

EZEQUIEL MORSELLA

APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor
Social Cognitive Neuroscience
Department of Psychology
San Francisco State University (SFSU)

Assistant Adjunct Professor
Department of Neurology
University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research integrates experimental approaches that are cognitive, affective, neurobiological, and social cognitive to illuminate the nature of the basic unconscious and conscious (e.g., urges, impulse control, working memory) mechanisms in human action production. Specifically, to understand the nature of these mechanisms, I have investigated action production at different levels of analysis and in different contexts, including simple actions, subjective urges, speech production, social action, and language use (communication cognition). Thus, my approach is broadly based in terms of dependent measures: cognitive, affective, social, and neurobiological.

EDUCATION

Postdoctoral	Yale University	9/2003 – 7/2007
Ph.D.	Columbia University	5/2002
M. Phil.	Columbia University	4/2001
M.A.	Columbia University	10/2000
B.A. Psychology	University of Miami	5/1996, <i>Phi Beta Kappa, Cum Laude</i>

HONORS AND AWARDS

NIH NRSA Postdoctoral Fellowship, “A Process Model of Automatic Social Behavior” (MH069083), accepted first submission, score in top 1.2 percentile	5/2003
Richard Christie Memorial Award (dissertation research fellowship)	4/2001
Columbia University Faculty Fellowship (full support for doctoral study)	8/1997
Phi Beta Kappa	3/1996
University of Miami Stanford Scholarship	8/1994

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

Morsella, E. (2002). *The Motor Components of Semantic Representation*. (Doctoral dissertation, Columbia University, 2002). *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: the Sciences & Engineering*, 63 (4-B). (University Microfilms No. AAI3048195).

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- Morsella, E., Bargh, J. A., & Gollwitzer, P. M. (in press). *Oxford Handbook of Human Action*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Morsella, E. (in press). *Expressing oneself / Expressing one's self: Communication, cognition, language, and identity*. London, England: Taylor and Francis.

PEERED-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES, AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- Morsella, E. (in press). Unconscious mind. In W. E. Craighead & C. B. Nemeroff (Eds.), *The Corsini Encyclopedia of Psychology and Behavioral Science*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.
- Morsella, E., Levine, L. R., Bargh, J. A. (in press). Out of the blue: Sources of automatism, co-speech gestures, and the movements related to working memory. In E. Morsella (Ed.), *Expressing oneself / Expressing one's self: Communication, cognition, language, and identity*. London: Taylor & Francis.
- Morsella, E., Krieger, S. C., & Bargh, J. A. (in press). The primary function of consciousness: Why skeletal muscles are 'voluntary' muscles. In E. Morsella, J. A. Bargh, & P. M. Gollwitzer, *The Oxford Handbook of Human Action*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Morsella, E. (in press). The mechanisms of human action: Introduction and background. In E. Morsella, J. A. Bargh, & P. M. Gollwitzer, *The Oxford Handbook of Human Action*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Bargh, J. A., & Morsella, E. (2008). The unconscious mind. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 3, 73 - 79.
- Morsella, E., Krieger, S. C., & Rizzo-Fontanesi, S. (2007). The primary function of consciousness in the nervous system. *Annual Review of Biomedical Sciences*, 9, 37 - 40.
- Morsella, E., & Bargh, J. A. (2007). Supracortical consciousness: Insights from temporal dynamics, processing-content, and olfaction. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 30, 100.
- Levine, L. R., Morsella, E., & Bargh, J. A. (2007). The perversity of inanimate objects: Stimulus control by incidental musical notation. *Social Cognition*, 25, 267 - 283.
- Morsella, E. (2005). The function of phenomenal states: Supramodular interaction theory. *Psychological Review*, 112, 1000-1021.
- Morsella, E., & Krauss, R. M. (2005). Muscular activity in the arm during lexical retrieval: Implications for gesture-speech theories. *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research*, 34, 415-427.
- Morsella, E., & Krauss, R. M. (2005). Can motor states influence semantic processing? Evidence from an interference paradigm. In A. Columbus (Ed.), *Advances in Psychology Research*, 36. New York: Nova.
- Morsella, E., & Krauss, R. M. (2004). The role of gestures in spatial working memory and speech. *American Journal of Psychology*, 117, 411-424.
- Morsella, E. (2003). The function of phenomenal states: Is there progress for the "softer problem" of consciousness? *Psychological Reports*, 93, 435-440.
- Morsella, E., & Miozzo, M. (2002). Evidence for a cascade model of lexical access in speech production. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*, 28, 555-563.
- Krauss, R. M., Freyberg, R., & Morsella, E. (2002). Inferring speaker's physical attributes from their voices. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 38, 618-625.
- Krauss, R. M., & Morsella, E. (2000/2007). Communication and conflict. In M. Deutsch & P. T. Coleman (Eds.), *The Handbook of Conflict Resolution: Theory and Practice* (pp. 131-143). San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

INVITED MANUSCRIPTS

- Bargh, J. A., & Morsella, E. Unconscious action tendencies. In J. Decety & J. Cacioppo (Eds.), *Handbook of social neuroscience*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Morsella, E., & Bargh, J. A. Automatic imitation, conscious simulation, and innate intuitions.

PUBLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW

- Morsella, E., Krieger, S. C., & Bargh, J. A. (2008). MNCB.
- Morsella, E., Gray, J. R., Krieger, S. C., & Bargh, J. A. (2008). The essence of conscious conflict: Subjective effects of sustaining incompatible intentions. *Received a 'revise and resubmit' from the journal Emotion.*
- Morsella, E., Honhongva, M. K., Berger, C. C., & Bargh, J. A. (2007). Subjective aspects of cognitive control at different stages of processing: Conscious conflict and double-blindness. *Received a 'revise and resubmit' from the journal Perception & Psychophysics.*
- Bargh, J. A., & Morsella, E. (2008). The primacy of the unconscious.
- Williams, L. E., Poehlman, T. A., Morsella, E., & Bargh, J. A. (2007). Pleasure can be good for you: The nonconscious impact of hedonic experiences on self-regulation.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

- Morsella, E., & Bargh, J. A. (2008). Action preceded reflection.
- Morsella, E., Levine, L. R., Bargh, J. A. (2008). Can incidental social and non-social action-related objects interfere with everyday actions? Insights from language production.
- Morsella, E., Ben-Zeev, A., Lanska, M., & Bargh, J. A. (2008). Intrusive cognitions.

FICTION

- “Last Voyage to Coronado.” *Italian Americana, Summer 2001.*

REPRESENTATIVE PRESENTATIONS (E.G., COLLOQUIA AND SYMPOSIA)

- The primary function of consciousness in the nervous system*, Neurocena Lecture, Faculty of Medicine, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, 8/8/08.
- Neural correlates of the essence of conscious conflict during self-control*, Department of Physics, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, 8/7/08.
- Neural correlates of the subjective aspects of cognitive conflict*, Department of Psychology, Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea, 7/25/08.
- What consciousness is for*. Laboratoire Psychologie de la Perception, CNRS, University of Paris, Descartes, 7/8/08.
- Voluntary action, the function of consciousness, and the skeletal muscle system*, Symposium presented at “Consciousness, Agency, and the Will: An Interdisciplinary Conference,” University of Edinburgh, Scotland, 6/28/2008.
- The primary function of consciousness and why skeletal muscles are ‘voluntary’ muscles*, Colloquium, Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences, Leipzig, Germany, 6/26/08.
- Mechanisms of speech production*, Key note speech at the annual meeting of the Psi Chi Honors Society, San Francisco State University, 5/8/2008
- The primary function of consciousness*, Department of Psychology, Harvard University, 10/26/2006.
- Out of the blue: Sources of automatism, co-speech gestures, and other spontaneous actions*. Symposium presented at *Expressing Oneself/ Expressing One’s Self: A Festschrift in honor of Robert M. Krauss*, a conference organized by Ezequiel Morsella at Columbia University, New York, 6/10/2006.
- Nonconscious and conscious action plans*, Department of Psychology, Columbia University, 2/21/2005.
- Nonconscious activation of action plans: A cascade framework*, Department of Psychology, Yale University, 3/22/2005.
- The primary function of phenomenal states: Supramodular interaction theory*. Symposium presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Experimental Social Psychology, San Diego, California, 10/10/2005.
- Krauss, R. M., & Morsella, E. *Stereotyping and the vocal embodiment of identity*. Symposium presented by R.M.K. at “Communication-Based Approaches to Stereotype Research.” Heidelberg, Germany, 6/14/2003.
- Krauss, R. M., & Morsella, E. (2002). *Gesture as a facilitator of lexical access*. Symposium presented at “Gesture: The Living Medium, the First Congress of the International Society for Gesture Studies,” Austin, Texas, 6/7/2002.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS:

Kang, Y. N., Morsella, E., Shamosh, N. A., Bargh, J. A., Gray, J. R. (2008). *The essence of subjective conflict during self-control: Neural correlates of sustaining incompatible intentions*. Proceeding of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Larson, L. R. L., Morsella, E., & Bargh, J. A. (2008). *Mental modes: Direct effects of expertise-based priming on action*. Poster presented at the Judgment and Decision-Making Preconference at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Morsella, E., Honhongva, M. K., & Bargh, J. A. (2007). *On the function of consciousness: The subjective consequences of priming conflicting actions*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Experimental Social Psychology, Memphis, Tennessee.

Morsella, E., Gray, J. R., Levine, L. R., & Bargh, J. A. (2006). *On the function of consciousness: The subjective experience of incompatible intentions*. Poster presented at the 18th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Society, New York City.

Morsella, E. (2004). *The cognitive role of conscious states: Supramodular interaction theory (SIT)*. Poster presented at the 15th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Society, Chicago, Illinois.

Morsella, E., Romero, R., Halim, J., & Krauss, R. M. (2003). *Judging social identity from voice and photograph*. Poster presented at the Fourth Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Los Angeles, California.

Camacho, C. J., Higgins, E. T., & Morsella, E. (2001). *The mere categorization effect: A little knowledge is a dangerous thing*. Presented as a “Hot Topic” talk at the 13th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Society, Montreal, Canada.

Morsella E., & Krauss, R. M. (1999). *Electromyography of arm during the lexical retrieval of abstract and concrete words*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Psychophysiology, Granada, Spain. *Psychophysiology*, 36, S82-S82.

EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

Ad hoc editorial reviewer for the journals:

Psychological Review, Journal of Experimental Psychology: General, Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance, Cognition (three manuscripts), *Language and Cognitive Processes, Emotion, Biological Psychology*
 In a joint review: *Psychological Science* and *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*

GRANT REVIEWER SERVICE

Ad hoc proposal reviewer for the *National Science Foundation*

CURRENT AND PREVIOUS OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Institution</i>
2008 -	Asst. Adjunct Professor	University of California, San Francisco
2007 -	Assistant Professor	San Francisco State University
2005 - 2007	Postdoctoral Associate	Yale University
2003 - 2005	Postdoctoral Fellow	Yale University
2002 - 2003	Research Associate	Human Communication Laboratory at Columbia
2002 - 2003	Adjunct Professor	Columbia University
2002 - 2003	Adjunct Assistant Professor	Barnard College, Columbia University
2000 - 2001	Rapporteur	<i>Language and Cognition Seminar</i> at Columbia
1997 - 2002	Doctoral Fellow	Columbia University Psychology Department

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Institution</i>
Fall 2007 & Spring 2008	Research Methods	San Francisco State University
	Research Methods (Graduate level)	San Francisco State University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AS ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Institution</i>
April 30 & May 5, 2008	Lectures on language and the brain	UC, San Francisco
Spring 2003	Cognition: Basic Processes	Columbia University
Fall & Spring 2002	Introduction to Psychology	Barnard College
Summer 2002	Seminar in Language & Communication	Columbia University
Summer 2002 & 2003	Science of Psychology	Columbia University
Fall 1999 – 2002	Principles of Psychology (for the <i>Science Honors Program</i>)	Columbia University
Fall 1996	Introduction to Logic (as substitute instructor for a semester)	Miami-Dade Community College

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AS TEACHING ASSISTANT AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Spring 2002	Cognition: Basic Processes
Fall 2001	Language and the Brain
Spring 2001	Human Communication
Fall 1997 & 1999	The Science of Psychology

REPRESENTATIVE INVITED CLASSROOM LECTURES, 1998 - 2008

- “Problems regarding the neural basis of semantics, language production, and speech perception,” in Prof. Adam Gazzaley’s *Cognitive Neuroscience*, a graduate level course offered at University of California, San Francisco.
- “Consciously Penetrable and Impenetrable Action,” in Prof. Gary Marcus’s *Seminar in Cognition and Perception*, a graduate-level course offered at New York University
- “Movements, Meaning, and Cognition,” in Prof. Marianne LaFrance’s *Nonverbal Behavior*, a graduate-level course offered at Yale University.
- “Mental representation,” in Prof. Lisa Son’s *Introduction to Psychology*, a course offered at Barnard College, Columbia University.
- “Gestures, Signs, and Symbols,” in Prof. Michele Miozzo’s *Language and the Brain*, a course offered at Columbia University.
- “The Neural Correlates of Semantic Knowledge,” in Prof. Robert M. Krauss’s *Human Communication*, a course offered at Columbia University.
- “Language and Communication,” in Prof. Lisa Son’s *Introduction to Psychology*, a course offered at Barnard College, Columbia University.
- “The Problem of Phenomenal States” in Prof. James Magnuson’s *Cognition: Basic Processes*, a course offered at Columbia University.

TEACHING INTERESTS

Cognitive Neuroscience, Experimental Methods, Conscious Processes and Automaticity, Cognition, Automaticity in Social Cognition, Psycholinguistics & Neurolinguistics, Language and Communication, Principles of Scientific Psychology (Introduction to Psychology), The History of Psychology

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for General Psychology (American Psychological Association, Division 1)
Association for Psychological Science
American Psychological Association
Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness

Society for Personality and Social Psychologists
Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Psi Chi

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE OF RESEARCH

MSNBC. August 7, 2007. ("Identity crisis: You barely know yourself: Unconscious actions largely determine who we are").
Time Record News. May 4, 2004. ("Talk through the hand").
La Stampa. January 17, 2001. ("Gestures and words are inseparable").
Newsweek Magazine. November 2, 1998, p. 69. ("Living hand to mouth").

Television coverage of consciousness research:
British Broadcasting Corporation: Horizons.

Television coverage of gesture-speech research:
Good Morning America, January 1999.
Globo-TV, 1999.
Dateline NBC, June 19th, 2000.