

Rebecca C. Ying, Ph.D. Candidate

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Psychology
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Iowa State University
Ames, IA 50010

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EDUCATION

2021-2026 (Expected)	Ph.D., Cognitive Psychology <i>Psychology & Law Concentration</i> <i>Quantitative Psychology Certificate</i> Iowa State University	<i>Dissertation: "The Dangers of High-Similarity Innocent-Suspect Bias."</i> <i>Major Advisor: Andrew M. Smith</i>
2019-2021	M.S., Forensic Psychology California State University, Los Angeles	<i>Master's Thesis: "Comparing Lineups and Showups in the Field vs. Lab."</i> <i>Major Advisor: Mitchell L. Eisen</i>
2012-2016	B.A., Psychology <i>Minor in Basic Business</i> California State University, Los Angeles	<i>Honor's Thesis: "The Imagination Inflation Effect for Complex Events."</i> <i>Major Advisor: Mitchell L. Eisen</i>

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

15. **Ying, R. C.**, Smith, A. M., & Ayala, N. T. (2026). Toward the systematic assessment of eyewitness identification accuracy. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*.
14. Ayala, N. T., Smith, A. M., **Ying, R. C.**, Wells, G. L., & Sommervold, N. (2026). An evidence-based imperative to videorecord eyewitness lineups. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*.
13. Eisen, M. L., **Ying, R. C.**, Olmos, K., Edwards, J., Arbonies, M., & Jeremiah, J. (In Press). Testing a new procedure to administer lineups to witnesses in the field to eliminate law enforcement's reliance on the use of highly suggestive showups. *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*.
12. **Ying, R. C.**, & Smith, A. M. (2025). Perceptions of task fluency mislead judgments of eyewitness identification accuracy. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*, 14(3), 381–391. <https://doi.org/10.1037/mac0000212>
11. Smith, A. M., Ayala, N. T., & **Ying, R. C.** (2024). Using artificial intelligence to assess eyewitness identification accuracy. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*, 13(4), 500–504. <https://doi.org/10.1037/mac0000206>
10. Smith, A. M., **Ying, R. C.**, Goldstein, A. R., & Fitzgerald, R. J. (2024). Absolute-judgment models better predict eyewitness decision-making than do relative-judgment models. *Cognition*, 251, 105877 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2024.105877>
9. Eisen, M. L., Olaguez, A., **Ying, R. C.**, Cedre, G., Cunius, M. K., & Dianet, A. (2024). The biasing nature of gang evidence: Inducing memory errors for evidence of past criminal behavior. *Psychology, Crime, and Law*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1068316X.2024.2356790>

8. Smith, A. M., **Ying, R. C.**, Ayala, N. T., & Goldstein, A. R. (2023). The untapped potential of lineups: Using eyewitness memory to rule out innocent suspects. *Psychology, Crime, and Law*, 30(10), 1580-1590. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1068316X.2023.2242998>
7. **Ying, R. C.**, Smith, A. M., & Wells, G. L. (2023). Lay (mis)perceptions of suspect-identification accuracy from biased and unbiased lineups. *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 29(3), 288–301. <https://doi.org/10.1037/law0000392>
6. Smith, A. M., Ayala, N. T., & **Ying, R. C.** (2023). The rule out procedure: A signal-detection-informed approach to the collection of eyewitness identification evidence. *Psychology, Public Policy, & Law*, 29(1), 19–31. <https://doi.org/10.1037/law0000373>
5. Eisen, M. L., Williams, T. Q., Jones, J., & **Ying, R. C.** (2022). Variations in the encoding conditions can affect eyewitnesses' vulnerability to suggestive influence. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 36(6), 1188-1199. <http://doi.org/10.1002/acp.4000>
4. Eisen, M. L., **Ying, R. C.**, Chui, C., & Swaby, M. (2022). Comparing witness performance in the field versus the lab: How real-world conditions affect eyewitness decision-making. *Law and Human Behavior*, 46(3), 175-188. <http://doi.org/10.1037/lhb0000485>
3. Ayala, N. T., Smith, A., & **Ying, R. C.** (2022). The rule-out procedure: Increasing the potential for police investigators to detect suspect innocence from eyewitness lineup procedures. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*, 11(4), 489–499. <https://doi.org/10.1037/mac0000018>
2. Eisen, M. L., Jones, J. M., **Ying, R. C.**, Williams, T. Q., & Ristrom, L. (2022). Misidentifying an innocent suspect can alter witness recollections of the perpetrator's face, 29(7), 740-767. *Psychology, Crime, and Law* <https://doi.org/10.1080/1068316X.2022.2032055>
1. Eisen, M. L., Gabbert, F., **Ying, R.**, & Williams, J. (2017). "I think he had a tattoo on his neck": How co-witness discussions about a perpetrator's description can affect eyewitness identification decisions. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*, 6(3), 274–282. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jarmac.2017.01.009>

PROFESSIONAL OUTREACH ARTICLES

1. Gabriel, R., McCabe, J. G., & **Ying, R. C.** (2021). Redefining Bias in Criminal Justice. *Criminal Justice*, 36(2), 18–23.

ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

- Eisen, M. L., & **Ying, R. C.** *When high confidence implies high accuracy: Lessons learned from a decade of field-simulation studies examining witness performance under real-world conditions.* [Manuscript Under Review].
- Neal, T. M. S., **Ying, R. C.**, Irvin-Vitela, M. A., Branch, R., Sickels, M., & Martire, K. A. *Assessment practices and expert judgment methods by Australian psychologists in forensic cases* [Manuscript Under Review].

Smith, A. M., Lampinen, J. M., **Ying, R. C.**, Ayala, N. T., & Dobbins, I. G. *The rejection-inferiority effect: Why are eyewitness lineups more effective at demonstrating guilt than innocence?* [Manuscript Under Review].

Yuen, C. N., Bernstein, D. M., Smith, A. M., **Ying, R. C.**, & Fitzgerald, R. J. *Face matching lineups: A method to control mistaken identifications in video evidence* [Manuscript Under Review].

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

*Denotes student/mentee co-author

First-Author Presentations

30. **Ying, R. C.**, Smith, A. M., & Wixted, J. T. (2026, March 12-14). *A shocking failure of source memory: repeated-suspect procedures contaminate memory and put innocent suspects at risk* [Paper Presentation]. In Eisen, M. L. (Chair), *New Discoveries in Eyewitness Research: Source-monitoring, Memory Distortion and Factors that Influence the Confidence-Accuracy Relationship* [Symposium]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Reno, NV, United States.
29. **Ying, R. C.**, Smith, A. M., & Ayala, N. T. (2025, March 13-15). *A standardized approach for assessing suspect-identification accuracy* [Poster Presentation]. American Psychology and Law Society Conference, San Juan, PR, United States.
28. **Ying, R. C.**, Smith, A. M., & Ayala, N. T. (2024, November 21-24). *Examining the impact of response-scale length on identification accuracy from eyewitness lineups* [Poster Presentation]. Psychonomic Society's 2024 Annual Meeting, New York City, NY, United States.
27. **Ying, R. C.**, & Smith, A. M. (2024, March 21-23). *Evaluating theoretical mechanisms for the biased-lineup preference effect* [Paper Presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Los Angeles, CA, United States.
26. **Ying, R. C.**, Smith, A. M., Goldstein, A. R., & Cahill, B. S. (2023, November 16-19). *Perceptual and inferential accounts for the effect of lineup bias on eyewitness identification decisions* [Poster Presentation]. Psychonomic Society's 2023 Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, United States.
25. **Ying, R. C.**, Smith, A. M., & Wells, G. L. (2023, March 16-18). *Lay (mis)perceptions of suspect-identification accuracy for biased and unbiased lineups* [Paper Presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society (AP-LS) Conference, Philadelphia, PA, United States.
24. **Ying, R. C.**, Smith, A. M., & Wells, G. L. (2022, March 23-25). *Lay perceptions of suspect-identification accuracy for biased and fair lineups* [Paper Presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Denver, CO, United States.
23. **Ying, R. C.**, Eisen, M. L., Chui, C. C., Swaby, M. A., & Ristrom, L. J. (2021, March 20). *Using a field-simulation paradigm to compare lineups and showups in lab versus field conditions* [Poster Presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Virtual Poster Session, Remote.
22. **Ying, R. C.**, Jones, J. & Eisen, M. L. (2020, October 28-31). *How false identifications can cause memory distortion for unique features*. In Frenda, S. (Chair), *Miscarriages of Justice: Memory Distortions, False Confessions, and Perceptions of Exonerees* [Symposium]. Western Psychological Association Conference, Remote.

