

# Tim A. Pruitt

Curriculum Vitae (February 2024)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Department of Psychology  
University at Buffalo, the State University of New York

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## EDUCATION

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- PhD** University at Buffalo, SUNY. Cognitive Psychology 2019  
Dissertation: *Covert and overt vocal activity during musical imagery: A surface electromyographic study.*  
Advisor: Peter Q. Pfordresher, PhD
- MA** Appalachian State University. Experimental Psychology 2008  
Thesis: *The role of judgment type in measuring musical similarity.*  
Advisor: Kenneth Steele, PhD
- BA** Radford University. Psychology 2006  
Anthropology Minor  
Cum Laude and Psi Chi Honors

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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**University at Buffalo, SUNY** Fall 2020 to Present

**Clinical Assistant Professor.** Department of Psychology  
**Co-director.** Auditory Perception and Action Laboratory

**University at Buffalo, SUNY** Fall 2019 to Fall 2020

**Post-Doctoral Research Fellow.** Auditory Perception and Action Laboratory

**University at Buffalo, SUNY** Fall 2015 to Summer 2019

**Lecturer.** Department of Psychology

**Daemen College** Fall 2015 to Spring 2017

**Adjunct Faculty.** Department of Psychological Sciences

**ECPI University, College of Health Sciences, Medical Careers Institute** Fall 2009 – July 2010

**Faculty.** Department of General Education

**Appalachian State University** Spring 2009

**Adjunct Faculty.** Department of Psychology

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

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<b>UPA and Psi Chi Excellence in Teaching Award</b> University at Buffalo, SUNY	2016, 17, 18
<b>Excellence in Teaching Award for Graduate Teaching Assistants</b> University at Buffalo, SUNY	2016
<b>Robert W. Rice Memorial Award for Early Excellence in Research, Finalist</b> University at Buffalo, SUNY Paper Title: <i>The role of auditory feedback in speech and song.</i>	2014
<b>SMPC 2011 Student Travel Award</b> Annual Conference of the Society for Music Perception and Cognition	2011
<b>Arthur A. Schomburg Fellowship</b>	2010 – 2014
<b>Graduate Student Association Senate Research Grant</b> Appalachian State University Project: <i>A preliminary assessment of reported flow state in musicians.</i> Project: <i>The effect of musical attack time on estimation of duration.</i>	2007, 08
<b>Dr. Wiley F. Smith Endowment Research Award</b> Appalachian State University Project: <i>The effect of musical attack time on estimation of duration.</i>	2007
<b>Office of Student Research, Student Research Grant</b> Appalachian State University	2006
<b>Dean's List</b> Radford University	Spring 2005, Fall 2005, Spring 2006
<b>Southwest Burley Tobacco Scholarship</b> Virginia Highlands Community College	2002-2003

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**University at Buffalo, SUNY**

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**Clinical Assistant Professor, Lecturer, Graduate Instructor**, Department of Psychology

- Courses:
- Cognitive Processes*
    - In-person, graduate-level course. Enrollment 15 students.
    - One section, Spring semesters (most recent: Spring 2024).
  - Psychological Statistics*
    - In-person, Remote, & Online formats. Enrollment 70 – 220 students.
    - Taught most Fall, Spring, & Summer semesters (most recent: Fall 2024)
  - Scientific Inquiry in Psychology*
    - Remote format. Enrollment 70 – 150 students.
    - One section, most Spring semesters (most recent: Fall 2024).
  - Cognitive Psychology*
    - In-person, Remote & Hybrid formats. Enrollment 70 – 150 students.
    - One section, most Fall semesters (most recent: Fall 2024).
  - Sensory Processes & Perception*
    - In-person, Remote & Hybrid formats. Enrollment 70 – 150 students.
    - One section, most Fall semesters (most recent: Spring 2022).

*Cognitive Science Colloquium*

- Course coordinator of weekly Center for Cognitive Sciences colloquium series (most recent: Fall 2024).

*University at Buffalo Seminar – Mindfulness of Mind’s Flaws*

- In-person & remote format. Enrollment 20 – 30 students.
- Multiple sections, typically in Fall semester (most recent: Fall 2023).

*Communicating for Psychological Sciences*

- In-person format. Enrollment 20 – 30 students.
- Two sections, typically a Spring semester (most recent: Spring 2019).

*Psychology of Music*

- In-person format. Enrollment 30 – 40 students.
- One section biennially (most recent: Spring 2022).

*Introductory Psychology*

- In-person format. Enrollment 50 – 70 students.
- One section, typically in a Summer semester (most recent: Summer 2016).

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**Singapore Institute of Management (SIM)**

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**Visiting Faculty, SIM-University of Buffalo undergraduate program.**

Courses:      *Cognitive Psychology*

- In-person & Remote formats. Enrollment 70 – 110 students.
- Two sections, typically Summer semesters (most recent: Summer 2024).

