

VITA

**MARION A. EPPLER**

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Emory University (Atlanta GA), Aug 1990  
Human Experimental/Developmental Psychology

M.A. College of William and Mary (Williamsburg VA), Aug 1984  
General Psychology

B.A. University of North Carolina at Wilmington, May 1981  
Psychology (Cum Laude with Honors in Psychology)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2003-present Associate Professor. Dept. of Psychology, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC.

2002-2003 Senior Research Scientist. Infant Motor Development Laboratory, Dept. of Psychology, New York University, New York, NY.

1998-2002 Associate Professor. Dept. of Psychology, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC.

1994-1998 Assistant Professor. Dept. of Psychology, East Carolina University, Greenville NC.

1990-1994 Assistant Professor. Dept. of Psychology, Middlebury College, Middlebury VT.

1989-1990 Child Care Resource Counselor. Child Care Solutions Resource and Referral Program of Save the Children, Atlanta GA.

1988-1990 Coordinator of infant subject pool and introductory psychology subject pool; managed infant perception laboratory. Emory University, Atlanta GA.

1987-1990 Instructor. Taught Research Methods (3 semesters) and Child Development (3 semesters). Emory University, Atlanta GA.

1984-1988 Research/Teaching Assistant. Set up infant perception laboratory; studied event perception in infants; assisted with large lecture course on child development. Emory

University, Atlanta GA (Beth A. Shapiro, Ph.D.).

1983-1984     Research Specialist (full-time). Designed computerized employee and patient record keeping systems; statistical analyses of patient tenure. Eastern State Hospital, Williamsburg VA (Richard M. Bloch, Ph.D.).

1981-1983     Research Assistant. Differential diagnosis of movement disorders associated with long term use of antipsychotic drugs. College of William and Mary/Eastern State Hospital, Williamsburg VA (Richard M. Bloch, Ph.D.).

Summer  
1981            Research Assistant. Effects of hippocampal lesions on memory in young rhesus monkeys. University of North Carolina at Wilmington / Institute of Marine Biomedical Research, Wilmington NC (William H. Overman, Ph.D.).

1979-1981     Crisis Intervention Counselor. Cape Fear Substance Abuse Center, Wilmington NC.

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

(1) Perception and action in infancy

- relationships across the domains of developing motor skills (object manipulation, crawling, walking), exploratory behavior, intermodal perception, perceptual learning, and problem solving

(2) Achievement motivation, mastery learning, and collaborative peer interactions

- effects of varied instructional methods on motivational goals, response to failure, persistence, and procrastination (college students)
- quality of questions, responses, and disagreements in collaborative mathematical problem solving (fourth graders)

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Developmental Psychology (Lifespan)

- lecture course; web-based PSI (mastery) course; writing intensive honors section

Child Development/Psychology of Childhood

Senior Seminar on Infancy

Research Methods with lab/Experimental Psychology with lab

Perception with lab/Sensation and Perception (with lab activities)

Psychology of Gender/Development of Gender Roles

- senior capstone course; writing intensive freshman honors seminar

Controversial Issues in Psychology

Psychology of Fairy Tales (writing intensive freshman seminar)

Introduction to Psychology

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Psychological Society (APS)

International Society for Ecological Psychology (ISEP)

Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)

Society for the Teaching of Psychology/Division 2/American Psychological Association (TOP)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Journal Manuscript Reviews for:

- *Child Development*
- *Ecological Psychology*

Textbook Chapter Reviews for:

- Charles Snow's *Infant Development*
- Eleanor Gibson's *Perceptual Learning and Development*

Lifespan Developmental Psychology Textbook Reviews for:

- McGraw-Hill
- Wadsworth-Thompson Learning

PUBLICATIONS

Joh, A. S., Adolph, K. E., Campbell, M. R., & Eppler, M. A. (in press). Why walkers slip: Shine is not a reliable cue for slippery ground. *Perception and Psychophysics*.

Eppler, M. A. (2006). Eleanor Jack Gibson (1910-2002). *American Journal of Psychology*, *119*, 121-127.

Eppler, M. A., & Ironsmith, M. (2004). PSI and distance learning in a developmental psychology course. *Teaching of Psychology*, *31*, 131-134.

