

*Curriculum Vitae*

**Dianna M. Phillips**

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Department of Psychology  
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**Education**

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<b>Ph.D.</b>	<b>Expected June 2018</b>	<b>University of California, Riverside</b> Developmental Psychology
<b>MA</b>	<b>June 2015</b>	<b>University of California, Riverside</b> Developmental Psychology Master's Thesis: <i>Perceived Loneliness as a Contextual Moderator of the Etiology of Cognitive Functioning: An International Study</i> Advisor: Chandra Reynolds, Ph.D.
<b>BA</b>	<b>June 2013</b>	<b>California State University, Bakersfield</b> Psychology, <i>summa cum laude</i> , GPA 4.0
<b>BS</b>	<b>June 2000</b>	<b>University of California, Riverside</b> Biochemistry, Biology Emphasis

**Research Interests**

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- Gene-Environment Interplay
- Mechanisms of risk and resilience in the relationship between perceived social isolation and negative cognitive outcomes in middle aged and elderly individuals
- Epigenetic influences of perceived loneliness on human gene expression.
- Features of loneliness (level, duration, trajectory shape) as predictors of performance and decline in specific cognitive abilities.
- The longitudinal association between perceived loneliness and epigenetic biomarkers (e.g., DNA methylation, telomere length).
- DNA methylation and telomere length as potential epigenetic mediators of the associations between loneliness and performance and decline in specific cognitive abilities.

**Honors and Awards**

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Associate Member Travel Fellowship, Behavior Genetics Association	2016
Dean's Distinguished Fellowship, University of California, Riverside	2013
Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology	Inducted 2013

**Professional Memberships**

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Behavior Genetics Association (BGA), Student Member  
Gerontological Society of America (GSA), Student Member

## **Current Research Involvement**

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### **Graduate Student Researcher**

Fall 2013-Present

Biobehavioral Research Laboratory, University of California, Riverside

- Design and conduct research projects which explore the link between perceived social isolation and cognitive performance and decline and potential mechanisms of risk and resilience behind this association
- Mentor and train research assistants and direct and oversee their work on projects

### **Graduate Student Research Member**

Fall 2013-Present

Consortium on Interplay of Genes and Environment across Multiple Studies (IGEMS)

## **Prior Research Experience**

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### **Research Assistant**

Fall 2012-Spring 2013

Cognitive Processes Laboratory, California State University, Bakersfield

- Collected data for research on the effects of synthesized voices on long-term memory

### **Research Assistant II**

August 2000-September 2002

Human Genome Group, California Institute of Technology

- Independently created DNA libraries for five organisms using fosmid cloning to be used for further research in gene discovery.
- Implemented Caltech's first highly successful bacterial artificial chromosome end sequencing protocol which helped solve sequencing problems experienced by many researchers both on and off campus.
- Designed protocols for widespread use.
- Arranged weekly meetings with collaborating labs and presented and discussed data.

## **Teaching Experience**

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### **Guest Lecturer**

Fall 2015

*University of California, Riverside*

Lifespan Development, *Topic: Psychosocial Development in Late Adulthood*

### **Teaching Assistant**

*University of California, Riverside*

Psychological Methods: Research Procedures

Fall 2014, Summer 2015, Winter 2016,  
Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Winter 2016  
Fall 2017, Winter 2017

Psychological Methods: Statistical Procedures

Summer 2016

Lifespan Development

Fall 2015

Introductory Psychology

Summer 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2017

*California State University, Bakersfield*

Research Methods I

Fall 2012

## **Publications**

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Reynolds, C. A., & Phillips, D. (2015). Genetics of brain aging: Twin aging. *Reference Module in Biomedical Sciences*. Elsevier. 08-Jul-2015 doi: 10.1016/B978-0-12-801238-3.04608-0

## **Published Abstracts**

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Phillips, D. M., Petkus, A. J., Johnson, W., Franz, C., & Reynolds, C. A. (2015). Exploring a potential role for education in the relation between loneliness and cognition. *The Gerontologist*, 55(2), NP.

Phillips, D. M., Petkus, A., McGue, M., & Reynolds, C. A. (2015). Testing for age moderation of heritability of loneliness across adulthood. *Behavior Genetics*, 45(6).

Phillips, D. M., & Reynolds, C. A. (2016). Exploring potential mechanisms for the association between loneliness and cognition. *The Gerontologist*, 56(3), 534.

Phillips, D. M., & Reynolds, C. A. (2016). Perceived loneliness as a contextual moderator of the etiology of cognitive functioning. *Behavior Genetics*, 46, 801.

## **Presentations**

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### ***Talks***

Phillips, D. M., Petkus, A. J., McGue, M., & Reynolds, C. A. (2015, June). *Testing for age moderation of heritability of loneliness across adulthood*. Annual meeting of the Behavior Genetics Association, San Diego, CA.

### ***Posters***

Phillips, D. M., Petkus, A. J., Johnson, W., Franz, C., & Reynolds, C. A. (2015, November). *Exploring a potential role for education in the relation between loneliness and cognition*. Annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Orlando, FL.

Phillips, D. M., & Reynolds, C. A. (2016, November). *Exploring potential mechanisms for the association between loneliness and cognition*. Annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, New Orleans, LA.

Phillips, D. M., & Reynolds, C. A. (2016, June). *Perceived loneliness as a contextual moderator of the etiology of cognitive functioning*. Annual meeting of the Behavior Genetics Association, Brisbane, Australia.