

# SAMANTHA M. W. WOOD

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## EDUCATION

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- 2017      Ph.D. in Psychology  
University of Southern California  
Brain & Cognitive Science  
Advisor: Dr. Antoine Bechara
- 2013      M.A. in Psychology  
University of Southern California  
Brain & Cognitive Science
- 2007      B.A. in Social Studies  
Harvard University  
Magna Cum Laude

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 2019-present    Research Scientist  
Indiana University  
Department of Informatics
- 2018-2019      Research Affiliate  
Building A Mind Lab, USC  
buildingamind.com
- 2017-2018      Lecturer  
University of Southern California  
Department of Psychology

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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- 2017      Member Phi Kappa Phi honor society
- 2016      USC Graduate School Final Year Fellowship (\$30,000 stipend)
- 2014      First Prize, USC Graduate Research Symposium, STEM division (\$1,000)
- 2011      Dornsife Graduate Student Social Neuroscience Fellowship (\$1,000)
- 2010-2017      USC Provost Fellowship (Awarded for Psychology and Marshall School of Business; accepted Provost award in Psychology)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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Wood, J. N., & **Wood, S. M.** (2020). One-shot learning of view-invariant object representations in newborn chicks. *Cognition*, *199*, 104192.

**Wood, S. M. W.**, Johnson, S. P., & Wood, J. N. (2019). Automated Study Challenges the Existence of a Foundational Statistical-Learning Ability in Newborn Chicks. *Psychological Science*, *30*(11), 1592-1602.

**Wood, S. M. W.** & Wood, J. N. (2019). Using automation to combat the replication crisis: A case study from controlled-rearing studies of newborn chicks. *Infant Behavior and Development*, *57*, 101329.

Prasad, A., **Wood, S. M. W.**, & Wood, J. N. (2019). Prasad, A., Wood, S. M., & Wood, J. N. (2019). Using Automated Controlled Rearing to Explore the Origins of Object Permanence. *Developmental Science*, *22*(3), e12796.

Wood, J. N. & **Wood, S. M. W.** (2018). The development of invariant object recognition requires visual experience with temporally smooth objects. *Cognitive Science*. *42*(4), 1391-1406. doi:10.1111/cogs.12595

Wood, J. N. & **Wood, S. M. W.** (2017). Measuring the speed of newborn object recognition in controlled visual worlds. *Developmental Science*. *20*(4), 1-10. doi:10.1111/desc.12470

**Wood, S. M. W.**, Schembre, S. M., He, Q., Engelmann, J. M., & Bechara, A. (2016). Emotional eating and routine restraint scores are associated with activity in brain regions involved in urge and self-control. *Physiology & Behavior*, *165*, 405-412.

Wood, J. N. & **Wood, S. M. W.** (2016). The development of newborn object recognition in fast and slow visual worlds. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, *283*(1829), 20160166.

Wood, J. N., Prasad, A., Goldman, J. G., & **Wood, S. M. W.** (2016). Enhanced learning of natural visual objects in newborn chicks. *Animal Cognition*, *19*(4), 835-845.

**Wood, S. M. W.** & Wood, J. N. (2015). A chicken model for studying the emergence of invariant object recognition. *Frontiers in Neural Circuits*, *9*, 7.

**Wood, S. M. W.** & Wood, J. N. (2015). Face recognition in newly hatched chicks at the onset of vision. *Journal of Experimental Psychology – Animal Learning and Cognition*, *41*(2), 206.

**Wood, S. M. W.** & Bechara, A. (2014). The Neuroscience of Dual (and Triple) Systems in Decision Making. In Reyna, V. F. & Zayas V. (Eds.) *The Neuroscience of Risky Decision Making*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Xiao, L., **Wood, S. M. W.**, Denburg, N. L., Moreno, G. L., Hernandez, M., & Bechara, A. (2013). Is there a recovery of decision-making function after frontal lobe damage? A study using alternative versions of the Iowa Gambling Task. *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology*, 35(5), 518-529.

