

Karen A. Kemtes

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Department of Psychology

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Professional Experience

- Fall 2001 to Present Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Fall 2001 to Present Associate
Center on Aging, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Fall 1998 to 2001 National Research Service Award (NRSA) Post-doctoral Fellow
Department of Psychology and Volen National Center for Complex Systems; Brandeis University
- 1994-1998 National Institute on Aging (NIA) Pre-doctoral Trainee, Communication and Aging
University of Kansas

Education

- 1998 Ph. D., University of Kansas, Experimental Psychology with a Quantitative Minor and Gerontology Concentration
Thesis: Decomposing adults' sentence comprehension: The roles of age, perceptual speed, working memory, and inhibitory control
Advisor: Susan Kemper, Ph.D.
- 1996 M. A., University of Kansas, Experimental Psychology
Thesis: Younger and older adults' processing of syntactically ambiguous sentences
Advisor: Susan Kemper, Ph.D.
- 1992 B. Sci. University of Arizona, Psychology honors
Thesis: The syntactic basis for children's knowledge of number words
Advisor: Paul Bloom, Ph.D.

Grant & Project Proposals (Funded and Submitted)

- 2004 National Science Foundation Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NSF - EPSCoR)
(funded) Faculty PI: **K. A. Kemtes**
University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Total cost: \$5,500
- Student PI: Joe Dzierzewski
Project: Older Adults' Memory Self-Efficacy and Health Information Recall
- 2004 Undergraduate Biomedical Science Research Fellowships (National Institutes of Health)
(funded) Faculty PI: **K. A. Kemtes**
University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Total cost: \$5,500

- Student PI: Zvinka Zlatar
Project: Health Information Recall in Bilingual Older Adults
- 2003
(submitted) Small Research Grant: *Enhancing retention of health information in older adulthood*.
PI: **K. A. Kemtes**
The Spencer Foundation. Total cost: \$35,000.
- 2003
(funded) New Investigator Award (NIA): *Improving comprehension of closed-captioned television in aging*.
PI: **K. A. Kemtes**
University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Total cost: \$10,000 (funded at \$5,400).
- 2003
(funded) Student-Centered Project: Cognition in Aging Training for Southern Nevadans (CAT-SN).
Faculty PI: **K. A. Kemtes**
University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Total cost: \$5,000.
- 2003
(funded) Undergraduate Biomedical Science Research Fellowships (National Institutes of Health)
Faculty PI: **K. A. Kemtes**
University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Total cost: \$44,000 (funded at \$22,000)
Student PI: Cynthia Pace
Project: Cognitive neuropsychology and aging battery validation project.
- Student PI: Joe Dzierzewski
Project: Med-Minder: A device for remembering medication schedules.
- 2002
(funded) Stimulation, Implementation, Transition, and Enhancement (SITE) grant: *Enhancing retention of health information in older adulthood*.
PI: **K. A. Kemtes**
University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Total cost: \$4,600
- 2002
(funded) Center for Advanced Research (CFAR) grant: *Interactive health information kiosk for older adults*.
PI: **K. A. Kemtes**
University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Total cost: \$1,000.
- 2002
(funded) Graduate College Award (McNair): *Health information comprehension in aging*.
PI: **K. A. Kemtes**
University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Total cost: \$500.
- 2002
(funded) UNLV Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach (CAEO) Award (McNair): *Health information comprehension in aging*.
PI: **K. A. Kemtes**
University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Total cost: \$500.
- 2002
(Summer)
(funded) Graduate College Award: *Psychology department web site graduate recruitment project*.
K. A. Kemtes
University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Total cost: \$750.
- 1998-2001
(funded) NRSA Post-doctoral Fellowship: *Age and working memory in auditory and visual sentence processing*.
PI: **K. A. Kemtes**
National Institute on Aging F32 AG05828. Department of Psychology and Volen National Center for Complex Systems; Brandeis University. Total direct cost: \$94,236.

