

T. M. Vanessa Chan-Devaere, Ph.D.
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Academic appointments

2020 – present	Assistant Teaching Professor, Department of Psychology University of Notre Dame
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Administrative appointments

2025 – present	Director of Undergraduate Studies, Neuroscience and Behavior (Bachelor of Arts) Department of Psychology, University of Notre Dame
2021 – 2024	Academic Advisor, Neuroscience and Behavior (Bachelor of Arts) Department of Psychology, University of Notre Dame

Education

2015-2020	Doctor of Philosophy (Psychology), University of Toronto Thesis: Dynamics of auditory reflective attention in speech-in-noise perception Advisor: Prof. Claude Alain
2014-2015	Master of Arts (Psychology), University of Toronto Thesis: Auditory Perception and Executive Functions in Simultaneous Interpreters Advisor: Prof. Claude Alain
2010-2014	Bachelor of Science (Major Neuroscience), McGill University Minor Supplementary East Asian Language (Japanese)

Teaching-related experience

Jan 2023 – May 2023	Faculty Partner , Inclusive Pedagogy Partnership, University of Notre Dame Participated in Phase 3 pilot of program to facilitate inclusive teaching at the university.
Summer 2022-2025	Course Instructor , Summer Scholars, University of Notre Dame Designed and taught 2-week pre-college summer experiential learning course in cognitive neuroscience.
Jan 2019 – Apr 2020	Course Instructor , Department of Psychology, University of Toronto Course: Cognitive Neuroscience, Winter 2019 and Winter 2020.
July 2019 – Dec 2019	Instructional Resource Designer , Department of Psychology, University of Toronto Consultant for designing assignments to develop critical reading skills.
Sep 2014 – June 2020	Teaching Assistant , Department of Psychology, University of Toronto Courses: Introduction to Psychology, Statistics I, Learning & Plasticity, Physiological Psychology, Music Cognition.

Publications

1. Putkinen, V., Saarikivi, K., **Chan-Devaere, T.M.V.**, Huotilainen, M., & Tervaniemi, M. (2025). Auditory change detection in musically trained adolescents and young adults: An EEG-fMRI study. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, 1550, 199-205. <https://doi.org/10.1111/nyas.70008>
2. Bongiovanni, N.R., **Chan, T.M.V.**, Van Hedger, S.C., Findley, C., & Hoeckner, B. (2024). Pitch height and mode have asymmetrical effects on the perception of mixed emotions in major and minor seventh chords. *Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/aca0000705>
3. Branco, R.C. & **Chan, T.M.V.** (2023). Cross-course harmonized assignments for neuroscience. *Journal of Undergraduate Neuroscience Education*, 21(2), A85-A90. <https://doi.org/10.59390/BOTF3129>
* both authors contributed equally
4. Saarikivi, K., **Chan, T.M.V.**, Huotilainen, M., Tervaniemi, M., & Putkinen, V. (2023). Enhanced neural mechanisms of set shifting in musically trained adolescents and young adults: converging fMRI, EEG, and behavioral evidence. *Cerebral Cortex*, 33(11), 7237-7249. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cercor/bhad034>
5. **Chan, T.M.V.**, Buchsbaum, B. R., & Alain, C. (2022). Effects of temporal order and intentionality on reflective attention to words in noise. *Psychological Research*, 86(2), 544-557. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00426-021-01494-6>
6. Putkinen, V., Saarikivi, K., **Chan, T.M.V.**, & Tervaniemi, M. (2021). Faster maturation of selective attention in musically trained children and adolescents: converging behavioral and ERP evidence. *European Journal of Neuroscience*, 54(1), 4246-4257. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejn.15262>
7. Satanove, D.J., Rahman, S., **Chan, T.M.V.**, Ren, S., & Clarke, P.B.S. (2021). Nicotine-induced enhancement of a sensory reinforcer in adult rats: antagonist pretreatment effects. *Psychopharmacology*, 238, 475–486. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00213-020-05696-5>
8. **Chan, T.M.V.**, & Alain, C. (2020). Brain indices associated with semantic cues prior to and after a word in noise. *Brain Research*, 1751, 147206. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.brainres.2020.147206>
9. **Chan, T.M.V.**, & Alain, C. (2019). Listening back in time: Does attention to memory facilitate word in noise identification? *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 81(1), 253-269. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13414-018-1586-8>
10. Alain, C., Cusimano, M., Garami, L., Backer, K., Habelt, B., **Chan, V.**, & Hasher, L. (2018). Age-related differences in orienting attention to sound object representations. *Neurobiology of Aging*, 66, 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neurobiolaging.2018.01.026>

