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## PSYCHOLOG<sup>e</sup>-MATTERS

A DIGITAL NEWSLETTER FROM  
THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY AT UW-MADISON



Class is in Session! Dr. Jeff Henriques's Intro to Psychology Course on the First Day of School

More than 45% of the world's civilian-owned firearms are in the United States, where just 5% of the world's people live. This disparity may have something to do with the way the majority of American gun owners view gun ownership.

In a [recent study published in the journal PNAS Nexus](#), psychology professor Nick Buttrick and co-author Jessica Mazen **found that slavery in 1860 predicts today's gun ownership in the US South.** [Read more.](#)



**Are you a math person or a reading person? Do you have to be one or the other?** Postdoctoral researcher Sirui Wan shares why students' perception of themselves as either a "math person" or a "language person" can have a dark side.

"Students might disengage from subjects that they perceive as their relative weaknesses even when they are actually good at these subjects relative to other students. In other words, the misconception found in our study can lead some students to miss out on educational opportunities." [Read more.](#)



Summer may be over, but students aren't likely to soon forget the experience and skills gained during their summer internships.

From legal studies to counseling, our students shared their experiences with summer internships in an [Instagram series](#).

If you're a student considering an internship, [let us know](#) **what kind of opportunities you'd like to pursue**. And if you're **an alum with connections to available internships**, we'd love to share your opportunities with our students ([just let us know](#)).



For nearly a year, Alma Schneider '90 has been sharing her professional experience as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and personal experience as a mother of a child with disabilities through her podcast, "[2 Moms No Fluff](#)."

Schneider and her co-host use this space to **"discuss the uncensored and often irreverent reality about raising children with disabilities."** Says Schneider, "I want families to feel less isolated and more supported and empowered to become advocates for their children." [Read more.](#)





She may live near Milwaukee, but Dr. Andrea Konz '82 is no stranger to the UW–Madison campus. Between **teaching psychology classes as an adjunct faculty member and dropping off snacks for the UW marching band** (her son Aaron plays trumpet), Andrea has a deep devotion to her alma mater, one that continues to deepen as she steps into the role as Chair of the Department of Psychology's Board of Visitors.

[Read about Andrea and our other new Board members here.](#)



With **more than 1,700 majors**, the Department of Psychology prepares students for a multitude of career options by providing rigorous training in critical thinking, expert instruction in statistics, and a deep understanding of behavior and psychological processes.

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1202 West Johnson Street, Madison, WI 53706-1611

[communications@psych.wisc.edu](mailto:communications@psych.wisc.edu)