Publications: Published or In-Press

- Dede, G., Caplan, D., **Kemtes, K. A.**, & Water, G. (in press). The relationship between age, verbal working memory, and language comprehension.
- Kemper, S. & **Kemtes, K. A.** (forthcoming). Aging and message production and comprehension. In D. Park & N. Schwarz (Eds.), *Cognitive Aging: A Primer*, 2nd ed. Philadelphia: Psychology Press.
- Waters, G., Caplan, D., Dede, G., & **Kemtes, K.** (forthcoming). Variation due to normal aging, disease, and brain injury. In A. Conway, C. Jarrold, M. Kane, A. Miyake, J. Towse (Eds.). *Variation in working memory*. Cary, NC: Oxford University Press.
- Kemper, S., Crow, A., & **Kemtes, K.** (2004). Eye fixation patterns of high and low span young and older adults: Down the garden path and back again. *Psychology and Aging*, 19, 157-170.
- Kemtes, K. A.**, Smith, K., Donohue, B., Alvarez, K. M., Carpin, K. M., & Sinchak, J. (2003). A systematic approach to conducting education literature searches. *Journal of Continuing Higher Education*, 51, 26-32.
- Kemtes, K. A.** & Kemper, S. (2001). Cognitive construct measurement in small samples of younger and older adults: An example of verbal working memory. *Experimental Aging Research*, 27, 167-180.
- Wingfield, A., **Kemtes, K. A.**, & Miller, L. S. (2001). Adult aging and listening patterns for spoken prose: Spontaneous segmentation versus self-paced listening. *Experimental Aging Research*, 27, 229-239.
- Kemper, S. & **Kemtes, K. A.** (2000). Aging and message production and comprehension. In D. Park & N. Schwarz (Eds.), *Cognitive Aging: A Primer* (pp. 197-213). Philadelphia: Psychology Press.
- Kemtes, K. A.** & Kemper, S. (1999). Aging and resolution of quantifier scope effects. *Journals of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*, 54B, P350-360.
- Kemper, S. & **Kemtes, K. A.** (1999). Searching for working memory limitations on syntactic processing. In S. Kemper & R. Kliegl (Eds.), *Constraints on Language: Aging, Memory, and Grammar* (pp. 79-106). Boston: Kluwer Academic Publishers.
- Kemper, S. & **Kemtes, K. A.** (1999). The age-invariance of working memory measures and non-invariance of producing complex syntax. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 22, 102-103.
- Kemper, S. & **Kemtes, K. A.** (1999). Aging and message production and comprehension. In N. Schwarz, D. Park, B. Knäuper, & S. Sudman (Eds.), *Cognition, Aging, and Self-Reports* (pp. 229-244). Philadelphia: Taylor & Francis.
- Vandeputte, D. D., Kemper, S., Hummert, M. L., **Kemtes, K. A.**, Shaner, J. & Segrin, C. (1999). Social skills of older people: Conversations in same and mixed age dyads. *Discourse Processes*, 27, 55-76.
- Kemtes, K. A.** & Kemper, S. (1997). Younger and older adults' on-line processing of syntactically ambiguous sentences. *Psychology and Aging*, 12, 362-371.

Publications: Submitted or Under Review

- Kemtes, K. A.** (under review). Self-paced reading and listening compared.
- Kemtes, K. A.**, & Wingfield, A. (under review). Presentation modality influences WAIS digit span performance in younger and older adults.
- Herman, R. E., **Kemtes, K. A.**, & Kemper, S. (submitted). Proper name retrieval problems influence age-related changes in pronoun referencing.
- Kemtes, K. A.** (submitted). Self-reported cognitive interference during text processing in younger and older adults.