Book chapters

1. Michael, N. & **Chan-Devaere, T.M.V.** (2025) Learning to Serve: A Neuroscience-informed Scaffold to Developing Students as Community Leaders. In K.E. Eifler & R. Wheeler (Eds.) *Beneath the Roar and Tumult: Promoting radical hospitality and belonging in college classrooms*. Liturgical Press.
2. **Chan, T.M.V.**, & Alain, C. (2020). Theories of cognitive aging: A look at potential benefits of music training on the aging brain. In L. Cuddy, S. Belleville, & A. Moussard (Eds.) *Music and the Aging Brain*. Elsevier.

Teaching resources

1. **Chan, T.M.V.**, & Trost, J. (2024). Psychology for the public: A project to foster good science communication. *Society for the Teaching of Psychology website*.
<https://teachpsych.org/resources/Documents/otrp/resources/ChanTrost24.pdf>
2. Wood, S., & **Chan, V.** (2020). Sequential assignments to critically evaluate psychological journal articles. *Society for the Teaching of Psychology website*.
<https://teachpsych.org/resources/Documents/otrp/resources/wood20.pdf>

Under review / In preparation [#] mentored undergraduate student

1. Khouzam, A. R. [#], Hoeckner, B., & **Chan-Devaere, T.M.V.** (Revise and resubmit). Sweet memories: The effect of mixed-valence music on autobiographical memory vividness.
2. **Chan-Devaere, T.M.V.**, & Weaver, J. (In preparation). Applying, getting hired, and the first year on the job. In K. Malavanti, & M. Maffeo (Eds.) *Supporting teaching-focused faculty at research-intensive institutions*. Society for the Teaching of Psychology.

Conference presentations

1. Wilcox, J., **Chan-Devaere, V.**, Diatta-Holgate, H., & Barone, C. (2025) Leveraging student-faculty partnerships to foster inclusive learning experiences. Midwest Conference on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, South Bend, USA.
2. **Chan, T.M.V.**, & Michael, N. (2023) Leveraging neuroscience communication skills for the community. Neuroscience Teaching Conference, Winston-Salem, USA.
3. **Chan, T.M.V.**, & Branco, R. C. (2022). Implementation and assessment of cross-course harmonized assignments. Neuroscience Teaching Conference, Winston-Salem, USA.
4. Alain, C., & **Chan, T.M.V.** (2018). Orienting attention to speech representation improves word in noise identification. Society for Psychophysiological Research Annual Meeting, Quebec City, Canada.

Conference posters

1. **Chan-Devaere, T.M.V.**, & Mulholland, B. (2025, November). Introducing cross-disciplinary perspectives in social decision-making through game-based learning in *Survivor*. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, San Diego, USA.
2. **Chan, T.M.V.**, & Trost, J.M. (2024, February). Student perceptions of a science communication project. Society for Teaching of Psychology's Annual Conference on Teaching Online.