Ironsmith, M., Marva, J., Harju, B., & Eppler, M. A. (2003). Motivation and performance of college students enrolled in self-paced versus lecture-format remedial mathematics courses. *Journal of Instructional Psychology*, *30*, 276-284.

Harju, B. L., Twiddy, S. E., Cope, J. G., Eppler, M. A., & McCammon, M. (2003). Relations of women exercisers' mastery and performance goals to traits, fitness, and preferred styles of instructors. *Perceptual and Motor Skills*, *97*, 939-950.

Adolph, K. E., & Eppler, M. A. (2003). Life after the lab (Eleanor Gibson obituary). *APS Observer*, *16*(4), 23.

Adolph, K. E., & Eppler, M. A. (2002). Flexibility and specificity in infant motor skill acquisition. In J. W. Fagen & H. Hayne (Eds.), *Progress in infancy research* (Vol. 2, pp. 121-167). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.

Adolph, K. E., Eppler, M. A., Marin, L., Weise, I. B., & Wechsler Clearfield, M. (2000). Exploration in the service of prospective control. *Infant Behavior and Development*, *23*, 441-460.

Eppler, M. A., Carsen-Plentl, C., & Harju, B. L. (2000). Achievement goals, failure attributions, and academic performance in nontraditional and traditional college students. *Journal of Social Behavior and Personality*, *15*, 353-372.

Gibson, E. J., Eppler, M. A., & Adolph, K. E. (1999). Perceptual development. In R. A. Wilson & F. Keil (Eds.), *The MIT Encyclopedia of the Cognitive Sciences (MITECS)*. MIT Press.

Gibson, E. J., Adolph, K. E., & Eppler, M. A. (1999). Affordances. In R. A. Wilson & F. Keil (Eds.), *The MIT Encyclopedia of the Cognitive Sciences (MITECS)*. MIT Press.

Adolph, K. E., & Eppler, M. A. (1999). Obstacles to understanding: An ecological approach to infant problem solving. In E. Winograd, R. Fivush, & W. Hirst (Eds.), *Ecological approaches*

- to cognition: Essays in honor of Ulric Neisser* (pp. 31-58). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Adolph, K. E., & Eppler, M. A. (1998). Development of visually guided locomotion. *Ecological Psychology, 10*, 303-321.
- Sinicrope, R., Eppler, M. A., & Ironsmith, M. (1998). Variables influencing the effectiveness of small-group work: A year long study of collaborative math problem solving in two fourth-grade classrooms. *Proceedings of the Twentieth Annual Meeting of the North American Chapter of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education* (pp. 479-484). Columbus, OH: Eric Clearinghouse for Science, Mathematics, and Environmental Education.
- Poulson, R. L., Eppler, M. A., Satterwhite, T. N., Wuensch, K. L., & Bass, L. A. (1998). Alcohol consumption, strength of religious beliefs, and risky sexual behavior in college students. *Journal of American College Health, 46*, 227-232.
- Eppler, M. A., & Harju, B. L. (1997). Achievement motivation goals in relation to academic performance in traditional and non-traditional college students. *Research in Higher Education, 38*, 557-573.
- Harju, B. L., & Eppler, M. A. (1997). Achievement motivation, flow and irrational beliefs in traditional and nontraditional college students. *Journal of Instructional Psychology, 24*, 147-157.
- Eppler, M. A., Satterwhite, T., Wendt, J., & Bruce, K. (1997). Infants' responses to a visual cliff and other ground surfaces. In M. A. Schmuckler & J. M. Kennedy (Eds.), *Studies in perception and action IV: Ninth International Conference on Perception and Action*. (pp. 219-222). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Wendt, J., Eppler, M. A., & Bruce, K. (1997). Infants' ability to detour around apertures and obstacles. In M. A. Schmuckler & J. M. Kennedy (Eds.), *Studies in perception and action IV: Ninth International Conference on Perception and Action*. (pp. 223-226). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Eppler, M. A., Adolph, K. A., & Weiner, T. (1996). The developmental relationship between infants' exploration and action on slanted surfaces. *Infant Behavior and Development, 19*, 261-266.
- Eppler, M. A., & Adolph, K. E. (1996). Toward an ecological approach to perceptual learning and development: Commentary on Michaels and Beek. *Ecological Psychology, 8*, 353-355.
- Eppler, M. A. (1995). Development of manipulatory skills and the deployment of attention. *Infant Behavior and Development, 18*, 391-405.
- Adolph, K. E., Eppler, M. A., & Gibson, E. J. (1993). Crawling versus walking infants' perception of affordances for locomotion over sloping surfaces. *Child Development, 64*, 1158-1174.
- Adolph, K. E., Eppler, M. A., & Gibson, E. J. (1993). Development of perception of affordances. In C. Rovee-Collier & L. P. Lipsitt (Eds.), *Advances in Infancy Research* (Vol. 8, pp. 51-98). Norwood, NJ: Ablex.
- Odfjell, M., & Eppler, M. A. (1993). Infants' exploratory behavior during an object search task which requires crawling around a barrier. In S. S. Valenti & J. B. Pittenger (Eds.), *Studies in perception and action II: Posters presented at the VIIth International Conference on Event Perception and Action* (pp. 6-9). Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Eppler, M. A., Wechsler, M., Gendron, M. W., & Vineberg, D. A. (1993). The exploratory behavior of 8.5-month-old crawlers in response to alterations in ground surfaces. In S. S. Valenti & J. B. Pittenger (Eds.), *Studies in perception and action II: Posters presented at the VIIth International Conference on Event Perception and Action* (pp. 10-13). Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.