Refereed Presentations

- Kemtes, K. A.** (November, 2004). Sentence Processing. Symposium to-be-chaired at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Minneapolis, MN.
- Kemtes, K. A.,** Farmer, T. A., Christiansen, M. (November, 2004). Discourse Context Helps Young and Older Readers Avoid the Garden Path. To-be-presented at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Minneapolis, MN.
- Kemtes, K.A.** (April 2004). When $1 + 1 < 2$ in younger and older adults' sentence comprehension. Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Kemtes, K.A.** (April 2004). Audio, visual, and audio-visual verbal working memory in aging. Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Dzierzewski, J., & **Kemtes, K.A.** (March, 2004). Self-report cognitive workload and objective memory performance in younger and older adults. Western Psychological Association, Scottsdale, AZ.
- Carlson, S. & **Kemtes, K. A.** (March, 2004). Fluency of complex sentence recall in younger and older adults. Western Psychological Association, Scottsdale, AZ.
- Dietz, S., & **Kemtes, K. A.** (March, 2004). Age and modality effects in the measurement of verbal working memory. Western Psychological Association, Scottsdale, AZ.
- De Lisle, J., & **Kemtes, K. A.** (March, 2004). Younger and older adults' allocation and reallocation of processing resources during visual sentence comprehension. Western Psychological Association, Scottsdale, AZ.
- Kemtes, K. A.,** & Lolofie, J. (November, 2003). Comprehending closed-caption television in aging. Presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Diego, CA.
- Kemtes, K. A.,** & Douglas, E. (November, 2003). Audio-visual presentation improves health information comprehension in older adults. Presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Diego, CA.
- Waters, G., Caplan, D., Dede, G., & **Kemtes, K.** (2003). Variation in working memory due to normal aging, disease, and brain injury. Presented at the Variation in Working Memory Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Kemtes, K. A.** (November, 2002). The influence of input modality on younger and older adults' memory span. Annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Kansas City, KS.
- Kemper, S. & **Kemtes, K. A.** (November, 2002). Down the Garden Path and Back Again: The effects of age and working memory on eye fixations while reading garden path sentences. Annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Kansas City, KS.
- Kemtes, K.A.** (April, 2002). Intra- and extra-sentence measurement of younger and older adults' language comprehension. Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Little, D.M., Tun, P.A., **Kemtes, K.A.,** & Wingfield, A. (April, 2002). Effects of age and semantic relatedness of distracting material on reading text and listening to speech. Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Farmer, T., **Kemtes, K.,** Rogers, S. and West, R.F. (March, 2002). Context Interacts with Working Memory Capability in Syntactic Ambiguity Resolution. Annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, New York, NY.
- Kemtes, K. A.** (2001). The Allocation and Reallocation of Processing Resources During Online Auditory and Visual Sentence Comprehension. Annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Orlando, FL.
- Kemtes, K. A.** (November, 2000). When, where, and how do working memory limitations influence sentence comprehension? Presented at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New Orleans, LA.
- Kemtes, K. A.** (April, 2000). Does working memory work in auditory and visual sentence comprehension? Presented at the 8th Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Kemtes, K. A.,** Wingfield, A. , & Caplan, D. (November, 1999). Comparative effects of presentation modality, age, and working memory in sentence comprehension. Presented at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Los Angeles, CA.

- Waters, G., Caplan, D., Dede, G., & **Kemtes, K. A.** (November, 1999). Operation span and language processing in young and elderly subjects. Presented at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Los Angeles, CA.
- Kemtes, K. A.** (October, 1999). Resource allocation during auditory and visual sentence processing in younger and older adults. Presented to the Cognitive Neuroscience Research Forum, Boston, MA.
- Kemtes, K. A.** & Kemper, S. (August, 1998). IRT Differential item functioning in older versus younger adults. Presented at the symposium: Quantitative Applications to Developmental Issues at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Kemtes, K. A.** & Kemper, S. K. (April, 1998). Individual differences in younger and older adults' processing speed, working memory, and inhibition and their relation to off-line and on-line comprehension of syntactically complex sentences. Presented at the 7th Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Kemtes, K. A.** (March, 1998). Discussant for talk: PET studies of syntactic processing (presented by D. Caplan) at the conference on Constraints on Language: Aging, Memory, and Grammar, Sedona, AZ.
- Kemtes, K. A.** & Kemper, S. (November, 1997). Experimental assessments of younger and older adults' sentence processing: A contrast between off-line and on-line methodology. Presented in the symposium, Research methods in studies of communication and normal aging: From word to discourse at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Cincinnati, OH.
- Kemtes, K. A.** & Kemper, S. K. (November, 1997). Adult age similarities in on-line comprehension of quantifier-scope ambiguities. Presented at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Philadelphia, PA.
- Kemtes, K. A.**, Herman, R. E., Kemper, S., & Embretson, S. (August, 1997). Structural models of working memory for younger and older adults. Presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Herman, R., **Kemtes, K. A.**, & Kemper, S. (March, 1997). Pronoun processing in younger and older adults: An examination of on-line information activation. Presented at the 10th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Santa Monica, CA.
- Kemtes, K. A.** & Kemper, S. (March, 1997). Constraints on adults' processing of embedded wh-questions. Presented at the 10th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Santa Monica, CA.
- Kemtes, K. A.** & Kemper, S. (November, 1996). Younger and older adults' on-line processing of Wh-questions. Presented at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Chicago, IL.
- Kemtes, K. A.** & Kemper, S. (April, 1996). Younger and older adults' working memory capacity and on-line processing of syntactically ambiguous sentences. Presented at the 6th Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Vandeputte, D., Kemper, S., & **Kemtes, K. A.** (November, 1995). Affect in intergenerational dyadic conversations. Presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Los Angeles, CA.
- Bloom, P., Wynn, K. & **Kemtes, K.** (October, 1992). Syntactic cues in the acquisition of number words. Presented at the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA.

