

**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

B.A.                    2004: Psychology, Miami University

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

*Wilmington College*

2010 – Present: Assistant Professor of Psychology  
2011 – Present: Academic Advisor

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

*Wilmington College*

PY130 Introduction to Psychology, Spring: 2011-2016, Fall 2014-17  
PY336 Social Psychology, Fall: 2010-2017  
PY350 Topics: Applied Social Psychology, Spring 2012-13, 2016  
PY350-26 Topics: Careers in Psychology, Fall 2017  
PY350-12 Topics: Positive Psychology, Fall 2016  
HO230-11 Honors Seminar: Exploring Research, Spring 2016  
PY350G-SS-6 Topics: Cross-Cultural Psychology, Spring 2016  
PY350-19 Topics: Psychology of Stigma, Fall 2014  
PY231 Developmental Psychology, Spring 2014-15  
PY430 Motivation and Emotion, Fall 2012-13 Spring 2015  
PSY331 Health Psychology, Spring 2012  
PY356 Intimate Relationships, Fall: 2011, 2013, 2015  
PY350 Topics: Psychology and the Media, Spring 2011-12, 2014  
PSY329 Organizational Behavior, Spring and Fall 2011  
PSY423 Groups at Work, Fall 2010  
PSY338 Conflict Resolution, Fall 2010  
PY350-27 Topics: History and Ethics of Psychology, (to be taught in Spring 2018)

### Indiana University

P101: Introduction to Psychology, Fall 2009

P304: Social Psychology and Individual Differences, Spring 2008-10

P211: Methods of Experimental Psychology, Fall 2007

P211: Methods of Experimental Psychology, Fall 2006

### **GRANTS**

2016: \$10,000 mini-grant, Mental Health Recovery Services of Warren and Clinton Counties

2013: Wilmington College professional development grant

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

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

2004: Patten Prize for Most Outstanding Senior Psychology Major, Miami University

2004: Magna Cum Laude, Miami University

2003: Summer Scholar, Miami University

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Past research interests have included attitudes and social cognition, persuasion, metacognition and impression formation
- Current research interests include issues at the intersection of social and clinical psychology, particularly as they pertain to the topic of psychological disorder stigma
- Broad interest in the scholarship of teaching and learning

### **PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

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.

### **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

Jurs, B.S., DeSensi, V.L., & Augustine, E. (in preparation). Coverage of psychology careers in introductory psychology.

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

DeSensi, V.L. & Jurs, B.S. (2018). Coverage of Psychological Disorder Stigma in Introductory Psychology. Poster to be presented at the 40<sup>th</sup> 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 37<sup>th</sup> 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 85<sup>th</sup> 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 80<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 79<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 78<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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**

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 to be presented at the 40<sup>th</sup> 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 39<sup>th</sup> 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 39<sup>th</sup> 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 38<sup>th</sup> 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 37<sup>th</sup> 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 36<sup>th</sup> National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.

### **SPECIAL CONFERENCE INVITATION**

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

2016: Propel Ohio: Collegiate Leadership Summit

### **ORGANIZATIONAL INVOLVEMENT**

2017: Abstract reviewer, 2018 Midwestern Psychological Association (MPA) Psi Chi Session

2015-16: Science of Teaching and Learning Research Grant Committee

2014-16: (hiatus), Present, Advisor, Active Minds at Wilmington College

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

2012 – Present: Co-organizer, Inside Look Day for Social Sciences

2011-13: Advisor, Psychology Club

2009: Co-organizer of Biennial Meeting of Social Psychologists of Indiana, Bloomington, IN.

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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

Midwestern Psychological Association

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

*Wilmington College*

2017-18: Recording Clerk of Faculty Meeting/Faculty Convener

2016-17: Psychology Faculty Search Committee

2014-15: Psychology Faculty Search Committee

2016: General Education Committee

2015-16: Clerk of the Instructional Development and Resources Committee

2014-16: Judicial and Appellate Board

2014-15: Food Symposium Committee

2013-14: Tenure, Promotion, and Review Committee

2013 (spring): Area Coordinator for the Social Sciences

2011-13: Instructional Development and Resources Committee

2010 – Present: Faculty Sponsor to Student Interns

## **OTHER SERVICE**

### *Indiana University*

2008: Teaching Assistant, Statistics for Psychology with Dr. Guth Sherman

2008: Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Psychology with Dr. Lisa Thomassen (2008)

2005-2007: Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Social Psychology with Dr. Zakary Tormala (2005); Dr. Edward Hirt (2005); Dr. Sharon Brehm (2006) Dr. Teceta Tormala (2007)

### *Miami University*

2003-04: Lab Manager, Dr. Allen McConnell's Social Cognition Lab

2003-04: President, Miami Chapter of Psi Chi

2001-03: Volunteer at Community Counseling and Crisis Center, Oxford, OH

## **REFERENCES**

Michael T. Snarr, Ph.D.

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