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**Daemen University**

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**Adjunct Faculty, Department of Psychological Sciences**

Courses:      *Psychological Statistics*

- In-person format. Enrollment 20 – 30 students.
- One section, each Fall & Spring semester (most recent: Spring 2017)

*Introductory Psychology*

- In-person format. Enrollment 30 – 40 students.
- One section, Spring semester (most recent: Spring 2016)

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**ECPI University, College of Health Sciences, Medical Careers Institute**

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**Faculty Member, Department of General Education**

Courses:      *Introductory Psychology*

- In-person format. Enrollment 30 – 40 students.
- Five-week terms, multiple sections (most recent: May 2010)

*Human Growth & Development*

- In-person & online format. Enrollment 30 – 40 students.
- Five-week terms, multiple sections (most recent: July 2010)

*College Orientation*

- In-person format. Enrollment 30 – 40 students.
- Five-week terms, multiple sections (most recent: June 2010)

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**Appalachian State University**

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**Adjunct Faculty, Graduate Instructor, Department of Psychology**

Courses:      *Introductory Psychology*

- In-person format. Enrollment 50 – 70 students.
- Multiple sections, Fall and Spring semesters (most recent: Spring 2009)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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My research interests broadly surround auditory perception and related cognitive processes. My research incorporates study areas involving vocal pitch imitation, multimodal mental imagery, psychophysiology, sensorimotor processes, and comparisons of music and language processes. I am also interested in conducting comparative (animal) auditory processing studies as well.

**Auditory Perception & Action Laboratory** Fall 2020 to Present

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**Co-director.** University at Buffalo, SUNY.

Principle Investigator: Peter Q. Pfordresher, PhD

**Auditory Perception & Action Laboratory** Fall 2019 to 2020

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**Postdoctoral Research Fellow.** University at Buffalo, SUNY.

Principle Investigator: Peter Q. Pfordresher, PhD

**Project manager & contributing researcher:**

- National Science Foundation Grant (BCS-1848930): *Cognitive and motor factors in vocal imitation.*
- Grammy Museum Scientific Research Grant: *Basic cognitive functions underlying singing accuracy: Causal flow or reciprocal interactions?*

**Auditory Perception and Action Laboratory** 2010 to 2019

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**Graduate Research Assistant.** University at Buffalo, SUNY.

Principle Investigator: Peter Q. Pfordresher, PhD

**Comparative Bioacoustics Laboratory** Summer 2012 to Summer 2014

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**Graduate Research Assistant.** University at Buffalo, SUNY.

Principle Investigator: Michael L. Dent, PhD

**Music Perception Laboratory** Fall 2006 to Spring 2008

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**Graduate Research Assistant.** Appalachian State University.

Principle Investigator: Kenneth M. Steele, PhD

**Cognitive Psychology & Psychophysiology Laboratory** Summer 2006

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**Research Assistant.** Radford University.

Principle Investigator: Thomas W. Pierce, PhD

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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Honda, C., **Pruitt, T.A.**, Greenspon, E.B., Liu, F., & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2023). The effects of musical and language backgrounds and acoustic structures on pitch imitation ability. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance.*

Greenspon, E.B., Gentile, A.M., **Pruitt, T.A.**, Halpern, A.H., & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2023). Subvocalization during preparatory and non-preparatory auditory imagery. *Auditory Perception & Cognition*, 1-20.

Pfordresher, P.Q., Mantell, J.T., & **Pruitt, T.A.** (2021). Effects of intention in the imitation of sung and spoken pitch. *Psychological Research*, 86, 792-807.

**Pruitt, T.A.**, Halpern, A.H., & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2019). Covert singing in anticipatory auditory imagery. *Psychophysiology*, 56, e13297.

**Pruitt, T.A.** & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2015). The role of auditory feedback in speech and song. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*, *41*, 152-166.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

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Greenspon, E.B, **Pruitt, T.A.**, Halpern, A.R., & Pfordresher, P.Q. (submitted). Effects of Vocal-motor Interference on Vocal Pitch Imitation. *Auditory Perception & Cognition*.

Saltsman, T.L., **Pruitt, T.A.**, Pfordresher, P.Q., & Seery, M.D. (in review). Singing Your Heart Out: Singing Pitch Accuracy is Associated with Cardiovascular Responses of Task Engagement and Challenge/Threat During Vocal Performance. *Music Perception*.

**Pruitt, T.A.**, D'Alessandro, F., & Pfordresher, P.Q. (in preparation). Sternohyoid muscle activity during pitch imitation of musical intervals.

Thamilchelvam, M., **Pruitt, T.A.**, & Vollweiler, D. (in preparation). Associations between emotional intelligence, auditory emotion recognition, and pitch imitation.