**Waters-Wood, S. M.**, Xiao, L., Denburg, N. L., Hernandez, M., & Bechara, A. (2012). Failure to learn from repeated mistakes: persistent decision-making impairment as measured by the Iowa Gambling Task in patients with ventromedial prefrontal cortex lesions. *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society*, 18(5), 927-930. (As Samantha M. Waters-Wood)

### **MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW AND SUBMITTED**

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**Wood, S. M. W.** & Wood, J. N. Motion-based visual parsing is a primitive of object perception in newborn brains.

**Wood, S. M. W.** & Wood, J. N. Distorting face recognition in newborn brains.

Lee, D., **Wood, S. M. W.**, Wood, B. W., & Wood, J. N. Imprinting in autonomous artificial agents using deep reinforcement learning.

### **CONFERENCES**

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Wood, J. N., Lee, D., Wood, B. W., & **Wood, S. M. W.** (2020, August), Reverse engineering the origins of visual intelligence. Talk presented at the Cognitive Science Society, Virtual.

**Wood, S. M. W.** & Wood, J. N. (2020, July). *Reverse Engineering the Origins of Causal Knowledge*. **Talk** presented at the International Congress of Infant Studies Conference, Virtual.

**Wood, S. M. W.** & Wood, J. N. (2019, October). *Automated study challenges the existence of innate sensitivity for self-propelled causal agency in newborn chicks*. **Poster** presented at the Cognitive Development Society Conference, Louisville, KY.

Lee, D., Wood, B. W., **Wood, S. M. W.**, & Wood, J. N. (2019, October). *Automated study challenges the existence of innate sensitivity for self-propelled causal agency in newborn chicks*. **Poster** to be presented at the Cognitive Development Society Conference, Louisville, KY.

**Wood, S. M. W.** & Wood, J. N. (2019, March). *Piecemeal Development of Motion Preferences in Newborn Organisms*. **Poster** presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Baltimore, MD.

**Wood, S. M. W.** & Wood, J. N. (2018, October). *One-shot learning of abstract object concepts in visually naïve animals*. **Poster** presented at the International Society for Developmental

Psychobiology Conference, San Diego, CA.

**Wood, S. M. W.** & Wood, J. N. (2018, February). *Newborn chicks solve the statistical concurrence problem*. **Talk** presented at the Southern California Animal Behavior Conference, Los Angeles, CA.

**Wood, S. M. W.** & Wood, J. N. (2017, October). *One-shot learning of abstract object concepts in visually naïve animals*. **Poster** presented at the Cognitive Development Society Conference, Portland, OR.

### **CAMPUS TALKS**

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“Building an Artificial Newborn Visual System.” (2014) Talk presented at Brain & Cognitive Science and Developmental Psychology Brown Bag Series, Los Angeles, CA.

“Neural Correlates of Eating Behaviors.” (2012) Talk presented at the Social Neuroscience Retreat, Catalina Island, CA.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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2020	Data Fluency, Indiana University
2018	Instructor, Developmental Psychology, USC
2017	Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Psychology, USC
2014 & 2015	Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Psychological Statistics, USC
2012 & 2013	Teaching Assistant, Developmental Psychology, USC

### **ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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2019	Guest Lecture, Indiana University: Disney Tech, Tourism, & Leisure, “Perception, Immersion, and Emotion in Disney World”
2019	Guest Lecture, Indiana University: Animal-Computer Interaction, “Curiosity and Exploration in Newborn Chicks”
2019	Guest Lecture, University of Southern California: Animal Behavior, “Object Perception”

- 2017            Guest Lecture, Occidental College: Perception, “The Origins of Object Recognition”
- 2012            Guest Lecture, University of Southern California: Developmental Psychology, “The Development of Obesity in Childhood”
- 2012            Guest Lecture, University of Southern California: Developmental Psychology, “Face Recognition in Newborn Chicks”

### **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

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- 2010-2012      Communications Officer, Graduate Association for Students  
in Psychology

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS**

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International Congress of Infant Studies  
Cognitive Development Society  
Vision Science Society  
Cognitive Science Society  
International Society for Developmental Psychobiology  
Society for Research in Child Development  
Association for Psychological Science

### **NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

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- 2008-2010      Consultant, Roll Global (now The Wonderful Company)  
2007-2008      Associate Consultant, The Parthenon Group (now Parthenon E-Y)