

Charles L. Pickens, PhD

Assistant Professor of Psychological Sciences

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Previous Positions

Postdoctoral Intramural Research Training Award Fellow

National Institute on Drug Abuse

06/2007-9/2012

Advisor- Yavin Shaham

Research Associate

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

10/2012-7/2013

Advisor- Andrew Holmes

Education

York College of Pennsylvania

B.S: Biology, with honors- 2001

Johns Hopkins University

M.A: Psychological and Brain Sciences- 2003

PhD: Psychological and Brain Sciences- 2008

Advisor- Peter C. Holland

Honors and Fellowships

Bruce B. Smith Award for best original research project: York College of Pennsylvania: 2001

James B. Duke Fellowship: Duke University: 2001-2002

NSF Graduate Fellow: 2002-2005

Associate Faculty Member, Faculty of 1000 Biology: 2010-present

Top Reviewer 2009-2010: *Neuroscience*

Peer-reviewed Papers

1. **Pickens, C.L.**, Saddoris, M.P., Setlow, B., Gallagher, M., Holland, P.C., & Schoenbaum, G. (2003). Different roles for orbitofrontal cortex and basolateral amygdala in a reinforcer devaluation task. Journal of Neuroscience, *23*, 11078-11084.

2. **Pickens, C.L.**, & Holland, P.C. (2004). Conditioning and cognition. Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews, *28*, 651-661.
3. **Pickens, C.L.**, Saddoris, M.P., Gallagher, M., & Holland, P.C. (2005). Orbitofrontal lesions impair use of cue-outcome associations in a devaluation task. Behavioral Neuroscience, *119*, 317-322.
4. **Pickens, C.L.** (2008). A limited role for mediodorsal thalamus in devaluation tasks. Behavioral Neuroscience, *122*, 659-676.
5. Nair, S.G., Adams-Deutsch, T., **Pickens, C.L.**, Smith, D.G., & Shaham, Y. (2009). Effects of the MCH1 receptor antagonist SNAP 94847 on high-fat food-reinforced operant responding and reinstatement of food seeking in rats. Psychopharmacology, *205*, 129-140.
6. Bossert, J.M., Wihbey, K.A., **Pickens, C.L.**, Nair, S.G., & Shaham, Y. (2009). Role of dopamine D(1)-family receptors in dorsolateral striatum in context-induced reinstatement of heroin seeking in rats. Psychopharmacology, *206*, 51-60.
7. **Pickens, C.L.**, Golden, S.A., Adams-Deutsch, T., Nair, S.G., & Shaham, Y. (2009). Long-lasting incubation of conditioned fear in rats. Biological Psychiatry, *65*, 881-886.
8. **Pickens, C.L.**, Adams-Deutsch, T., Nair, S.G., Navarre, B.M., Heilig, M., & Shaham, Y. (2009). Effect of pharmacological manipulations of neuropeptide Y and corticotropin-releasing factor neurotransmission on incubation of conditioned fear. Neuroscience, *164*, 1398-1406.
9. **Pickens, C.L.**, Navarre, B.M., & Nair, S.G. (2010). Incubation of conditioned fear in the conditioned suppression model in rats: role of food-restriction conditions, length of conditioned cue, and generality to conditioned freezing. Neuroscience, *169*, 1501-1510.
10. Nair, S.G., Navarre, B.M., Cifani, C., **Pickens, C.L.**, Bossert, J.M., & Shaham, Y. (2011). Role of dorsal mPFC dopamine in relapse to high-fat food seeking induced by the anxiogenic drug yohimbine. Neuropsychopharmacology, *36*, 497-510.
11. Airavaara, M., **Pickens, C.L.**, Stern, A.L., Wihbey, K.A., Harvey, B.K., Bossert, J.M., Liu, Q.R., Hoffer, B.J., & Shaham, Y. (2011). Time-dependent changes in glial cell line-derived neurotrophic factor mRNA levels in ventral tegmental area and nucleus accumbens after withdrawal from heroin: implications for incubation of heroin craving. Addiction Biology, *16*, 261-272.
12. **Pickens, C.L.**, Airavaara, M., Theberge, F., Fanous, S., Bruce T. Hope & Shaham, Y. (2011). Neurobiology of incubation of drug craving. Trends in Neurosciences, *34*, 411-420.
13. **Pickens, C.L.** & Calu, D.J. (2011). Alcohol reward, dopamine depletion, and GDNF. Journal of Neuroscience, *31*, 14833-14834.