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

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(†) denotes undergraduate advisee presentations.

†Thamilchelvam, M., Vollweiler, D., & **Pruitt, T.A.** (2024, February) Exploring associations among emotional intelligence, auditory emotion recognition, and pitch imitation. Poster delivered at the 51st annual Western Lake Ontario visionary Establishment (L.O.V.E) conference, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada.

Pfordresher, P.Q., Vollweiler, D., **Pruitt, T.A.**, Greenspon, G., & Halpern, A. (2023, November). Effectiveness of vocal pitch training, but no evidence for transfer. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, San Francisco, CA, USA.

Honda, C., **Pruitt, T.A.**, Greenspon, E.B., Liu, F. & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2023, August). The effects of pitch memory and imagery ability on vocal pitch imitation. Presentation delivered at the 17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Music Perception and Cognition in Tokyo, Japan.

†Thamilchelvam, M. & **Pruitt, T.A.** (2023, April) Is there an association between emotional intelligence, auditory emotion recognition, and pitch imitation? Presentation delivered at the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Western New York Psychology Conference in Buffalo, NY, USA.

Honda, C., **Pruitt, T.A.**, Greenspon, E.B., Liu, F. & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2022, August). The effects of musical and language backgrounds and acoustic structures on pitch imitation ability. Presentation delivered at the biennial conference of the Society for Music Perception and Cognition in Portland OR, USA.

Vollweiler, D.J., Halpern, A.H., Greenspon, E.B., **Pruitt, T.A.**, & Pfordresher P.Q. (2022, August). You can tune a piano; can you tune a singer? Presentation delivered at the biennial conference of the Society for Music Perception and Cognition in Portland OR, USA.

Greenspon, E.B., George, G., **Pruitt, T.A.**, Halpern, A.H., & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2020, November). The disruptive effect of phonatory interference on vocal imitation of pitch. Presentation delivered virtually at the annual Auditory Perception and Cognition Society.

- Pruitt, T.A., †George, G., Greenspon, E.B., Halpern, A.H., & Pfordresher, P.Q.** (2020, March). *Articulatory and phonotory suppression effects on the vocal imitation of pitch*. Poster presented at the annual Eastern Psychology Association conference in Boston MA, USA
- †Honan, A., **Pruitt, T.A.**, Greenspon, E.B., & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2019, August). *The role of subvocalization in the mental transformation of melodies*. Poster presented at the biennial conference of the Society for Music Perception and Cognition in New York City NY. USA
- Pruitt, T.A.** & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2019, March). *Tracing the functional relationship of subvocalizations during auditory imagery*. Presentation delivered at the annual Eastern Psychology Association conference in New York City NY. USA
- †D’Alessandro, F., **Pruitt, T.A.**, & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2018, October). *Pitch in your 100 cents: Laryngeal muscle activity during pitch interval singing. A surface electromyographic study*. Presentation delivered at the Florida International University McNair Scholars Research Conference. Miami, FL, USA.  
❖ Awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place for oral presentations in social sciences.
- Halpern, A.H., Greenspon, E.B., **Pruitt, T.A.**, & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2018, July). *The role of singing accuracy and imagery self-report in auditory imagery tasks*. Presentation delivered at the biennial meeting of the International Conference on Music Perception and Cognition. Montreal, QC, Canada.
- Pruitt, T.A.** (2017, November). *Electromyographic measures of laryngeal and facial muscle activity during musical imagery and signing*. Presentation delivered at University at Buffalo’s Center for Cognitive Science Colloquium Series. Buffalo, NY, USA.
- Pruitt, T.A.**, Pfordresher, P.Q. & Halpern, A.H. (2017, April). *Electromyographic study of musical imagery and singing*. Presentation delivered at Eastman School of Music’s Music Cognition Symposium. Rochester NY, USA.
- Pruitt, T.A.**, Pfordresher, P.Q., Mantell, J.T., & Wright, M.D. (2015, November). *Intentional and incidental vocal pitch imitation during speech and song*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society. Chicago, IL, USA.
- Pruitt, T.A.**, Halpern, A.R. & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2015, August). *Using surface electromyography (sEMG) to measure laryngeal and facial activity during both visual and auditory imagery*. Poster presented at the biannual conference for the Society for Music Perception and Cognition. Nashville, TN, USA.
- Pfordresher, P.Q., Mantell, J.T., **Pruitt, T.A.**, & Wright, M.D. (2015, August) *Accuracy, intent, and signal clarity in vocal pitch imitation*. Presentation delivered at the biannual conference for the Society for Music Perception and Cognition. Nashville, TN, USA.
- †Sari, G.M, **Pruitt, T.A.**, & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2015, April). *Using surface electromyography to explore sensorimotor associations during auditory imagery and singing*. Biomedical Sciences Exchange Program/International Academy for Laboratory Sciences Student Conference. Boston, MA, USA.