3. **Chan, T.M.V.** (2019, June). Reawakening desire: student-centered educational practice as fostering humanity. Society of Catholic Scientists Annual Meeting, Notre Dame, USA.
4. **Chan, T.M.V., & Alain, C.** (2018, November). Neural indices of auditory reflective attention in word-in-noise identification. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, San Diego, USA.
5. **Chan, T.M.V.,** Saarikivi, K., Tervaniemi, M., & Putkinen, V. (2017, June). Cortical mechanisms of auditory change detection in musically trained and untrained adolescents. Neurosciences and Music VI – Music, Sound and Health, Boston, USA.
6. **Chan, T.M.V., & Alain, C.** (2017, April). Listening back in time: Does attention to memory facilitate word in noise identification? Erasmus Mundus Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Symposium, Leipzig, Germany.
7. **Chan, V.T.M., & Alain, C.** (2016, March). Auditory perception and executive functions in simultaneous interpreters: re-examining the music-language relationship. Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, New York, USA.
8. **Chan, V.T.M., & Alain, C.** (2015, October). Auditory perception and executive functions in simultaneous interpreters. BRAMS: The next ten years – symposium, Montreal, Canada.

Invited talks

March 2024	2024 Marguerite Bourgeys Lecture in Education , Newman Centre of McGill University – “Trust and Science: Forming Habits of Head, Heart, and Hands”
February 2024	History and Philosophy of Science Colloquium , University of Notre Dame – “The Sound of Bittersweetness: Portraying Emotion and Evoking Memory”

Research experience

Sep 2014 – Jul 2020	Graduate Researcher , Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest, Canada Supervisor: Prof. Claude Alain. Independently conducted line of research, regularly assisted with lab maintenance and troubleshooting of experimental code (Presentation, MATLAB) and EEG equipment (Biosemi ActiveTwo).
May 2016 – Dec 2016	Visiting Graduate Student , Cognitive Brain Research Unit, University of Helsinki, Finland Supervisor: Prof. Mari Tervaniemi. Assisted with data collection and preliminary analyses on ongoing longitudinal project.
May 2012 – May 2014	Undergraduate Researcher , Neuropsychopharmacology Lab, McGill University, Canada Supervisor: Prof. Paul Clarke. Independent Research Project conducted Fall 2013.

Funded Grants

2024 – 2026	RSP – Regular Grant, Notre Dame Research, Co-PI (PI: Berthold Hoeckner), “The Bittersweet Spot: How Musical Emotions Affect the Understanding of Life Events” (\$100,000 USD)
2023	Instructional Resource Grant, Society for the Teaching of Psychology, PI, “Psychology for the Public: A Project to Foster Good Science Communication” (\$1500 USD)

Awards and Honors

External

2016	Erasmus Mundus Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Mobility Fellowship (€14600)
2015 – 2016	NSERC Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master’s (\$17500 CAD)
2013	NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award (\$5625 CAD)
2012	FRSQ Undergraduate Student Research Award (\$5750 CAD)

Internal

2017	School of Graduate Studies Conference Grant, University of Toronto (\$600 CAD)
2017	Faculty of Arts & Science Graduate Student Conference Travel Grant, University of Toronto (\$400 CAD)
2010 – 2013	McGill University J.W. McConnell Scholarship (\$9000 CAD)

Mentorship

Dissertation committee membership

Chenlingxi Xu (Cognition, Brain and Behavior)
Rachelle Pichot (2025, Cognition, Brain and Behavior)

Senior thesis and capstone projects

Eni Agollari (Neuroscience and Behavior Honors)
Abigail Bush (Neuroscience and Behavior Honors)
Amir Khouzam (2025, Neuroscience and Behavior Honors) – *Harmony in Memory: Investigating the Influence of Bittersweet Music on the Content, Vividness and Specificity of Musically-Evoked Autobiographical Memories*
Claire Mahoney (2023, Glynn Family Honors / Compassionate Care in Medicine) – *Musical Healing: Exploration of Music Therapy among Healthcare Professionals*
Kaela Reisch (2023, Sustainability) – *Irish eating green: student sentiment and motivations towards sustainable dining at the University of Notre Dame*