- Emory, E. K., Savoie, T. M., Ballard, J., Eppler, M., & O'Dell, C. (1992). Perinatal. In A. E. Puente & R. J. McCaffrey (Eds.), *Handbook of neuropsychological assessment: A biopsychosocial perspective* (pp. 15-48). NY: Plenum.
- Adolph, K. E., Gibson, E. J., & Eppler, M. A. (1990). *Perceiving affordances of slopes: The ups and downs of toddlers' locomotion* (Technical Report Number 16). Atlanta, GA: Emory University, Emory Cognition Project.
- Shapiro, B. A., & Eppler, M. A. (1989). An ecological analysis of facial information. In A. W. Young & H. D. Ellis (Eds.), *Handbook of research on face processing* (pp. 327-333). Amsterdam: North Holland.
- Eppler, M. A. (1985). Ecological validity and verbal mediation in face recognition studies. *Mind and Nature: Emory Graduate School Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, 5, 30-34.

### RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Eppler, M., Ironsmith, M., & Timmons, S. D. (2005, April). *Mastery learning interacts with aptitude level to influence student performance and achievement goals*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development (Developmental Science Teaching Institute), Atlanta, GA.
- Green, R., Eppler, M., Ironsmith, M., & Wuensch, K. (2005, March). *Web design and review question formats in a computer-assisted instructional environment*. Poster presented at the Teaching and Learning with Technology Conference, Raleigh, NC.
- Green, R., Eppler, M., Ironsmith, M., & Wuensch, K. (2004, September). *Interface elements and review question formats in a mastery learning computer-assisted instruction environment*. Poster presented at Human Interaction with Life Science Automation (Focused Research Workshop), Rostock-Wamemunde, Germany.
- Ironsmith, M., & Eppler, M. A. (2004, April). *Promoting learning goals in a Developmental Psychology course*. Poster presented at the Conference on Human Development, Washington, DC.
- Joh, A. S., Pignetti, V. M., Wall, L. A., Narayanan, P. J., Campbell, M. R., Adolph, K. E., & Eppler, M. A. (2003, October). *Development of learning from falling*. Poster presented at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology, New Orleans, LA.
- Adolph, K. E., Joh, A. S., & Eppler, M. A. (2003, May). *Development of visually guided locomotion*. Paper presented at the Conference on Statistical Models of Vision and Action, New York University, New York City, NY.
- Taylor, M., Eppler, M. A., Ironsmith, M., & Sinicrope, R. (2003, March). *Gender differences in fourth graders' questions and responses during collaborative mathematical problem solving*. Poster presented at the meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Baltimore, MD.
- Adolph, K. E., Joh, A. S., & Eppler, M. A. (2003, January). *Development of visually guided locomotion*. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology, Jamaica.
- Cain, K. P., Ironsmith, M., & Eppler, M. A. (2002, June). *Instructional methods influence college students' achievement motivation goals*. Poster presented at the meeting of the American Psychological Society, New Orleans, LA.
- Taylor, M., Eppler, M. A., Ironsmith, M., & Sinicrope, R. (2002, April). *Gender differences in fourth graders' questions and responses during collaborative mathematical problem solving*. Poster presented at the Conference on Human Development, Charlotte, NC.
- Ironsmith, M., & Eppler, M. A. (2002, April). *Teaching a web-based personalized self-instruction*