14. Schank, J.R., **Pickens, C.L.**, Rowe, K.E., Cheng, K., Thorsell, A., Rice, K.C., Shaham, Y., & Heilig, M. (2011). Stress-induced reinstatement of alcohol-seeking in rats is selectively suppressed by the neurokinin 1 (NK1) antagonist L822429. Psychopharmacology, *218*, 111-119.

16. **Pickens, C.L.**, Cifani, C, Navarre, B.M., Eichenbaum, H., Theberge, F.R., Baumann, M.H., Calu, D.J., & Shaham, Y. (2012). Effect of fenfluramine on yohimbine- and pellet-priming-induced reinstatement of food seeking in food-restricted female and male rats: implications for the predictive validity of the reinstatement procedure. Psychopharmacology. *221*, 341-353.

17. Theberge, F.R., **Pickens, C.L.**, Goldart, E., Fanous, S., Hope, B.T., Liu, Q.R., & Shaham, Y. (2012). Association of time-dependent changes in mu opioid receptor mRNA, but not BDNF, TrkB, or MeCP2 mRNA and protein expression in the rat nucleus accumbens with incubation of heroin craving. Psychopharmacology, *224*, 559-571.

18. Marchant, N.J., Khuc, T.N., **Pickens, C.L.**, Bonci, A., & Shaham, Y. (2013). Context-induced relapse to alcohol seeking after punishment in a rat model. Biological Psychiatry, *73*, 256-262.

19. Theberge, F.R., Li, X., Kambhampati, S., **Pickens, C.L.**, St Laurent, R., Bossert, J.M., Baumann, M.H., Hutchinson, M.R., Rice, K.C., Watkins, L.R., & Shaham, Y. (2013). Effect of chronic delivery of the toll-like receptor 4 antagonist (+)-naltrexone on incubation of heroin craving. Biological Psychiatry. *73*, 729-737.

20. **Pickens, C.L.**, Golden, S.A., & Nair, S.G. (2013). Incubation of fear. Current Protocols in Neuroscience, *6.27*.

21. Debrouse, L., Daut, R., Brigman, J.L., Martin, K.P., Crowley, N., Gunduz-Cinar, O., **Pickens, C.L.**, Noronha, B., Cinar, R., Saksida, L.M., Kunos, G., Lovinger, D.M., Bussey, T.J., Camp, M., & Holmes, A. (in press). Chronic alcohol produces neuroadaptations to prime striatal learning. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A.

Invited Talks

- Pickens, C.L.** Role of orbitofrontal cortex in sensitivity to goal value. Talk given in symposium on Neural Substrates of Goal-Directed Behavior. Pavlovian Society Meeting, Baltimore, MD. September 18, 2004.
- Pickens, C.L.** Different roles for orbitofrontal cortex and basolateral amygdala in a reinforcer devaluation task. Invited talk given at Psychology Department, University of Tromso, Tromso, Norway. January 21, 2005.
- Pickens, C.L.** The role of mediodorsal thalamus in devaluation tasks. Talk given in symposium on Relationships between the frontal cortex and the thalamus. International Society for Behavioural Neuroscience Meeting. Crete, Greece. June 1, 2007.

Pickens, C.L. Incubation of fear conditioning. Invited talk given at Laboratory of Clinical Studies, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Bethesda, MD. March 5, 2008.

Pickens, C.L. Incubation of fear conditioning. Invited talk given at the Section Meeting of Roy Wise, Behavioral Neuroscience Research Branch, National Institute on Drug Abuse, Baltimore, MD. June 10, 2010.

Poster Presentations

Pickens C.L., Gallagher, M., & Holland P.C. Basolateral amygdala lesions do not impair use of previously acquired outcome representations to guide responding after devaluation. Poster at annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Orlando, FL. November 2002.

Pickens, C.L., Saddoris, M.P., Gallagher, M., & Holland, P.C. Orbitofrontal lesions impair use of cue-outcome associations in a devaluation task. Poster at annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, New Orleans, LA. November 2003.

