

Dr. John Heath

EDUCATION



2008 Auburn University	Ph.D. Experimental Psychology (behavioral toxicology). Minor, Human Development.
2005 Auburn University	M.S. Experimental Psychology
2001 Utah State University	B.S. Psychology. Minor, Family and Human Development

POSITION

Associate Professor of Public Health,

Department of Public Health.
College of Veterinary Medicine
Tuskegee University

Adjunct Associate Professor of Psychology.

Department of Psychology and Sociology
College of Arts and Sciences
Tuskegee University

TEACHING COURSES

Biomedical Statistics.
Proposal, Writing and Grant Management
Applied Behavior Analysis

Psychosocial Determinants of Public Health
Graduate Seminar.
Senior Seminar (Psychology)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

I have been involved in research for many years bridging psychological concepts of behavior to taxonomic and thematic relational responding, aggression, domestic violence, but particularly environmental insult. One of my major areas of research is the effects of chronic exposure to inorganic and organic mercury, on the fertility rates of males and females, the effects during pubescent development and the motor and cognitive deficits that can occur in the adult and the offspring. Part of this research is looking at the ameliorating effects of a Selenium enhanced diet on mercury toxicity. I have developed an operant conditioning procedure for testing the visual system in rodents. This allows us to follow the progression of certain visual functions over the lifetime of the animal without introducing any possible contravening variables. I have also been researching Environmental injustice in minority communities. We are looking into the effects of possible pollution from a local landfill on a minority population.

STUDENTS

I regularly work with graduate students as their major professor or as member of a thesis or dissertation committee. I also mentor students and help in areas where they may be having difficulties. I have a philosophy that says most people are able to achieve at the level they choose. However, none of us are superwomen or supermen and at times need help and assistance. Being able to recognize when we need that assistance and being able to ask for it is not a weakness but an admirable strength.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Mhalhal, T. R., Washington, Newman, K., J., Heath, J. C., & Sayegh, A. I. (2017). Infusion of exogenous cholecystokinin-8, gastrin releasing peptide-29 and their combination reduce body weight in diet-induced obese male rats. *Appetite* 109 172-181. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.appet.2016.12.001>
2. Washington, M. C., Mhalhal, T. R., Johnson-Rouse, T., Berger, J., Heath, J. C., Seeley, R., & Sayegh, A. I. (2016). Roux-en-Y gastric bypass augments the feeding responses evoked by gastrin-releasing peptides. *Journal of Surgical Research*, 206, (2), 517–524.
3. Williams, K. E., Washington M. C., Johnson-Rouse, T., Johnson, R. E., Freeman, C., Reed, C., Heath, J. C., & Sayegh, A. (2016). Exogenous glucagon-like peptide-1 acts in sites supplied by the cranial mesenteric artery to reduce meal size and prolong the intermeal interval in rats, *Appetite* 96, 254-9. doi: 10.1016/j.appet.2015.09.030.
4. Oh, O., Lee, Y., Heath, J. C., Kim, M. (2015). Applications of animal biosensors: A review. *IEEE Sensors* 15 (2) 637 - 645 doi:10.1109/JSEN.2014.2358261
5. Newland, M. C., Hoffman, D., Heath, J. C., Donlin, W. D. (2013). Response inhibition is impaired by developmental methylmercury exposure: Acquisition of low-rate lever- pressing. *Behavioural Brain Research* 253, 196-205. [http:// dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.bbr.2013.05.038](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.bbr.2013.05.038)
6. Heath, J. C., Braden, T. D., Abdelmageed, Y., & Goyal H. O. (2012). The effects of chronic ingestion of mercuric chloride on fertility and testosterone levels in male Sprague Dawley rats *Journal of Biomedicine and Biotechnology*, Published online 2012 July 4. doi: 10.1155/2012/815186

7. Robinson, V., Johnson, J.A., Davis, C. & Heath, J.C. (2011). Homeless shelters in Alabama: A study of women's health services. National Technology and Social Science Conference Proceedings, 48, 208-218.
8. Heath, J. C., Abdelmageed, Y., Braden, T. D., Williams, C. S., Williams, J. W., Paulose, T., Hernandez-Ochoa, I., Gupta, R., Flaws, J. A., Goyal H. O. (2011). Genetically Induced Estrogen Receptor α mRNA (Esr1) Overexpression Does Not Adversely Affect Fertility or Penile Development in Male Mice. Journal of Andrology, 32 (3) 282-294.
9. Heath, J. C., Banner, K. M., Reed, M. N., Pesek, E. F., Cole, N., Li, J., Newland, M. C. (2010). Dietary selenium protects against selected signs of aging and Methylmercury exposure. Neurotoxicology, 31 (2) 169 -179.
10. Heath, J.C., Jackson, C.A., Yamani, N. M., Aaron, A., Cruz, S., Owen, M., Stobaeus (2010). Effects of methylmercury pubescent exposure on the brain and reproductive system. The Toxicologist 114(1) 180.
11. Heath, J. C., Abdelmajeed, Y., Braden, T. D., Nichols., A. C., Steffy, D. A. (2009). The effects of chronic mercuric chloride ingestion in female Sprague Dawley rats on fertility and reproduction. Food and Chemical Toxicology, 47(7) 1600-1605.
12. Heath, J. C., Abdelmajeed, Y., Nichols., A. C., Steffy, D. A., Braden, T. D., and Goyal, H.O. (2008). The Comparative effects of chronic ingestion of mercuric chloride on fertility on male and female Sprague Dawley rats. Birth Defects Research Part A. 82(5),385.
13. Topp, W., Thomas, N., & Heath, J. C. (2008). Dosing protocols and variables affecting the amount of methylmercury ingested during puberty in a fertility study on female rats. Birth Defects Research Part A. 82(5),375.
14. Heath, J. C., Abdelmajeed, and Goyal, H.O. (2007). The effects of chronic ingestion of mercuric chloride on the fertility rates of female rats. Birth Defects Research Part A. 79(5),416
15. Ascione, F. R., Weber, C. V., Thompson, T., Heath, J. C., Maruyama, M., and Hayashi, K. (2007). Battered pets and domestic violence: Animal abuse reported by women experiencing intimate violence and by non-abused women. Violence against Women. 13(4), 354 - 373.

16. Heath, J. C., Pesek, E., Newland, M. C. (2007). Selenium protection against methylmercury: Chronic exposure to MeHg while on a high or low selenium diet to test the hypothesis that selenium blocks MeHg toxicity. *The Toxicologist*. 96(1), 22.
17. Newland, M. C., Heath, J. C., Donlin, W. D. (2007) Low rate challenges in rats exposed experimentally to methylmercury and selenium. *The Toxicologist*.96(1). 22.
18. Osborne, J. G; Heath, J.C. (2003). Predicting Taxonomic and Thematic Relational Responding. *Analysis of Verbal Behavior*.19, 55-89.
19. Ascione, F. R., Friedrich, W. N., Heath, J. C., Hayashi, K. (2003) Cruelty to animals in normative, sexually abused, and outpatient psychiatric samples of 6 to 12 year old children: Relationship to Maltreatment and exposure to domestic violence. *Anthrozoos*. 16(3), 194-212.
20. Heath, J. C. (2005). A Behavioral Procedure For Measuring Critical Fusion Frequency in Rats. Masters Thesis, Auburn University, Auburn, AL