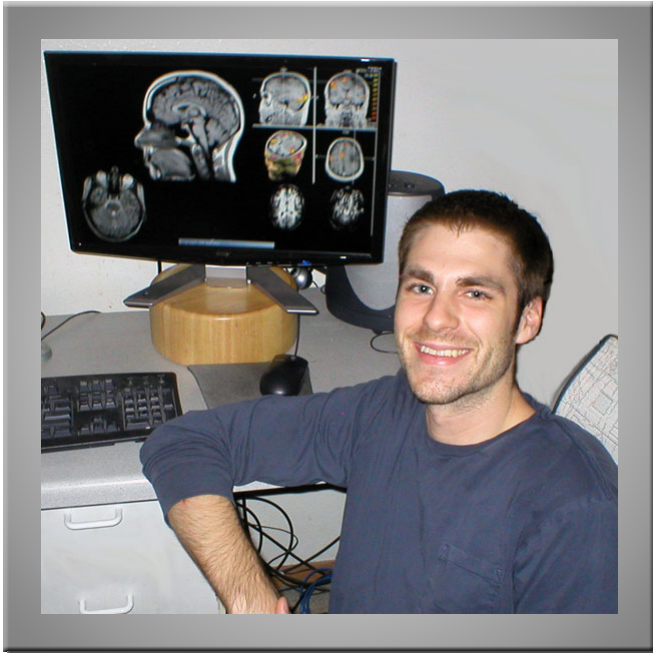


Graduate Student Spotlight



Joshua Cosman

PhD - Neuroscience

BS, Neuroscience - The University of Iowa

Winner of 3rd Place in the Social Sciences & Education Division at the 2007 James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference

How has being a graduate student at Iowa prepared you to achieve those goals?

My mentors at the University of Iowa have done a great job of showing me how to balance teaching, mentoring, and research efficiently.

Please describe your thesis project in a short sentence.

The control and effects of visual attention and visual object segregation.

How did you decide to go to graduate school?

After working in Dr. Vecera's lab as an undergraduate I was motivated to pursue a career in the cognitive neurosciences to learn more about how the brain processes visual information.

What made you decide to go to graduate school at Iowa?

The University of Iowa provided comprehensive research opportunities in cognitive neuroscience that were on par with some of the top schools in the country, while at the same time being small enough that you actually have a chance to capitalize on those opportunities without having to compete for resources.

What are your long-term goals beyond your graduate degree?

I plan on teaching at a research university and continuing to perform research in the cognitive neurosciences.

You are a winner of one of the top awards at the Jakobsen Conference in a previous year. What did you enjoy most about the Jakobsen Conference experience?

It is a small conference, so you have ample time to talk one on one with those who you are presenting to and really get your research ideas across to them.

What are some of your interests outside of school?

Sports, Outdoors, Music Production

Are there any particular challenges you've faced as a graduate student at Iowa?

No

Do you have a particular mentor who has played an important role in the development of your thesis or your career trajectory?

Dr. Vecera has done a great job guiding my research path while at the same time allowing me to be an independent researcher.

Please note any significant honors you've received .

NIMH travel scholarship

Hometown: *Marion, Iowa*

Advisor: *Shaun Vecera*