

# ROBERT W EMERSON

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## EDUCATION

### **The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

Chapel Hill, NC

B.A., Psychology & Linguistics (May 2008)

Overall GPA 3.4/4.0; Psychology GPA 3.7/4.0; GRE: 600 verbal, 730 Quantitative

Activities & Leadership: Co-Chair, Unity Conference 2006; Carolina Choir; University Chamber Singers; Glee Club; Intramural Tennis

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### **Department of Psychology, The University of Texas at Austin**

Austin, TX

*Research Associate of Dr. Jennifer Beer* 40 hrs/wk

Aug. 2008–May 2009

- Investigated neural mechanisms of Social Cognition using fMRI and behavioral methods.
- Responsible for recruiting study participants, collecting and analyzed data, as well as designing and programming experiments.
- Gained proficiency scientific computer programs, including SPSS, Matlab (SPM), EPrime, , Excel.
- Responsible for training incoming lab members on Laboratory procedures.

### **Department of Psychology, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

Chapel Hill, NC

*Senior Research Assistant to Dr. Joseph Hopfinger* 8–12 hrs/wk

Aug. 2006–May 2008

- Investigated neural mechanisms of attention using functional imaging techniques, including fMRI, EEG, and ERP, as well as a variety of behavioral methods.
- Recruited study participants, collected and analyzed data, and designed experiments.
- Helped run nine studies, including a series of studies investigating the interaction of attention and memory and an ERP study of the attentional mechanisms underlying reflexive vs. social gaze cueing in autistic subjects.
- Utilized scientific computer programs, including SPSS®, Matlab®, Presentation®, Brain Voyager, SPM, BESA and Microsoft® Excel.
- Responsible for training incoming lab members on Laboratory procedures.

### **Department of Psychology, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

Chapel Hill, NC

*Lab/Research Assistant to Dr. Peter Gordon* 10–15 hrs/wk

Aug. 2007–May 2008

- Designed independent fMRI study investigating neural mechanisms of co-reference.
- Devised stimuli, recruited subjects, and coordinated with labs at other universities.
- Worked interdepartmentally with UNC-CH faculty.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **Autism Society of North Carolina / Camp Royal**

Moncure, NC

*Camp Counselor* 62.5 hrs/wk

May 2008–August 2008

- Supervise summer campers with Autism Spectrum Disorders.
- Implement individualized care and communication habilitation programs.

### **Bethesda Care, LLC, d/b/a Keston Care**

Sanford, NC

*Habilitations Technician* 20–30 hrs/wk

May 2006–May 2008

- Mentored 8-year-old autistic child, focusing on communication, behavior, and social and life skills.
- Helped develop an Individualized Education Program describing for public schools the techniques and procedures to be implemented for the autistic child.
- Attained numerous developmental goals including significant behavioral improvements and use of complete sentences and interchangeable noun phrases.