Bill Gehring

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Cognitive scientist and educator with 30+ years fostering academic success for diverse learners. Extensive experience in academic innovation, student mentoring, and evidence-based learning strategies. Technological expertise in generative AI and learning analytics. Academic CV available at https://billgehring.com.

EXPERIENCE

Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus | University of Michigan   2023-present

Educator and Independent Consultant

- Teach online course "Introduction to Cognitive Psychology" for University of Michigan with enrollments of 30–330.
- Develop generative AI tools providing interactive spoken and text tutoring for students
- Conduct quantitative educational research
- Mentor junior academics and evaluate candidates for tenure and promotion
- Review manuscripts for cognitive neuroscience and developmental science journals

Professor of Psychology | University of Michigan   1994-2022

Undergraduate Teaching and Student Success

- **Designed and taught "Cognitive Science of Academic Success"** – evidence-based first-year seminar focusing on academic strategies, purpose, and well-being (5.0/5.0 instructor rating)
- **Served diverse learners**: Reserved 50% enrollment for students in Comprehensive Studies Program (CSP), Michigan's premier program supporting students from historically underserved communities
- **Summer Bridge instruction**: Taught in CSP Summer Bridge Program and presented for Ross Business School Preparation Initiative Boot Camp
- Developed and taught large-enrollment course, "Introduction to Cognitive Psychology" (300–450 students, 4.9/5.0 instructor rating)
- **Won highest university teaching award**, the Thurnau Professorship, and mentored 25+ graduate teaching assistants
- Presented 25+ invited talks on undergraduate academic success to professionals, faculty, students, parents, high school students
- Advised undergraduates in Brain, Behavior, and Cognitive Science major
- Co-taught departmental training course for graduate student instructors

Higher Education Research and Curriculum Development

- **Conducted learning analytics research** using large University of Michigan institutional data warehouse spanning 25 years

- **Led curriculum reform initiatives**: Analyzed Psychology Department 10-year student data and recommended policy improvements to increase student success
- **Chaired high-profile university committees**: Led provost's advisory committee for hiring director of Michigan's renowned Center for Research on Learning and Teaching
- **Advanced inclusive education**: Contributed to CSP Futures Task Force charged with re-envisioning programs for underrepresented students
- **Participated in campus-wide initiatives**: Served on advisory committees for engaged education, digital innovation, and learning analytics
- Used regression discontinuity analysis to evaluate math placement systems and identify changes to increase gender diversity in STEM

Research and Laboratory Leadership

- Directed cognitive neuroscience research laboratory with 10+ team members
- **Co-discovered Error-Related Negativity (ERN)** – landmark finding in cognitive neuroscience with 16,000+ citations
- Published 70+ research articles and secured multiple federal grants in pediatric psychiatry and educational developmental neuroscience
- Supervised 150+ undergraduate research assistants
- Chaired Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience Area (division of 15 faculty)

Postdoctoral Fellow | UC Davis Center for Neuroscience   1992-1994
- Conducted research on the ERN in individuals with brain injuries

SKILLS

Student Support & Program Development: Teaching and advising college students on using artificial intelligence and cognitive science for academic success • Evaluating curricula and programs using learning analytics and institutional • Individualized student coaching • Summer bridge and transition curriculum development

Research & Analysis: Quantitative educational research and institutional data analysis • Statistical analysis and data visualization in R • Experimental design • Learning Analytics • Grant writing and federal proposal development

Technology & Innovation: Generative AI application development in Python • Pedagogical uses of generative AI • Educational technology integration • Digital learning tools and platforms

Communication & Leadership: Public speaking and keynote presentations • Faculty development, mentorship, and training • Cross-campus collaboration and committee leadership • Manuscript writing and peer review

EDUCATION

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign – Ph.D., Cognitive and Experimental Psychology
Augustana College – A.B., Psychology, *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa