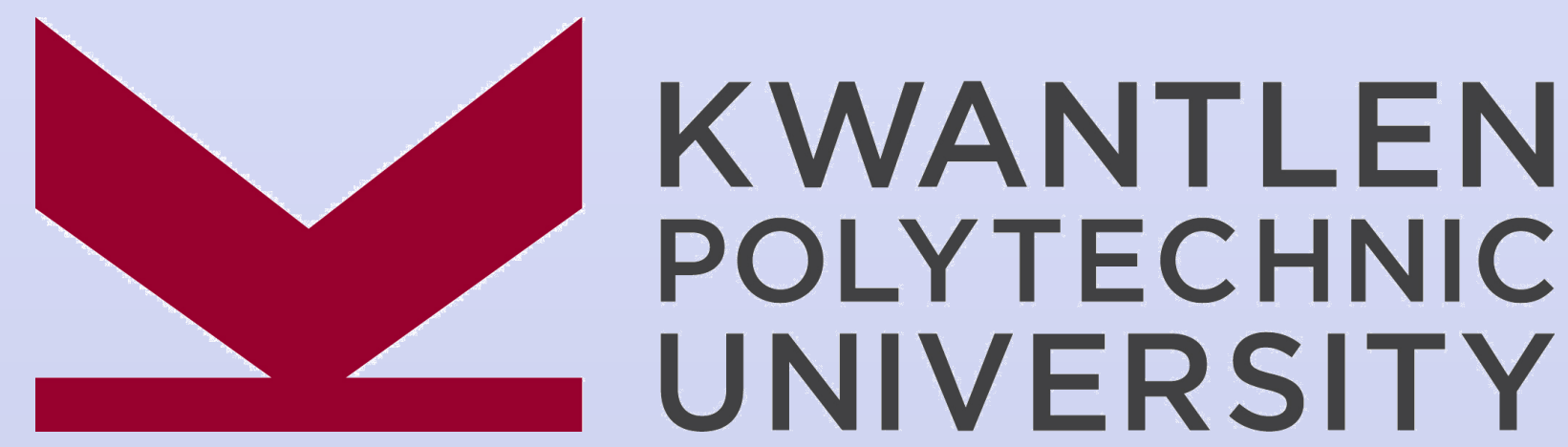


The Role of Individual Differences in Three False Memory Paradigms



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Introduction

Inconsistent role of individual differences in several false memory paradigms

See:

Geraerts et al. (2005); Hyman & Billings (1998); Loftus, Miller, & Burns (1978); Tomes & Katz (1997); Zhu et al. (2010)

Research Question

How do individual differences relate to false memories?

Method

N=151, 115 female, mean age: 21.3

Individual Difference Measures

Vividness of Mental Imagery Questionnaire (VVIQ)	Visual imagery ability
Creative Experiences Questionnaire (CEQ)	Fantasy proneness
Dissociative Experiences Scale (DES II)	Detachment from one's surroundings

False Memory Paradigms

Misinformation	Participants watched vignettes, then read false narrative about events, then tested on vignette
False Autobiographical Memory	Participants received strong false feedback suggesting they became sick from eating peach yogurt as a child
Deese/Roediger-McDermott (DRM) Paradigm	Participants heard 30 word-associate lists before recall and recognition test

Results

Dissociative symptoms correlated:

- ◆ Positively with misinformation false memory (Fig. 1)
- ◆ Negatively with misinformation correct identification (Fig. 2)
- ◆ Negatively with number of words correctly recall on the DRM (Fig. 2)
- ◆ Positively with number of non-list words recall on the DRM (Fig. 2)

Discussion

- ◆ Only one significant correlation between individual differences and false memory
- ◆ Dissociative symptoms related to general memory performance (Fig. 2)

Fig. 1 Correlation Matrix: False Memory

	VVIQ	CEQ	DES II
Misinformation: False Memory Item Identification	.049	.104	.330*
False Autobiographical Memory	-.156	.034	-.094
DRM Critical Words: Recall	.025	.055	.02
DRM Critical Words: Recognition	-.003	.145	.121

* p < 0.05

Fig. 2 Correlation Matrix: Memory Performance

	VVIQ	CEQ	DES II
Misinformation: Correct Item Identification	-.024	-.136	-.343*
Misinformation: Foil Item Identification	.113	.066	.154
DRM Non-List Words: Recall	.142	.087	.386*
DRM List Words: Recall	-.048	.03	-.257*
DRM: Non-List Words: Recognition	-.007	.006	.142
DRM: List Words: Recognition	-.055	.119	-.152

* p < 0.05

Conclusion

Limited support for individual differences in false memory

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