Second- and Tertiary-Author Presentations

21. Eisen, M. L., & **Ying, R. C.** (2026, March 12-14). *Showups conducted under field-conditions yield overconfident choosers and highly accurate rejectors* [Paper Presentation]. In Eisen, M. L. (Chair), *New Discoveries in Eyewitness Research: Source-monitoring, Memory Distortion and Factors that Influence the Confidence-Accuracy Relationship* [Symposium]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Reno, NV, United States.
20. Tracy, T., Smith, A. M., & **Ying, R. C.** (2026, March 12-14). *Should eyewitnesses viewing lineups be provided with an explicit option to indicate that they are "not sure"?* [Poster Presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Reno, NV, United States.
19. Yuen, C. N., Bernstein, D. M., Smith, A. M., **Ying, R. C.**, & Fitzgerald, R. J. (2025, June 2-6). *Face comparison lineups: Controlling the error rate in face comparison* [Paper Presentation]. Facial Identification Scientific Working Group Meeting, Toronto, Canada.
18. Ayala, N. T., Smith, A. M., & **Ying, R. C.** (2025, June 11-14). *Can outside observers discriminate accurate from inaccurate eyewitnesses under contaminated conditions?* [Paper Presentation]. Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition Conference, Kildare, Ireland.
17. Neal, T. M. S., **Ying, R. C.**, Martire, K. A., Irvin-Vitela, M. A., Branch, R., & Sickels, M. (2025, June 11-14). *Expert judgment methods by Australian forensic psychologists* [Paper Presentation]. Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition Conference, Kildare, Ireland.
16. Yuen, C. N., Bernstein, D. M., Smith, A. M., **Ying, R. C.**, & Fitzgerald, R. J. (2025, June 11-14). *Face matching lineups: The benefits of using lineup and rule-out procedures with video ID evidence* [Paper Presentation]. Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition Conference, Kildare, Ireland.
15. Neal, T. M. S., **Ying, R. C.**, Martire, K. A., Irvin-Vitela, M. A., Branch, R., Sickels, M., & Mathers, E. M. *Expert judgment methods by Australian Forensic Psychologists: New data and reflections on evidence law in Australia vs. the U.S.* [Paper Presentation]. American Psychology and Law Society Conference, San Juan, PR, United States.
14. Yuen, C. N., Bernstein, D. M., Smith, A. M., **Ying, R. C.**, & Fitzgerald, R. J. (2025, February 11-12). *Face matching lineups: A method to control the error rate in video ID evidence* [Paper Presentation]. Unfamiliar Face Identification Group Meeting, Brisbane, Australia.
13. Smith, A. M., Lampinen, J., **Ying, R. C.**, & Ayala, N. T. (2024, November 21-24). *Why are eyewitness lineups more effective at demonstrating guilt than innocence?* [Paper Presentation]. Psychonomic Society's 2024 Annual Meeting, New York City, NY, United States.
12. Sommervold, N.*, Ng, Z. S.*, **Ying, R. C.**, Ayala, N. T., Smith, A. M., & Wells, G. L. (2024, April 18- 20). *Using eyewitness descriptions of perpetrators to forecast lineup identification accuracy* [Poster Presentation]. Midwestern Psychology Association Conference, Chicago, IL, United States.
11. Ayala, N. T., Smith, A. M., Wells, G. L., & **Ying, R. C.** (2024, March 21-23). *On the value of video recording eyewitnesses as they complete lineups: High fluency implies high accuracy and low fluency implies low accuracy* [Paper Presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Los Angeles, CA, United States.

10. Dianet, A., Olaguez, A., Cedre, G., **Ying, R. C.**, Cunius, M. K., & Eisen, M. L. (2024, March 21-23). *The biasing nature of gang evidence: Inducing memory errors for evidence of past criminal behavior* [Paper Presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Los Angeles, CA, United States.
9. Smith, A. M., **Ying, R. C.**, Goldstein, A. R., & Fitzgerald, R. J. (2024, March 21-23). *Absolute-judgment models better explain eyewitness decision-making than do relative-judgment models*. In Eisen, M. L. (Chair), *New Discoveries in Eyewitness Memory Research* [Symposium]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Los Angeles, CA, United States.
8. Toh, H.*, Sommervold, N.*, Ayala, N. T., **Ying, R. C.**, Smith, A. M., & Wells, G. L. (2023, April 20-22). *Recording-in-progress: Capturing multiple eyewitness lineup behaviors to gauge suspect guilt* [Poster Presentation]. Midwestern Psychology Association (MPA) Conference, Chicago, IL, United States.
7. Smith, A. M., Ayala, N. T., & **Ying, R. C.** (2023, March 16-18). *A signal-detection-informed approach to the collection of eyewitness identification evidence*. In Eisen, M. (Chair), *New Discoveries in Eyewitness Memory Research* [Symposium]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Philadelphia, PA, United States.
6. Eisen, M. L., Swaby, M., & **Ying, R. C.** (2022, March 23-25). *Field conditions differentially affect witnesses when using showups versus lineups* [Paper Presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Denver, CO, United States.
5. Swaby, M., **Ying, R. C.**, Chui, C. C., Eisen, M. L. (2021, April 28-30). *Eyewitness performance for lineups and showups under field vs. laboratory conditions* [Poster Presentation]. Western Psychological Association (WPA) Conference, Remote.
4. Eisen, M. L., Smith, A. M., Skerritt-Perta, A., **Ying, R. C.**, & Olaguez, A. (2017, March 16-18). *Do witnesses perform differently when they think it's real? Using a field-simulation paradigm to study showups in real-world conditions* [Paper Presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Seattle, WA, United States.
3. Eisen, M. L., Owen, J., Skerritt-Perta, A., **Ying, R. C.**, Jones, J., Williams, J., & Cruz, T. (2017, March 16-18). *Does anyone else look familiar? How subtle disconfirming feedback can alter identification decisions*. [Paper Presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Conference, Seattle, WA, United States.
2. Owen, J., **Ying, R. C.**, Eisen, M. L., Skerritt-Perta, A., & Jones, J. (2017, April 27-30). *Examining the effect of subtle disconfirming feedback on eyewitness identifications* [Paper Presentation]. Western Psychological Association Conference, Sacramento, CA, United States.
1. Skerritt-Perta, A., Eisen, M. L., Owen, J., **Ying, R. C.**, Jones, J., & Cruz, T. (2017, April 27-30). *Do witnesses perform differently when they think it's real? Using a field-simulation paradigm to study showups in real-world conditions* [Paper Presentation]. Western Psychological Association Conference, Sacramento, CA, United States.

MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

- 2025** Molly Sickels and Gabriel Sevde (Undergraduate Symposium Poster)
A standardized method for evaluating eyewitness identification.
- 2023 to 2024** Natalie Sommervold (Honors Project)
Do the descriptions provided by an eyewitness predict their later accuracy on a lineup task?

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

National and International

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| American Psychology-Law Society Grant-in-Aid for Graduate Students (\$2,000) | 2023 |
| American Psychology-Law Society Student Presentation Award (\$150) | 2021 |

Institutional

- | | |
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| Graduate College Research Excellence Award | 2025 |
| Cognitive Area Outstanding Service and Teaching Award (\$100) | 2025 |
| Brown Graduate Fellowship (\$10,000) | 2024 |
| Cognitive Area Outstanding Service and Teaching Award (\$50) | 2024 |
| Department of Psychology Exceptional Research Productivity Award (\$100) | 2024 |
| Stavish Best Psychology-Law Article Award (\$500) | 2023 |
| Natural & Social Sciences Outstanding Graduate Student Award | 2021 |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Co-Instructor – Iowa State University

PSYCH 302: Research Methods in Psychology (Summer 2024)

Guest Lecturer – California State University, Los Angeles

Memory and the Brain, PSY 1700: Introductory Behavioral Neuroscience (Spring 2021)

Intelligence and Cognition, PSY 1500: Introduction to Psychology (Fall 2020)

Teaching Assistant

Iowa State University

PSYCH 3010: Research Design and Methodology (Fall 2025, Spring 2026)

PSYCH 3180: Judgment and Decision Making (Fall 2025)

LAS 350D/PSYCH 590Z: Forensic Psychology (Spring 2024)

California State University, Los Angeles

PSY 1500: Introductory Psychology (Fall 2020, Spring 2021)

PSY 1700: Introductory Behavioral Neuroscience (Spring 2021)

PSY 4640: Psychology and Law (Spring 2021)

PSY 4900: Human Memory (Fall 2020)

PSY 308: History and Systems of Psychology (Fall 2015)

WORK/INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

Reading Specialist, 04/2020 – 08/2021

Pride Learning Co.
Los Angeles, California, USA

Litigation Consulting Intern, 08/2020 – 05/2021

Decision Analysis, Inc.
Los Angeles, California, USA

English Teacher, 11/2017 – 8/2019

Chungdahm Learning Institute
Gyeonggi-do, South Korea

Social Work Intern, 09/2015 – 03/2016

Law Office of Marlene Furth
Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers
Los Angeles, California, USA

District Attorney Intern, 08/2014 – 02/2015

Environmental/Consumer Protection Division
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office
Los Angeles, California, USA

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad-hoc Reviewer

Law and Human Behavior
Psychology, Public Policy, and Law
Memory
American Psychology-Law Society Annual Conference
American Psychological Association Conference

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2025 – <i>present</i>	Cognitive Area Psychology Students (CAPS) President Iowa State University
2022 – <i>present</i>	Graduate Students in Psychology (GSP) Cognitive Representative Iowa State University
2024 – <i>present</i>	Iowa State University Campus Representative American Psychology-Law Society
2023 – 2024	Graduate Planning Committee (GPC) Student Representative Iowa State University

REFERENCES

Dr. Andrew M. Smith (amsmith@iastate.edu)

Associate Professor
Iowa State University
Ames, IA, USA

Dr. Gary L. Wells (glwells@iastate.edu)

Distinguished Professor Emeritus
Iowa State University
Ames, IA, USA

Dr. Mitchell L. Eisen (meisen@exchange.calstatela.edu)

Professor and Director, Forensic Psychology M.S.
California State University, Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA, USA