- course in developmental psychology*. Poster presented at the Conference on Human Development, Charlotte, NC.
- Eppler, M. A. (2001, June). *Exploration is sequential: A model for understanding prospective control of locomotion*. Paper presented in a symposium (Sequential Model of Exploration, organized and chaired by K. Adolph) at the Eleventh International Conference on Perception and Action, Storrs, CT.
- Ironsmith, M., & Eppler, M. (2001, April). *Achievement motivation goals and web-based instruction*. Paper presented in a symposium (Toward a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Developmental Psychology, organized and chaired by M. Ironsmith) at the meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, MN.
- Eppler, M., Ironsmith, M., & Haddock, A. (2001, April). *Motivation, anxiety, and procrastination in college students' mastery of developmental psychology*. Poster presented at the meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, MN.
- Valrie, C. R., & Eppler, M. A. (2000, April). *A longitudinal study of crawling infants' responses to differing ground surfaces*. Poster presented at the Conference on Human Development, Memphis, TN.
- Weise, I., Marin, L., Eppler, M. A., & Adolph, K. E. (2000, April). *Prospective and reactive control in infant locomotion*. Poster presented at the Conference on Human Development, Memphis, TN.
- Brown, H., Melton, G., Eppler, M. A., Ironsmith, E. M., & Sinicrope, R. (2000, April). *Challenging behavior among fourth grade students during collaborative mathematical problem solving*. Poster presented at the Conference on Human Development, Memphis, TN.
- Ironsmith, E. M., Eppler, M. A., Harju, B. L. (2000, April). *Identity and achievement among undergraduate developmental psychology students*. Poster presented at the Conference on Human Development, Memphis, TN.
- Cabe, P., & Eppler, M. A. (1999, August). *What's new in perceptual learning and development? A tribute to Eleanor J. Gibson on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of Principles of Perceptual Learning and Development*. Symposium presented at the Tenth International Conference on Perception and Action, Edinburgh, Scotland.
- Eppler, M. A., Williamson, C., & Valrie, C. (1999, April). *Toddlers' exploratory activity and perseveration in a locomotor detour task*. Poster presented at the meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Albuquerque, NM.
- Eppler, M., Ironsmith, M., Sinicrope, R., & Starner, W. (1999, April). *Math Superstars: An observational study of collaborative problem solving in fourth graders*. Poster presented at the meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Albuquerque, NM.
- Sinicrope, R., Eppler, M., & Ironsmith, M. (1998, October). *Math Superstars: An observational study of collaborative problem solving*. Paper presented at the XXth Annual Meeting of the North American Chapter of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education, Raleigh, NC.
- Ironsmith, M., Marva, J., Eppler, M., & Harju, B. (1998, May). *Attributions, goal orientation and math attitudes as predictors of success in remedial college mathematics classes*. Poster presented at the meeting of the American Psychological Society, Washington, D.C.
- Adolph, K. E., Avolio, A. M., Melton, K. E., Arnet, H. S., & Eppler, M. A. (1998, April). *Infant learning about balance control across changes in body posture*. Poster presented at the XIth Biennial International Conference on Infant Studies, Atlanta, GA.
- Eppler, M. A., Norfleet, N., Bruce, K., & Wendt, J. (1998, April). *Detour behavior and side preferences at ages 9 and 12 months*. Poster presented at the XIth Biennial International

Conference on Infant Studies, Atlanta, GA.

Pfister, S., & Eppler, M. A. (1998, April). *Navigating the ground ahead: Changes in social referencing in relation to development of crawling*. Poster presented at the XIth Biennial International Conference on Infant Studies, Atlanta, GA.

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