Presentations (Invited)

- Kemtes, K. A.** (November, 2003). Getting information into and out of memory: Practical applications of current research. Colloquium presented to Senior Friends at Sunrise Hospital.
- Kemtes, K. A.** (Spring, 2002). Graduate education in applied experimental psychology. Presented to Psi Chi, University of Nevada, Las Vegas.
- Kemtes, K. A.** (September, 2000). Getting the information and keeping it: Idea Association Techniques and Mnemonic devices. Workshop presented to the Brandeis Adult Learning Institute.
- Kemtes, K. A.** (May, 2000). The role of working memory in younger and older adults' visual and auditory complex sentence comprehension. Presented to the Neurology Colloquium, Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston, MA.
- Kemtes, K. A.** (May, 1999). Off-and on-line sentence-level comprehension: Effects of ambiguity, processing resources,

and age. Presented to the Harold Goodglass Aphasia Research Center Colloquium, Boston, MA.

Kemtes, K. A., Invited Junior Scientist. (May, 1999). Aging, Communication, and Technology conference, sponsored by the German-American Academic Council, the National Institute on Aging, and the Fraunhofer Institute for Biotechnology, Ann Arbor, MI.

Professional Memberships & Professional Activities

May 2003	Gerontological Society of America 56th Annual Conference, Behavioral and Social Sciences Program Committee
1998 to Present	Associate Member, Psychonomic Society
1996 to Present	Member, American Psychological Association (incl. Divisions 5 & 20)
1996 to Present	Member, Gerontological Society of America (incl. Special Interest Group on Communication and Aging)

Ad Hoc Reviewer:

2003 to Present *Experimental Aging Research*
2002 to Present *Applied Psycholinguistic Research*
2001 to Present *Journals of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*
2000 to Present *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*
2000 to Present *Language and Cognitive Processes*
1999 to Present *Psychology and Aging*

Research Interests

Written and Spoken Language Comprehension in Aging: examining the role of working memory in older adults' comprehension of written and spoken language; applying this knowledge to improving text comprehension

Individual Differences in Aging and Cognition: assessing individual differences in adult cognitive processes (particularly working memory) in both normal and cognitively-disordered populations

Quantitative Methods: quantitative analysis of behavior including issues of validity and reliability in cognitive construct measurement in small sample studies

Courses Taught

Cognitive Aging; Cognitive Psychology; Introductory Psychology; Psycholinguistics; Communication and Aging; Language, Memory, and Aging; Applied Cognition; Psychology of Learning

College & University Service

Fall 2004 to Present	UNLV Faculty Senate Program Review Committee
Fall 2004 to Present	UNLV Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee
Spring 2004 to Present	UNLV Publish and Flourish Writing Circle Team Leader
Fall 2003 to Present	UNLV Faculty Senate
April 15, 2003	Southern Nevada Regional Science and Engineering Fair (Science Fair Committee)
Fall 2002 to Present	UNLV Commencement Committee—Faculty Marshall
Summer 2002	UNLV McNair Scholar Mentor (Student: Eric Talbert)
Spring 2002 to Present	UNLV Speaker Bureau
Fall 2001 to Present	UNLV Center on Aging Affiliate

Department Service

Fall 2004 to Present	Cognitive Search Committee (member)
Spring 2004 to Present	Experimental Ph.D. Recruitment and Orientation Committees (co-chair)
Spring 2004 to Present	Experimental Ph.D. Cognitive Focus Committee (member)
Spring 2004	Alumni Scholarship Decision Committee (Co-chair)
Fall 2003 to Present	Developed Psychology Department Experimental Ph.D. Program Student Survey Committee (Chair)
Fall 2003 to Present	Psychology Department Clinical & Experimental Graduate Course Planning Committee
Fall 2003 to Present	Neuropsychology-Gerontology Concentration Development Committee
Fall 2003	Experimental Track Third Year Paper Guidelines Committee (Chair)
Spring 2003 to Present	Psychology Department Faculty Workload Committee
Fall 2002 to Summer 2003	Society for Music Perception Conference Committee Member (website development and maintenance)
Fall 2002 to Present	Psychology Department Experimental Ph.D. Admissions Committee
Summer 2002 to Present	Psychology Department Website Coordinator
Fall 2001	Psychology Department Course Catalog Committee
Fall 2001 to Present	Psychology Department Course Equivalency Reviewer

