

CURRICULUM VITAE

Emilia Pekarek (M.Sc.)

Doctoral Student at the Chair for Experimental Psychology, Motivation, and Affective Neuroscience

<https://www.psych2.phil.uni-erlangen.de/%7Eoschult/humanlab/index.htm>

Department of Psychology and Sport Sciences

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CONTACT DETAILS

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ACADEMIC

Doctoral Student in Psychology since July, 2024
Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg

Master of Science in Psychology with specialization in Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy 2019 – 2022
Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg

Bachelor of Science in Psychology 2015 – 2019
Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- steroid hormones and their associations with emotional regulation, motivation, and behavior (specifically affiliation, power, and sexual motivation)
- psychophysiological measurements in motivation science (eye-tracking and electromyographic methods)
- multilevel modeling analyses in a longitudinal context

WORK

Research Associate at the Human Motivation and Affective Neuroscience Lab (HuMAN LAB) since October, 2022
Supervision: Prof. Dr. Oliver Schultheiss

Collaboration for data analysis and Picture Story Exercise coding with the University of Zurich (Partnerschaft und Stress: Entwicklung im Zeitverlauf, PASEZ) 2023 – 2025
Supervision: Prof. Dr. Veronika Brandstätter-Morawietz

Student Research Assistant at the Chair of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy (FAU) 2017 – 2022
Supervisions in chronological order: Karina Bernstein (M. Sc.), Dr. Claudia Buntrock, Dr. Anna-Carlotta Zarski, Christina Schulte (M. Sc.)

PUBLISHED RESEARCH

Pekarek, E., Hinzmann, J., Göbel, K., & Schultheiss, O. C. (2025). Motives and gonadal steroid hormones across the menstrual cycle: A longitudinal replication study. *Motivation Science*, 11(4), 485–501.
<https://doi.org/10.1037/mot0000395>

Schultheiss, O. C., Compensis, P., Haffki, M., Janson, K. T., **Pekarek, E.**, Picard, N., (in press). Motives. In: *Handbook of Personality Processes: Momentary, Daily, Developmental, and Generational Perspectives*. Pringle, T. A., Wilkowski, B. M., Robinson, M. (Eds.)

Bernstein, K., Zarski, A. C., **Pekarek, E.**, Schaub, M. P., Berking, M., Baumeister, H., & Ebert, D. D. (2023). Case report for an internet-and mobile-based intervention for internet use disorder. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 14, 700520. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2023.700520>

RESEARCH IN PREPARATION

Pekarek, E., Göbel, K., Zygar-Hoffmann, C., Hinzmann, J., & Schultheiss, O. C. (submitted). (I Can't Get No) Satisfaction: Sexual Motivation, Sexual Activity, and Emotional Well-Being in a Longitudinal Three-Level-Model. (https://osf.io/egwxc/overview?view_only=78bbcf9789f94a5fac215b3317899197)

Pekarek, E., Schäfer, J.K., Schultheiss, O.C., Schönbrodt, F., Bernecker K., & Brandstätter, V. (in preparation). The Motives, They Are a-Changing: Sum Score Stability And Ipsative Profile Analyses Across Ten Years. (https://osf.io/3zudr/overview?view_only=43fec160af3c4a22ae7045767a1a73f4)

Pekarek, E., Janson, K., Haffki, M., Hinzmann, J., & Schultheiss, O. C. (in preparation). Sexual Motivation and Attentional Orienting Bias Towards Erotic Cues. (<https://aspredicted.org/5x2hw.pdf>)

Pekarek, E., Picard, N., Hinzmann, J., & Schultheiss, O. C. (in preparation). Sexual Motivation and Gonadal Steroids Across The Menstrual Cycle (<https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/DWVXN>)

SUPPORTING ROLE IN

Saruhanjan, K., Zarski, A. C., Schaub, M. P., & Ebert, D. D. (2020). Design of a Guided Internet-and Mobile-Based Intervention for Internet Use Disorder—Study Protocol for a Two-Armed Randomized Controlled Trial. *Frontiers in psychiatry*, 11, 190.

SCHOLARSHIPS /GRANTS

Fulbright Scholarship for Doctoral Students, 2025–2026 4-month Research Internship and Training at the Casto Lab (supervised by Dr. Kathleen Casto) Kent State University, Kent	2026
Erasmus+ staff mobility program 4-week Research internship at the Academic Research Center for Autism (ARCA) (supervised by Prof. Dr. Daniela Ostatníková) Comenius University, Bratislava	2024

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation at the Department Colloquium of the Department for Psychological Sciences at Kent State University, Kent, Ohio Pekarek, E. (2026, May). My Fulbright Experience & Some Exploratory Analyses: The Prefrontal Cortex, Progesterone and Cortisol During a Public Speaking Task	2026
Poster Presentation at the Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, Illinois Pekarek, E. (2026, April). Good Vibrations: Sexual Motivation, Sexual Activity and Emotional Well-Being	2026
Presentation at the 44th Colloquium on Motivational Psychology, Vienna, Austria Pekarek, E. (2025, October). The Motives, They Are a-Changing: Sum Score Stability And Ipsative Profile Analyses Across Ten Years.	2025

Presentation at the Department Colloquium of the Department of Psychology at the University of Zurich, Switzerland	2025
Pekarek, E. (2025, June). (I Can't Get No) Satisfaction: Sexual Motivation, Sexual Activity, and Emotional Well-Being.	
Poster Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Science of Motivation, Washington DC., USA	2025
Pekarek, E. (2025, May). Sex = Happiness? A Longitudinal Analysis of Sexual Motivation, Sexual Activity, and Well-Being.	
Presentation at the 43rd Colloquium on Motivational Psychology, Munich, Germany	2024
Pekarek, E. & Janson, K.T. (2024, October). Sexual Motivation and Attentional Orienting Bias Towards Erotic Cues.	
Presentation at the Academic Research Center for Autism (ARCA) of the Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia	2024
Pekarek, E. (2024, February). Motives and Gonadal Steroids: A Longitudinal Study.	

TEACHING

Praktikum zur Experimentalforschung inkl. Computergestützter Datenanalyse	Since 2022, every winter term
Practical course on experimental research incl. computer-assisted data analysis (Teaching evaluation: https://www.psych2.phil.uni-erlangen.de/studium/lehrevaluation.shtml)	
Praktikum zur Feldforschung inkl. Computergestützter Datenanalyse	Since 2023, every summer term
Practical course on field research incl. computer-assisted data analysis (Teaching evaluation: https://www.psych2.phil.uni-erlangen.de/studium/lehrevaluation.shtml)	

SKILLS

Statistical	R, JASP, SYSTAT, SPSS
Languages	German (native speaker), English (fluent, C1), French (B1)
Other	• Certified for university teaching of the Bavarian universities (basic level, training center for university teaching /Fortbildungszentrum für Hochschullehre) • Certified for content-coding of written material (Picture Story Exercise)