormala, Z.L., DeSensi, V.L., & Wheeler, S.C. (2009). Does attitude certainty beget self-certainty? *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 45(2), 436-439.

Tormala, Z.L., DeSensi, V.L., Clarkson, J.J., & Rucker, D.D. (2009). Beyond attitude consensus: The social context of persuasion and resistance. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 45(1), 149-154.

Tormala, Z.L., & DeSensi, V.L. (2009). The effects of minority/majority source status on attitude certainty: A matching perspective. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 35(1), 114-125.

Tormala, Z.L., & DeSensi, V.L. (2008). The perceived informational basis of attitudes: Implications for subjective ambivalence. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 34, 275-287.

Tormala, Z.L., DeSensi, V.L., & Petty, R.E. (2007). Resisting persuasion by illegitimate means: A metacognitive perspective on minority influence. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 33, 354-367.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

DeSensi, V.L., Saam, J., Rupprecht, R., & Hamm, S.E. (2024). Relationship Goals: Partnering with Intentionality. Panel discussion presented at the 49th Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network Conference, Chicago, IL.

DeSensi, V.L. (2024). Fostering Essential Skills and Engagement through Rigorous Pedagogical Partnerships. 60-minute session presented at the Magna Faculty Development Professionals Conference. Online.

DeSensi, V.L. (2022). Course Design to Support Learning and Wellness. Talk presented at the International Teaching Learning Cooperative, Lilly Conference on Innovative Strategies to Advance Student Learning, Asheville, NC.

DeSensi, V.L., Jurs, B.S., & O'Donnell, R. (2019). Coverage of Psychology Careers in Introductory Psychology. Poster presented at the 41st National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology Conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

DeSensi, V.L. & Jurs, B.S. (2018). Coverage of Psychological Disorder Stigma in Introductory Psychology. Poster presented at the 40th National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology Conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

DeSensi, V.L., Fisher, W., & Reynolds, E. (2015). We Need to Talk . . . About the Stigma of Mental Illness. Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research Forum, Wilmington, OH.

DeSensi, V.L., Fisher, W., & Reynolds, E. (2015). We Need to Talk . . . About the Stigma of Mental Illness. Invited presentation at an Instructional Development and Resources Committee (IDRC) sponsored off-campus event, Wilmington, OH.

DeSensi, V.L., Fisher, W., & Reynolds, E. (2015). We Need to Talk . . . About the Stigma of Mental Illness. Poster presented at the 37th National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology Conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

DeSensi, V.L., & Tormala, Z.L. (2013). Making a good impression: Exploring the process of impression validation. Dissertation presented at the 85th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

DeSensi, V.L., & Tormala, Z.L. (2013). Making a good impression: Exploring the process of impression validation. Dissertation presented at an Instructional Development and Resources Committee (IDRC) sponsored on-campus event, Wilmington, OH.

DeSensi, V.L., & Tormala, Z.L. (2008). Making a good impression: The effects of perceived impression formation strategy on impression certainty. Paper presented at the 80th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

DeSensi, V.L., & Tormala, Z.L. (2008). Making a good impression: The effects of perceived impression formation strategy on impression certainty. Poster presented at the 9th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Albuquerque, NM.

DeSensi, V.L., & Tormala, Z.L. (2007). Beyond attitude consensus: The social context of persuasion and resistance. Paper presented at the 79th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

DeSensi, V.L., & Tormala, Z.L. (2007). Beyond attitude consensus: The social context of persuasion and resistance. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Social Psychologists of Indiana, West Lafayette, IN.

DeSensi, V.L., & Tormala, Z.L. (2007). Making a good impression: The effects of perceived impression formation strategy on impression certainty. Paper presented at the Purdue-Indiana Meeting on Persuasion Science, West Lafayette, IN.

DeSensi, V.L., Clarkson, J.J., & Tormala, Z.L. (2007). Beyond attitude consensus: The social context of persuasion and resistance. Poster presented at the 8th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Memphis, TN.

DeSensi, V.L., & Tormala, Z.L. (2006). The effects of perceived attitude basis on attitude strength. Paper presented at the 78th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

Clarkson, J.J., DeSensi, V.L., & Tormala, Z.L. (2006). Certainty and the self. Paper presented at the Purdue-Indiana Meeting on Persuasion Science, West Lafayette, IN.

DeSensi, V.L., & Tormala, Z.L. (2006). The effects of perceived attitude basis on attitude strength. Paper presented at the Purdue-Indiana Meeting on Persuasion Science, West Lafayette, IN.

DeSensi, V.L., & Tormala, Z.L. (2006). A metacognitive perspective on minority influence. Poster presented at the 7th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Palm Springs, CA.

