

Drew Dara-Abrams

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Department of Psychology
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9600

Education

- **Ph.D. in Geography** – University of California, Santa Barbara, in progress
committee: Mary Hegarty and Daniel R. Montello (co-chairs), Martin Raubal
- **M.A., Cognition, Perception, and Cognitive Neuroscience area** –
Department of Psychology, University of California, Santa Barbara, expected 2007
committee: Mary Hegarty and Daniel R. Montello (co-chairs), Jack M. Loomis, Michael Miller
- **B.A. in Cognitive Studies** – Carleton College (Northfield, MN), 2005
Magna cum laude, Distinction in Major
advisers: Kathleen M. Galotti (psychology) and Roy O. Elveton (philosophy)
- **A.S. in Computer Science** – Foothill College (Los Altos Hills, CA), 2002
with Highest Honors, President’s Medal
- **Certificate in Written Communication** – Foothill College, 2002
- **Certificate of High School Proficiency** – California Department of Education, 2001

Cognitive Science Research

- **Fellow – NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program**, University of California, Santa Barbara (July 2007 – 2010)
- **Visiting Researcher – Center for Spatial Cognition Research, Universität Bremen, Germany** (Sept. – Nov. 2006) <insert URL here>
- **Trainee – NSF Integrative Graduate Education Research Traineeship Program in Interactive Digital Multimedia**, University of California, Santa Barbara (Sept. 2005 – June 2007)
Participating in an interdisciplinary research group to develop and evaluate mobile location-aware devices. <media.igert.ucsb.edu>
- **Research Assistant – Department of Psychology**, Stanford University (Summer 2004) Barbara Tversky Lab; collecting, coding, and analyzing data for experiments on gesture, perspective taking, and perception of events; designing experiments on gesture and creating stimuli; recruiting and scheduling participants. <www-psych.stanford.edu/~bt/>
- **Senior Thesis Research – Cognitive Studies Program**, Carleton College (Sept. 2004 – April 2005) Advisers: Dr. Kathleen M. Galotti (Cognitive Studies Program and Psychology Dept.); Dr. Roy Elveton (Cognitive Studies Program and Philosophy Dept.) Designing and conducting an experiment for a senior thesis on the topic of spatial cognition, specifically investigating the effects of urban form (using Space Syntax methodology from University College London) on distortions in spatial judgment and memory.

Teaching and Education

- **Program Manager – Cognitive Science Program**, University of California, Santa Barbara (Sept. 2006 –) Administering academic program, designing Web site. <www.cogsci.ucsb.edu>
- **Teaching Assistant – Department of Psychology**, University of California, Santa Barbara (March – June 2006) Upper-division cognitive psychology.
- **Teaching Assistant – Cognitive Studies Program**, Carleton College (Jan. – March 2005) Assisting with mid-level course, “Introduction to Cognitive Science”; holding office hours and help sessions; designing and running lab on connectionist modeling; assigning and grading lab reports.
- **Research Assistant – Perlman Learning and Teaching Center**, Carleton College (Oct. 2004 – June 2005) Writing executive summaries and commentaries on talks and panels about academics, research, and student and faculty life at Carleton.
- **Teaching Assistant – Department of Philosophy**, Carleton College (Sept. – Nov. 2004) Assisting with introductory philosophy course, “Evolution and Mind”; running help sessions and discussions, reading students’ papers, tutoring.
- **Student Departmental Advisor – Cognitive Studies Program**, Carleton College (Sept. 2004 – June 2005) Serving as a resource for students interested in Cognitive Studies courses, concentration, and major; assisting students with registration.
- **Member – Student Advisory Committee, Perlman Learning and Teaching Center**, Carleton College (Sept. 2003 – June 2005) Organizing and participating in panel discussions for Carleton faculty members. <www.carleton.edu/campus/ltc/>
- **Student Member – Library Committee**, Carleton College (Sept. 2003 – June 2005) Assisting with governance of college library.
- **Web Team Assistant – Gould Library**, Carleton College (Jan. 2003 – Feb. 2004) Assisted with management of college library Web site; transitioned entire site to Dreamweaver templates; helped with desktop management; photographed events. <www.library.carleton.edu>
- **Leader – Pre-Frosh Trip**, Carleton College (Sept. 2003) Organized and led group of entering students on five-day backpacking trip; facilitated first-year orientation and team-building activities during

Publishing and Journalism

- **Chair – Press Council**, University of California, Santa Barbara (Sept. 2007 –) Responsible for overseeing the editorial and business operations of all regularly produced student publications, including *The Daily Nexus* (circulation 11,000) and the *La Cumbre* yearbook <www.dailynexus.com>
- **Senior Editor & Contributing Writer – The Next American City** (Aug. 2005 – Dec. 2006) Assembling special issues on important topics for a magazine on urban issues that The New York Times has dubbed “a subtle plan to change the world.” Also contributing occasional articles and reviews, as well as assisting with copy editing. <www.americancity.org>
- **Editor in Chief and Publisher – The Sentinel**, Foothill College (Jan. 2001 – June 2002) Restarted the defunct college newspaper; represented the paper in front of the Board of Trustees, college administration, departments, and Student Activities office; recruited and managed staff of over 20 students; directed editorial and production aspects of newspaper; developed budget and oversaw business operations, accounting, capital purchases, and advertising sales (\$12,000+ annual revenue, \$10,000+ annual budget).

