

KATHERINE E. POWERS

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2016-present Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Psychology, Harvard University
Advisor: Leah H. Somerville, PhD
- Instructor, Department of Psychology, Harvard University
- 2014-2016 College Fellow in Psychology, Harvard University

EDUCATION & TRAINING

- 2014 PhD, Psychology, Dartmouth College
Advisor: Todd F. Heatherton, PhD
Dissertation: *Cognitive and Neural Mechanisms of Social Motivation*
- 2007-2009 Research Assistant, Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, Harvard University
Supervisor: Randy L. Buckner, PhD
- 2007 Bachelor of Arts with Honors, Psychology, Bowdoin College
Advisor: Suzanne B. Lovett, PhD
Honors Thesis: *The Perceived Relationship between Social and Physical Pain in Children and Adults*

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2014, 2015 Certificate of Teaching Excellence, *Bok Center for Teaching and Learning and Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Education, Harvard University*
- 2015 Poster Award, *Social and Affective Neuroscience Society*
- 2011 Marie A. Center 1982 Award for Excellence in Teaching, *Dartmouth College*
- 2011 Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention, *National Science Foundation*
- 2011 Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher (recognized by undergraduates for excellence in teaching and mentoring in the lab), *Center for the Advancement of Learning, Dartmouth College*

RESEARCH FUNDING

- 2016-2018 The Eric M. Mindich Research Fund for the Foundations of Human Behavior
Harvard University
A computational modeling approach to understanding social hierarchy dynamics in adolescence

PUBLICATIONS

- Powers, K.E., Somerville, L.H., Kelley, W.M. & Heatherton, T.F. (2016). Striatal associative learning signals are tuned to in-groups. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 28(9), 1243-1254.
- Powers, K.E., Chavez, R.S. & Heatherton, T.F. (2016). Individual differences in response of dorsomedial prefrontal cortex predict daily social behavior. *Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 11(1), 121-126.
- Powers K.E., Worsham, A.L., Freeman, J.B., Wheatley, T. & Heatherton, T.F. (2014). Social connection modulates perceptions of animacy. *Psychological Science*, 25(10), 1943-1948.
- Powers, K.E. & Powers, W.J. (2014). Physiologic brain imaging. In M.J. Aminoff & Daroff, R.B. (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of the Neurological Sciences*, 2nd edition, pp. 486-488. San Diego, CA: Academic Press.
- Powers, K.E., Somerville, L.H., Kelley, W.M. & Heatherton, T.F. (2013). Rejection sensitivity polarizes striatal-medial prefrontal activity when anticipating social feedback. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 25(11), 1887-1895.
- Chen, P.A., Wagner, D.D., Kelley, W.M., Powers, K.E. & Heatherton, T.F. (2013). Medial prefrontal cortex differentiates self from mother in Chinese: Evidence from self-motivated immigrants. *Culture and Brain*, 1(1), 3-15.
- Powers, K.E. & Heatherton, T.F. (2013). Implicitly priming the social brain: Failure to find neural effects. *PLoS ONE*, 8(2): e56596.
- Powers, K.E., Wagner, D.D., Norris, C.J. & Heatherton, T.F. (2013). Socially excluded individuals fail to recruit medial prefrontal cortex for negative social scenes. *Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 8(2), 151-157.
- Powers, K.E. & Heatherton, T.F. (2012). Characterizing socially avoidant and affiliative responses to social exclusion. *Frontiers in Integrative Neuroscience*, 6(46), 1-5.

MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED OR UNDER REVIEW

- Powers, K.E., Yaffe, G., Kober, H. & Somerville, L.H. (under review). When your friend can win or lose: Consequences for peers differentially bias computations about risk from adolescence to adulthood.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Harvard University

The Social Brain, Instructor

Social Bonds and Human Connections, Instructor

Social Cognition: Making Sense of our Social World, Instructor

Spring 2015, 2016, 2017

Spring 2015, Fall 2015

Fall 2014, Fall 2015

Dartmouth College	
<i>Social Psychology</i> , Graduate Teaching Assistant	Winter 2012
<i>Interpersonal Relationships</i> , Co-Instructor	Fall 2011
<i>Cognition</i> , Graduate Teaching Assistant	Spring 2011
<i>Laboratory in Psychological Science</i> , Graduate Teaching Assistant	Winter 2010, Summer 2010

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- 2014-present Undergraduate and Graduate Research Assistant Advisor, Somerville Lab, Harvard University
Students supervised: Gina Falcone, Nadia Haddara, Brian Huh, Hannah Shulman
- 2009-2014 Undergraduate Research Assistant Advisor, Heatherton Lab, Dartmouth College
Students supervised: Molly Davis, Alexandra Nee, Sophie Palitz, Ali Smrcina, Lindsay Walsh