DeSensi, V.L., & McConnell, A.R., (2004). Exploring motivational and contextual factors related to granting others the benefit of the doubt. Poster presented at Miami University's Undergraduate Research Conference, Oxford, Ohio.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

DeSensi, V.L. (2024). Institute for New Educational Developers presented by POD and the Temple University Center for the Advancement of Teaching. Online.

DeSensi, V.L. (2024). Attendance at the Faculty Development Professionals Conference. Online.

DeSensi, V.L. (2024). Attendance at the Exploring the Future of Centers for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education event presented by the Strategic Ohio Council for Higher Education (SOCHE). Dublin, Ohio.

DeSensi, V. L. (2023). Attendance at the 48th Annual POD Network Conference, Pittsburgh, PA.

Green, E., Stanley, C.M., & DeSensi, V.L. (2019). Enhancing the Quality of Undergraduate Program Assessment Using Participatory Evaluation Techniques. Participant Idea Exchange presented at the 41st National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

Jurs, B.S., DeSensi, V.L. (2018). You Can't Do Anything with a Major in Psychology: The Importance of Introductory Psychology Courses in Changing This Rhetoric. Participant Idea Exchange presented at the 40th National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

Stanley, C.M., DeSensi, V.L. (2017). Small Teaching Tricks with Large Cognitive "Punch": How to Improve Student Learning without Revamping the Whole Course. Participant Idea Exchange presented at the 39th National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

Green, E., DeSensi, V.L., Stanley, C.M. (2017). Tackling the Sacred “St. Syllabus Day”: Best Practices for the First Day of Class. Participant Idea Exchange presented at the 39th National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

DeSensi, V.L. & Jurs, B.S. (2016). Major Issue? Conveying the Value of Psychology to Non-majors Enrolled in Introduction to Psychology. Participant Idea Exchange presented at the 38th National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

DeSensi, V.L., Stanley, C.M., & Green, E. (2015). Branching off the Family Tree: The Unique Needs of First-Generation College Students. Participant Idea Exchange presented at the 37th National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

DeSensi, V.L., & Stanley, C.M. (2014). Destigmatizing Mental Health Issues on Campus: Implications for Academic Adjustment. Participant Idea Exchange presented at the 36th National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

SPECIAL CONFERENCE INVITATION

2022, Active Minds National Conference (Virtual Participation)

2022, 2021, 2015-17: Annual College Mental Health Research Symposium, Ann Arbor, MI.

2016: Propel Ohio: Collegiate Leadership Summit

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for the Teaching of Psychology (APA, Division 2)

Professional and Organizational Development (POD) network in higher education.

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Leadership Roles at Wilmington College

2024: Presiding Clerk of Faculty Meeting/Faculty Convener

2023 – Present: Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence

2020 - Present: Clerk of the Instructional Development and Resources Committee

2015- Present: Advisor, Active Minds at Wilmington College

2019-20; 23-24: Assistant Presiding Clerk of Faculty Meeting/Faculty Convener

2017-19: Recording Clerk of Faculty Meeting/Faculty Convener

2013: Area Coordinator for the Social Sciences

2012-13: Co-organizer, Graduate School Preparation Program

2011-13: Advisor, Psychology Club

Service Involvement

2024 - Present: Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network Professional Development Committee

2024 - Present: Institutional Accreditation Committee at Wilmington College

2022-24: Higher Learning Commission Visit Working Group (Criterion 3: Teaching and Learning)

2022-Present: Strategic Ohio Council for Higher Education (SOCHE) Faculty Development Committee

2021-23: Student Life Committee
2021: Biology Faculty Search Committee
2019-20: Faculty Council
2019-20: Psychology Faculty Search Committee
2017-18: Abstract reviewer, Midwestern Psychological Association (MPA) Psi Chi Session
2016-17: Psychology Faculty Search Committee
2016: General Education Committee
2015-16: Science of Teaching and Learning Research Grant Committee
2014-16: Judicial and Appellate Board
2014-15: Food Symposium Committee
2014-15: Psychology Faculty Search Committee
2013-14: Tenure, Promotion, and Review Committee
2011-13, 2015-16: Instructional Development and Resources Committee
2010 – Present: Faculty Sponsor to Student Interns
2009: Co-organizer of Biennial Meeting of Social Psychologists of Indiana, Bloomington, IN.

SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE

2024 – Pedagogical Partnership Program Facilitator
2024 – Honors Capstone Project Supervisor
2023 – Honors Capstone Project Supervisor

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER ROLES

2021 - Present: Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Mentor – Cincinnati, Ohio

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Bethany Jurs Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience
Program Director for Psychology
Transylvania University
300 N. Broadway
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