Professional Development

Fall 2003	UNLV Teaching and Learning Center Teaching Portfolio Workshop
Winter 2004	UNLV Teaching and Learning Center Publish and Flourish Workshop

Thesis and Dissertation Committees

Corinne Townsend (Experimental Psychology, UNLV)–Thesis/Dissertation chair (Ph.D. Expected 2008)
Janice McMurray (Experimental Psychology, UNLV)–Thesis/Dissertation chair (Ph.D. Expected 2007)
Paul Schroeder (Experimental Psychology, UNLV)–Thesis/Dissertation chair (Ph.D. Expected 2007)
Earl Douglas (Educational Psychology, UNLV)—Dissertation co-chair (Ph.D. Expected 2005)
Melissa Griffith (Experimental Psychology, UNLV)–Thesis committee member (Ph.D. Expected 2007)
 Perceptual Magnet Effect
Greg Strauss (Clinical Psychology, UNLV)–Thesis committee member (Ph.D. Expected 2006)
 M.A. (2004). Attention and memory bias for positive emotional words
Jennifer Eno-Louden (Clinical Psychology, UNLV)–Thesis committee member (Ph.D. Expected 2006)
Samantha French (Clinical Psychology, UNLV)–Thesis committee member (Ph.D. Expected 2006)
Brain Leaney (Experimental Psychology, UNLV)–Thesis committee member (Ph.D. Expected 2006)
Jane Karwoski (Experimental Psychology, UNLV)–Thesis committee member (Ph.D. Expected 2005)
Michele Sheremeta (Experimental Psychology, UNLV)–Dissertation committee member (Ph.D. Expected 2005)
Thomas Farmer (James Madison University)–Thesis committee member (Ph.D. Expected 2007)

Undergraduate Independent Research Supervised

Fall 2004 to Present	Carol Randall
Fall 2004 to Present	Graciela Leon
Fall 2004 to Present	Getiara Allavi
Summer 2004 to Present	Shaيدا Jetha
Summer 2004 to Present	Michelle Reinheimer
Summer 2004 to Fall 2004	Kristin Hackney
Spring 2004 to Fall	Cyntia Guthy
Spring 2004 to Fall	Kira Campos
Winter 2003 to Present	Eric Woodard
Winter 2003 to Present	Zvinka Zlatař
Winter 2003 to Present	Jessica Mullen
Winter 2003 to Present	Denise Rounds
Fall 2003 to Summer 2004	Shauna Clark
Fall 2003 to Present	Sonja Rucnov
Fall 2003 to Present	Michelle Crawford
Fall 2003 to Present	Jethro De Lisle
Fall 2003 to Present	Sonya Dietz
Summer 2003 to Present	Joe Dzierzewski
Spring 2003 to Present	Justin Lolfie
Spring 2003 to Present	Dortha Ingham
Spring 2003 to Present	Casper Sesto
Spring 2003 to Fall 2003	Ordene Edwards
Spring 2003	Greg Devore
Spring 2003	Krystin Davis
Fall 2002 to Present	Pam Timmons
Summer 2002 to Present	Cassandra Cicone
Summer 2002 to Fall 2002	Eric Talbert
Spring 2002 to Present	Sarah Carlson
Spring 2002 to Summer 2003	Sarah Hartig

Spring 2002 to Fall 2002	Laura Bowman-Walsh
Spring 2002	Dio Turner II
Spring 2002	Tim Gardner
Spring 2002 to Fall 2002	Elaine Itchon

Student Awards Received

Summer 2004	Joe Dzierzewski	National Science Foundation Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NSF - EPSCoR)
Summer 2004	Zvinka Zlatar	National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Biomedical Science Research Fellowship
Fall 2003	Cynthia Pace	National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Biomedical Science Research Fellowship
Fall 2003	Joe Dzierzewski	National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Biomedical Science Research Fellowship
Spring 2003	Sarah Carlson	UNLV Department of Psychology Undergraduate Research Award
Spring 2001	Thomas Farmer	Best Undergraduate Thesis, James Madison University