ACADEMIC AND CONFERENCE TALKS

- 2016 Powers, K.E., Somerville, L.H., Kelley W.M. & Heatherton, T.F. Striatal learning signals are tuned to in-groups. *Social Brain Sciences Symposium*, hosted at Brandeis University.
- 2013 Powers, K.E. Influence of social connection on mind perception. *Social Behavioral Workshop*, Dartmouth College.
- 2012 Somerville, L.H., Powers, K.E. & Heatherton, T.F. How self-esteem shapes social feedback processing: Behavioral and fMRI evidence. *Association for Psychological Science*.
- 2012 Powers, K.E. Representation of social feedback in the nucleus accumbens. *Social Behavioral Workshop*, Dartmouth College.
- 2010 Powers, K.E. Neural responses to anticipated social isolation. *Social Brain Sciences Brownbag*, Dartmouth College.
- 2010 Powers, K.E. Effect of social exclusion on social memory. *Social Behavioral Workshop*, Dartmouth College.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- Powers, K.E., Falcone, G., Yaffe, G., Kober, H. & Somerville, L.H. (2016). Asymmetric effects of friends' gains and losses on adolescents' risky decisions. *FLUX Congress*.
- Powers, K.E., Somerville, L.H., Kelley, W.M. & Heatherton, T.F. (2015). Social value modulates striatal prediction error signaling. *Social and Affective Neuroscience Society*.
***Winner, Social and Affective Neuroscience Society Poster Award**

- Powers, K.E., Kelley, W.M. & Heatherton, T.F. (2013). Being right is rewarding: Receiving correct feedback engages the nucleus accumbens. *Cognitive Neuroscience Society*.
- Powers, K.E., Lopez, R.B., Hofmann, W., Kelley, W.M. & Heatherton, T.F. (2013). Increased reward-related neural activity to social images predicts everyday social behaviors. *Social and Affective Neuroscience Society*.
- Powers, K.E., Somerville, L.H., Kelley, W.M. & Heatherton, T.F. (2013). Anticipating social feedback engages the nucleus accumbens and medial prefrontal cortex. *Society for Personality and Social Psychology*.
- Chavez, R.S., Powers, K.E. & Heatherton, T.F. (2012). Structural connectivity of ventral anterior cingulate cortex and nucleus accumbens predicts trait self-esteem. *Social and Affective Neuroscience Society*.
- Chen, P.A., Kelley, W.M., Powers, K.E. & Heatherton, T.F. (2012). Does medial prefrontal cortex engage equally for representation of self and mother in Chinese? *Social and Affective Neuroscience Society*.
- Powers, K.E., Somerville, L.H., Kelley, W.M. & Heatherton, T.F. (2012). Rejection sensitivity modulates nucleus accumbens activity when anticipating social feedback. *Social and Affective Neuroscience Society*.
- Chavez, R.S., Powers, K.E. & Heatherton, T.F. (2012). Structural connectivity of medial prefrontal cortex and nucleus accumbens predicts trait self-esteem. *Cognitive Neuroscience Society*.
- Powers, K.E., Smrcina, A.A. & Heatherton, T.F. (2012). Individuals high in the need to belong display increased activity in brain regions associated with mental state inferences. *Society for Personality and Social Psychology*.
- Powers, K.E., Norris, C.J. & Heatherton, T.F. (2011). Neural responses to anticipated social isolation. *Dartmouth College Graduate Student Poster Session*.
- Powers, K.E., Wagner, D.D., Norris, C.J. & Heatherton, T.F. (2011). Anticipating social isolation blunts response to negative social information in medial prefrontal cortex. *Society for Personality and Social Psychology*.
- Powers, K.E., Norris, C.J. & Heatherton, T.F. (2010). Neural responses to anticipated social isolation. *Social and Affective Neuroscience Society*.
- Powers, K.E. & Lovett, S.B. (2009). Social rejection hurts: Children's and adults' perceptions of social pain. *Society for Research in Child Development*.
- Coalson, R.S., Lugar, H.M., Kirchner, L., Powers, K.E., Grimes, A.L. & Schlaggar, B.L. (2005). Ipsilateral descending motor control in Joubert Syndrome? fMRI results correlate with symptom severity. *Child Neurology Society*.

REVIEWER

Journal Articles

Child Development
Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience
Journal of Experimental Social Psychology
Journal of Social and Personal Relationships
Journal of Research on Adolescence
Psychological Science
Social Cognition
Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience

Grants

National Science Foundation

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2011-2012 Co-Organizer, Social Brain Sciences Brown Bag talk series, Dartmouth College
2010-2011 Co-Organizer, Graduate Research Roundtable talk series, Dartmouth College

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Social and Affective Neuroscience Society
Society for Personality and Social Psychology
FLUX Congress