- Pruitt, T.A.** & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2013, August). *The Role of Auditory Feedback on Speech and Song*. Presentation delivered at the biannual conference for the Society for Music Perception and Cognition, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Pruitt, T.A.,** Neilans, E.G., Pfordresher, P.Q., & Dent, M.L. (2013, August). *Chord Discrimination in the Zebra Finch (*Taeniopygia guttata*), Budgerigar (*Melopsittacus undulatus*), and Human (*Homo sapiens*)*. Poster presented at biannual conference for the society for Music Perception and Cognitive, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Pruitt, T.A.** & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2011, August). *The Effects of Altered Auditory Feedback on Speech and Music Production*. Poster presented at the biannual conference for the Society for Music Perception and Cognition, Rochester, NY, USA.
- Pruitt, T.A.** & Pfordresher, P.Q. (2011, November). *The Effects of Altered Auditory Feedback on Speech and Music Production*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Seattle, WA, USA.
- Pruitt, T.A.** (2006, April). *Investigation of Physiological Arousal in Individual versus Collective Performance in Musicians*. Presentation delivered at Radford University’s 14<sup>th</sup> annual Undergraduate/Graduate Student Engagement Forum, Radford, VA, USA.
- Pruitt, T.A.** & Chambers, J. (2006, April). *Social Interactions among Captive Orangutans (*Pongo pygmaeus*)*. Presentation delivered at Radford University’s 14<sup>th</sup> annual Undergraduate/Graduate Student Engagement Forum, Radford, VA, USA.

**DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY SERVICE – AS FACULTY**

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Psychology Department Policy & Planning Committee	2022 to 2024
College of Arts & Sciences Grievance Pool Representative	2022 to 2023
Faculty Partner for Learning Management System Transition	2022 to 2023
Psychology Department Grievance Committee	2020 to 2021, 2022 to 2023
Experiential Learning Network Advisory Committee	2021 to present
Undergraduate Studies Committee	2021 to 2022
Psychology Department Distance Learning Coordinator	2020 to 2024
Experiential Learning Network	
○ <i>Rhythmic Communication Entrainment Research</i> – Core Partner	2023 to present
○ <i>Vocal Production of Song and Speech</i> – Project Mentor	2020 to present

**DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY SERVICE – AS GRADUATE STUDENT**

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University at Buffalo’s Psychology Graduate Student Association (President)	2013 to 2015
Mark Diamond Research Award Committee	Spring 2015
Appalachian State University Psychology Graduate Student Organization (President)	2007 to 2008
Appalachian State University’s Psychology Department Research Coordinator	2006 to 2007

**EDITORIAL REVIEWER (AD HOC)**

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<i>Language &amp; Cognition</i>	2022
<i>Musicae Scientiae</i>	2021

**SERVICE TO THE FIELD**

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Invited Panelist to Alpha Rho Chi's Burnout Management Discussion Panel	Fall 2023
Invited Panelist to the Minorities Navigating Academia Discussion Panel	Fall 2023
Invited Panelist to the Psi Chi Welcome Back Event	Fall 2022
Visiting Fellowship in Assessment for AP Psychology	Fall 2021
Expert Advisor for Palo Vazquez's AP Capstone Project	2019 to 2020

**UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPERVISION**

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Mythili Thamilchelvam, Honors Thesis Advisor	2022-2023
Anna Honan, Honors Thesis Co-advisor	2018-2019
Francesca D'Alessandro, McNair Scholars Program Advisor	2018-2019

**UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT SUPERVISION**

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Emily Sweeney, Miriam Lagundoye, Atiqur Hasany, Lisa Kocaman	Spring 2024
Anas Khan, Alexis Krayevsky, Carly Caligiuri, Lance Hill, Aditya Vajra Upreti	Spring 2023
Jordan Nosal, David De, Jessica Polin, Mythili Thamilchelvam, Darrell Dickson Tay	Fall 2022
Zuriel Enoe, Rida Khan, Paige Winks, Jarret Lang, Joseph Cook	Spring 2022
Zanaya Hussain, Jyla Serfino, Thamarah Bouaz	Fall 2021
Rahima Hussain, Elizabeth Zdyb, David Vollweiler, Elena Braccio, Danielle Haynes	Spring 2021
Elizabeth Zdyb, Zachary Morrisey	Fall 2020

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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University at Buffalo's Education Design Collaborative  
 University at Buffalo's Center for Cognitive Sciences  
 Society for the Teaching of Psychology (STP)  
 Psychonomic Society  
 Society for Psychophysiological Research (SPR)  
 Eastern Psychological Association (EPA)  
 Society for Music Perception and Cognition (SMPC)  
 Auditory Perception & Cognition Society (APCS)