



SAFIYYAH NAWAZ

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EDUCATION

— PhD Psychology and Neuroscience | 2023 - 2026

Goldsmiths, University of London | Department of Psychology and Neuroscience

◆ Viva passed with no corrections

Dissertation title: New Approaches to Understanding the Role of Music in the Encoding and Retrieval of Episodic and Autobiographical Memories

— MSc Psychology of the Arts, Neuroaesthetics and Creativity | 2019 - 2020

Goldsmiths, University of London | Department of Psychology and Neuroscience

◆ Graduated with Distinction

Dissertation title: Characterising the influence of emotional music on episodic memory using a novel ecologically valid paradigm

— BA Chemistry | 2014 - 2018

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

◆ Graduated with Distinction

◆ Minors in Neuroscience, Biology

Dissertation title: Impulsivity and dopaminergic pathway connectivity

PUBLICATIONS

2025 Nawaz, S., & Omigie, D. (2025). Qualities of music-evoked autobiographical memories are associated with auditory features of the memory-evoking music. Plos one, 20(8), e0329072. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0329072>

◆ Selected for PLOS One press release, generating international media coverage across 18 outlets, including Die Welt, Infobae, COSMOS Magazine, Neuroscience News and EurekAlert!

2024 Igdalova, A., Nawaz, S., & Chamberlain, R. (2024). A View Worth Talking About: The Influence of Social Interaction on Aesthetic Experience and Well-Being Outcomes in the Gallery. Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts. <https://doi.org/10.1037/aca0000546>

2023 Murphy, E., North, E., Nawaz, S., & Omigie, D. (2023). The influence of music liking on episodic memory for rich spatiotemporal contexts. Memory, 31(5), 589–604. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09658211.2022.2154367>

Nawaz, S., & Omigie, D. (2023). Investigating the interaction of pleasantness and arousal and the role of aesthetic emotions on episodic memory using a musical what-where-when paradigm. Cognition and Emotion, 37(2), 320–328. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02699931.2023.2185206>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2026** Nawaz, S., Omigie, D. (2026). Examining Music's Influence on the Encoding and Retrieval of Episodic Autobiographical Memories in Everyday Life. Poster presented at: *SEMPRE 2026 PGR/ECR Conference, Cambridge, UK*
- 2025** Nawaz, S. (2025). Memory Records: A musical memory archive fueled by computing, citizen science and global participation. Talk presented at: *Digital Music Research Network Workshop 2025, London, UK*
- Nawaz, S., Zhang, J., Gillies, M., Omigie, D. (2025). Examining the effects of music on episodic memory encoding using immersive virtual environments. Poster presented at: *Immersive virtual reality to understand human cognition, perception, and action workshop, Exeter, UK.*
- Nawaz, S. (2025). Memory Records: Designing a citizen science fuelled archive of musical memories. Talk presented at: *Music, Research and Activism II: Solidarities and Urgencies, Helsinki, Finland*
- 2024** Nawaz, S., Zhang, J., Gillies, M., Omigie, D. (2024). Examining the effects of music on episodic memory encoding using immersive virtual environments. Poster presented at: *British Association for Cognitive Neuroscience Conference, London, UK*
- Nawaz, S., Omigie, D. (2024). How musical features relate to music-evoked autobiographical memories. Talk presented at: *European Society for the Cognitive Sciences of Music Conference, York, UK*
- Nawaz, S., Omigie, D. (2024). How musical features relate to music-evoked autobiographical memories. Talk presented at: *Conference of the International Association for Empirical Aesthetics, Palma de Mallorca, Spain*
- 2021** Nawaz, S., Omigie, D. (2021). Characterising the influence of emotional music on episodic memory using a novel ecologically valid paradigm. Poster presented at: *Conference of the International Association for Empirical Aesthetics, virtual meeting.*
- 2018** Nawaz, S., Hall, S., Cohen, J. (2018). Impulsivity and dopaminergic pathway connectivity. Poster presented at: *Celebration of Undergraduate Research, Chapel Hill, NC, USA*

OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- **Member of Music, Mind and Brain group** | 2023 - 2026
- **Member of Social, Embodied and Empathic Virtual Reality group** | 2023 - 2026
- **Member of Science of the Creative and Performing Arts group** | 2023 - 2026
- **Student Organiser, 2026 Sempre PGR/ECR Conference** | 2026

— **Associate Lecturer | 2022 - 2026**
Goldsmiths, University of London Department of Psychology

— **Co-Supervision | 2020 - 2025**
Goldsmiths, University of London Department of Psychology
Co-supervision of dissertations for students in MSc Music Mind and Brain, MSc Psychology of the Arts, Neuroaesthetics and Creativity and MSc Computational and Cognitive Neuroscience

— **Student Representative | 2023 - 2025**
Goldsmiths, University of London Department of Psychology

AWARDS, HONOURS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2023 - 2026	Goldsmiths Departmental PhD Bursary Studentship (£77,400)
2024	Graduate School Grant (£600)
2023	Graduate School Grant (£600)
2024	Best Early Career Researcher Presentation Award, Goldsmiths Department of Psychology Research Day
2023	Dementia Wellness East London (formerly <i>Namaste</i>) Training
2023	Dementia & The Arts: Hope for Home Conference
2023	ANT Neuro Essex EEG Bootcamp: EEG for the Psychological sciences

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

— **Creator, Memory Records | 2024 - present**
Conception and development of citizen science project showcasing archive of music-evoked autobiographical memories

— **Lab Manager, Mastery listening event at Fabric London | 2026**
Preparation, oversight and participant experience for hyperscanning listening event with Creative Empirical

— **Panelist, Houghton Music Festival | 2024**
Panelist on 'Tune into the Impact Music Has on Your Brain, Body and Soul' talk with Reggie Watts, Nik Bartsch and Viviana Caro

— **Facilitator, Lost Village Music Festival | 2022**
Facilitating Deep Listening session hosted by Kinda Studios

RELEVANT EXPERTISE AND SKILLS

Programming & coding		R, Matlab, Python, Unix/Linux, Javascript
Toolboxes & libraries		spotifyR, EEGLab, FieldTrip, MIRTtoolbox, librosa, FSL, p5.js, three.js
Software & hardware		PsychoPy-Pavlovia, SPSS, fMRI, Unity, Qualtrics, Audacity, Samplify Research, ANT-Neuro Mobile EEG
Research & analysis methods		Mixed-effects modelling, Bayesian modelling, dimensionality reduction, functional connectivity, natural language processing, music information retrieval, virtual reality, experience sampling
Main research areas		Music psychology, neuroaesthetics, neuroscience, museum studies, citizen science
Design & creative skills		Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Canva, Ableton Live, RekordBox, Serato