Pickens, C.L., Saddoris, M.P., Gallagher, M., & Holland P.C. Inactivation of orbitofrontal cortex during cue-outcome training impairs memory for later devaluation performance. Poster at annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, San Diego, CA. October 2004.

Pickens, C.L., Saddoris, M.P. & Gallagher, M., & Holland P.C. Inactivation of orbitofrontal cortex during cue-outcome training impairs memory for later devaluation performance. Poster at annual meeting of the Baltimore Chapter of Society for Neuroscience, Baltimore, MD. February 2005.

Pickens C.L., Gallagher M., & Holland, P.C. A limited role for mediodorsal thalamus in devaluation tasks. Poster at annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Atlanta, GA. November 2007.

Pickens, C.L., Golden, S.A., & Shaham, Y. A novel procedure to study long-lasting incubation of conditioned fear in rats. Poster at annual meeting of the Society of Biological Psychiatry, Washington, DC. May 2008.

Pickens, C.L., Nair, S.G., Adams-Deutsch, T., Heilig, M., & Shaham, Y. Role of neuropeptide Y, but not corticotropin-releasing factor (CRF), in the expression of conditioned fear incubation in rats. Poster at the Gordon Research Conference on the Amygdala In Health & Disease, Waterville, ME. July 2009.

Pickens, C.L., Navarre, B.M., & Nair, S.G. Incubation of conditioned fear in the conditioned suppression model in rats: role of cue shock interval, food-restriction conditions, length of conditioned cue, and generality to conditioned freezing. Poster at annual meeting of the Pavlovian Society. Baltimore, MD. October 2010.

Pickens, C.L., Theberge, F.R., & Shaham, Y. CB1 receptor blockade impairs memory for extinction, but does not increase incubated fear or low pre-incubated fear, in the incubation of conditioned fear procedure. Poster at annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Washington, D.C. November 2011.

Pickens, C.L., Cifani, C, Navarre, B.M., Eichenbaum, H., Theberge, F.R., Baumann, M.H., Calu, D.J., & Shaham, Y. (2012). Effect of fenfluramine on yohimbine- and pellet-priming-induced reinstatement of food seeking in food-restricted female and male rats: implications for the predictive validity of the reinstatement procedure. Poster at annual meeting of the Society of Biological Psychiatry, Philadelphia, PA. May 2012.

Editorial Board Membership

F1000 Research

Ad hoc Journal Reviewer

Addiction Biology	Journal of Neuroscience Methods
Behavioral and Brain Functions	Journal of Psychiatric Research
Behavioural Brain Research	Journal of Psychopharmacology
Behavioural Pharmacology	Learning & Memory
Behavioural Processes	Neuroscience
Biological Psychiatry	PLOS One
Journal of Neuroscience	Psychopharmacology

Teaching Experience

Laboratory in the Analysis of Psychological Data- Johns Hopkins University- Spring 2003
Physiological Psychology- University of Baltimore- Fall 2010
Research Methods and Statistics I- University of Baltimore- Spring 2012
Psychobiology- Kansas State University- Fall 2013 (ongoing)
Principles of Learning- Kansas State University- Fall 2013 (ongoing)

Professional Service

Colloquium Committee Representative - Johns Hopkins University - Psychological and Brain Sciences
- 2002-2003
Graduate Steering Committee - Johns Hopkins University - Psychological and Brain Sciences
- Representative: 2002-2006
Teaching Assistantship Committee - Johns Hopkins University - Psychological and Brain Sciences
- Representative: 2002-2005
- Chair: 2005-2006

"Exploring the Brain" - presentation to high school students at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute for Brain Awareness Week, Baltimore MD

- March, 2004

Mentorship of students- National Institute on Drug Abuse

- Four post-baccalaureate students: 2007-2012

- One college student: Summer 2011

- Two high school students: Summer 2010, 2012

"Science for Nonscientists" lecture – NIDA IRP, Baltimore, MD,

- October 2011

"The Dynamic Duo: NIDA Research and Animal Care Come Together" lecture, Baltimore, MD

- October 2011

Fellows Advisory Board- NIDA Intramural Research Program

- Representative: 2011-present

"Fellows Award for Research Excellence" NIH competition

- Judge: 2012