Media Appearances

ND College of Arts and Letters News [article]. [Studying Survivor: How two Notre Dame courses apply reality TV to philosophy, psychology, and math.](#) (2025; Author: Adah McMillan)
PsychSessions [podcast]. ASK093: [How can I include assignments that encourage students to think about how their work applies to the public?](#) (2023; Host: Marianne Lloyd)

Professional and community service

At the University of Notre Dame

Dec 2025 – present	Committee Member , Moreau Senior Capstone Committee
Apr 2025 – present	Co-organizer , College of Science Practical Pedagogy Exchange
Sept 2024 – present	Committee Member , Task Force on Neuroscience and Behavior
Sept 2024 – Jul 2025	Search Committee Member , Neuroscience and Behavior Teaching Postdoctoral Fellow Search
Jan 2023 – present	Co-chair , Neuroscience and Behavior Curriculum Sub-committee
Spring 2023	Search Committee Member , Psychology Teaching Faculty Search
Aug 2021 – May 2023	Faculty Mentor , Building Bridges Mentorship Program
Jan 2021 – present	Faculty Advisor , Mending Minds
Jan 2021 – Dec 2023	Planning Committee , Young Singles Community for Faculty and Staff
Aug 2020 – present	Committee Member , Neuroscience and Behavior Steering Committee
Fall 2021	Search Committee Member , Neuroscience and Behavior Hiring Search

Outside the University of Notre Dame

Nov 2023 – Apr 2024,	Mentor , University of Toronto Psychology Mentorship Program
Jan – Apr 2023	
Jul 2018 – Aug 2019	Academic Rounds Coordinator , Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest

Professional activities and community engagement

At the University of Notre Dame

Sept 2022 – May 2023	Participant , 2022-2023 SEED Seminar series, University of Notre Dame Invited to yearlong discussion series on issues of equity and inclusion in higher education and at Notre Dame
January 2022	Invited Presenter , Mending Minds, University of Notre Dame Presentation: Music and its use in rehabilitation
September 2021	Contributing Presenter , Provost's Learning Lightning Talks, University of Notre Dame Presentation: Implementing a one-time grace period policy
Apr 2021 – May 2021	Workshop Participant , Civic Hope workshop series, University of Notre Dame Conversation series around dialogue between the arts and sciences in the community
October 2020	Invited Presenter , Mending Minds, University of Notre Dame Presentation: Music and its relationships with memory

Outside the University of Notre Dame

November 2025	Panelist , Professional Development Workshops, Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, San Diego, USA <i>Elevating Pedagogy: Teaching-Focused Career Paths at Research-Intensive Universities</i>
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September 2023	Invited Presenter , Volunteer In-Service Training, Center for Hospice Care, Mishawaka, IN, USA Presentation: Music and memory in dementia
December 2021	Panelist , Psychology Graduate Teaching Network Job Session, University of Toronto Presentation and Q&A on teaching faculty job market and experience
March 2021	Presenter , Crush Imposter Syndrome Initiative, University of Toronto Presentation: Experience of imposter syndrome and strategies for mitigation
August 2020	Panelist , U of T Psych Jobs Group Panel on post-PhD trajectory, entering the academic job market
Apr 2018 – Feb 2020	NeuroBRITE Mentor & Coordinator , Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest Designing curriculum for high school neuroscience outreach
2018-2020	Volunteer , Let's Talk Science, University of Toronto Classroom visits to elementary schools with science kits
February 2019	Workshop Presenter , Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest Topic: Introduction to Electroencephalography (EEG)
May 2018	Lecturer , Brain & Cognition Lecture Series, Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest Topic: Music & Speech Cognition
March 2018	Scientific Communication Officer , Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest Lay abstract translation and live-tweet of the annual RRI Conference
2015-2018	Logistics Coordinator , University of Toronto Science Rendezvous

Ad hoc reviewer

Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics
PLOS ONE

Professional membership

Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience
Society for Teaching of Psychology (APA Div. 2)
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Catholic Scientists