Books, Papers, Articles, and Presentations (most available for download on-line)

- **Dara-Abrams, D.**, & Hegarty, M. (2007). Learning the layout of a new building: A longitudinal, real-world study. Poster presented at the 48th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Long Beach, California, 15-18 Nov. 2007.
- Hecht, B., Starosielski, N., & **Dara-Abrams, D.** (2007). Generating educational tourism narratives from Wikipedia. Paper presented at the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) 2007 Fall Symposium, Washington, D.C. , 8-11Nov. 2007.
- **Dara-Abrams, D.** (2007) Modeling environmental form to predict students' spatial knowledge of a university campus. Poster presented at the Conference on Spatial Information Theory, Melbourne, Australia. Sept., 2007.
- Hecht, B., **Dara-Abrams, D.**, Starosielski, N., Goldsberry, K., Dillemath, J., & Roberts, J. (2007). Minotour: A location-aware mobile tour application that weaves a spatial tale from Wikipedia, Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, San Francisco, 17-21 Apr. 2007.
- **Dara-Abrams, D.** Urban form shapes spatial knowledge. Poster presented at the Spatial Cognition conference, Bremen, Germany. Sept., 2006.
- **Dara-Abrams, D.** (2006). Architecture of mind and world: How urban form influences spatial cognition. Paper in B. Hillier, C. Hölscher, R. Conroy Dalton, & A. Turner (Eds.), *Space syntax and spatial cognition* (Workshop at Spatial Cognition). Bremen, Germany: Universität Bremen.
- **Dara-Abrams, D.** (2006). Ground truthing space syntax. Paper in K.-F. Richter & U.-J. Rüetschi (Eds.), *The cognitive approach to modeling environments* (Workshop at Geographic Information Science, Münster; SFB/TR 8 Report No. 009-08/2006). Bremen, Germany: Universität Bremen. (pp. 23-28)
- **Dara-Abrams, D.** (2004). Our spatial knowledge of the built world. Poster presented at All-Science Poster Session, Carleton College, 8 Oct. 2004.
- *Ten Ways to Turn Your Class into a Community Without Losing Time or Content: Student Perspectives on Building Community*, panel presentation for faculty and staff, Perlman Learning and Teaching Center, Carleton College, 18 May 2004.
- *Multiple Intelligences: Students' Perspectives*, panel presentation for faculty and staff (organizer), Perlman Learning and Teaching Center, Carleton College, 17 Feb. 2004.
- Various Signed Articles and Reviews, *The Carletonian*, Carleton College, 2002 – 2003.
- Various Signed and Unsigned Articles, Briefs, Reviews, Editor's Notes, Editorials, and Op-Eds, *The Sentinel*, Foothill College, 2001 – 2002.
- Dara-Abrams, B., **Dara-Abrams, D.**, Peace, T., & White, B. (2001). *Supporting Web Servers*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice-Hall.
- Brinson, J. D., Dara-Abrams, B., **Dara-Abrams, D.**, Mastek, J., McDunn, R., & White, B. (2001). *Analyzing E-Commerce and Internet Law*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice-Hall.

Honors and Awards

- Best Poster Award, 2nd Place, COSIT 2007 conference, Sept. 2007
- Google Travel Scholarship, COSIT 2007 conference, Sept. 2007
- Distinction in the Major, Carleton College, 2005
- Honorable Mention, NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program, 2005
- Dean's List, Carleton College, 2003 – 2004
- President's Medal, Foothill College, 2002
- Honors Scholar, Foothill College Honors Institute, 2002

- Awards from Departments of Psychology, Linguistics, and Mathematics, Foothill College, 2002
- All-State California Academic Team, 2002
- Dara-Abrams Journalism Scholarship, first recipient, Foothill College, 2002
- Academic Senate Scholarship, Foothill College, 2002
- National Merit Scholar, 2002 – 2005
- Dean’s List, Foothill College, all quarters 2000 – 2002

Memberships

- Cognitive Science Society
- Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society
- Association of American Geographers
- Phi Beta Kappa
- Phi Theta Kappa

Skills

- Programming languages and interface design: Java, Basic, LISP, C++, Python
- Web design and scripting with HTML, CSS, PHP, Coldfusion, JavaScript, AJAX, Adobe Flash and Flex, Adobe Dreamweaver
- Database management: SQL, MySQL
- Geographic information systems: ESRI ArcGIS, MySQL spatial extension
- System, server, and network administration, including Windows, Macintosh, Linux
- Experimental design and statistical analysis, including SPSS, Excel, E-Prime, PsyScope
- Copy editing, including Associated Press style
- Graphics, layout, design, and pre-press with Adobe Photoshop, Adobe PageMaker, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign, Quark XPress, PDF, Extensis Preflight Pro
- Foreign Languages: two years college Latin; three years high school Spanish

References available upon request.

Also available on-line:
http://drew.dara-abrams.com/about_drew/

Last updated:
 11 December 2007