PHILIP G. FATOLITIS, Ph.D.

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Human Factors Scientist & Expert Witness | Forensic Human Performance | Premises, Transportation & Systems Safety

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Applied Experimental and Human Factors Psychology, University of Central Florida, 2008.
M.S., Data Analytics/Data Science, Western Governors University, 2024.
M.A., General/Experimental Psychology, University of West Florida, 2001.
B.A., Psychology, Magna Cum Laude, Chaminade University of Honolulu, 1996.

PROFILE

Ph.D. human factors scientist with forensic and expert-witness experience analyzing human perception, cognition, decision-making, and performance in safety-critical incidents. Has provided deposition testimony and expert-witness testimony in forensic human factors matters involving premises liability, transportation accidents, and systems design and usability, including workplace safety and industrial mishaps. Former Naval Aerospace Experimental Psychologist and Principal Investigator who contributed to DoD HFACS development as a voting member of the interservice DoD Human Factors Working Group (credited in a 2015 AFRL report). Currently employed by Lloyd's Register (remote, London-based).

CORE STRENGTHS

- **Expert testimony & forensic analysis:** Deposition testimony and expert-witness testimony in forensic human factors matters; incident analysis and litigation-support human factors investigations; clear, defensible technical writing.
- **Premises liability:** Human perception, visibility, and reaction times in slip-and-fall and trip-and-fall incidents; Certified XL Tribometrist (CXLT).
- **Transportation accidents:** Driver and pilot distraction, hazard-recognition delays, and human performance limits in motor vehicle, aviation, and maritime crashes; Traffic Crash Investigation I (Northwestern University Center for Public Safety, 2019).
- **Systems design, usability & safety culture:** How organizational safety culture, user-interface design, or equipment configuration contribute to catastrophic errors or industrial mishaps; HFACS human-error analysis; forensic evaluation of consumer products and medical and industrial incidents.
- **Research, methods & communication:** Ph.D. in Applied Experimental and Human Factors Psychology; funded Principal Investigator; university instructor in research methods, statistics, and human factors (Embry-Riddle, 2011 – 2021); journal editor.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Human Factors Consultant **– Present**
Lloyd's Register | Remote (London-based)
- Human factors work on offshore small modular reactors, ambient intelligence, and human-AI/autonomous systems.
- Corresponding author, OTC 2026 paper "Human Factors in Offshore Small Modular Reactors," addressing ambient intelligence, AI/ML, autonomous and remote operations, workload, situation awareness, and human-machine trust.

Human Factors Scientist / Consultant **Jan 2021 – May 2021**
J.S. Held LLC | Global consulting firm
- Joined J.S. Held following its January 2021 acquisition of Forensic Engineering Technologies.
- Applied human factors to forensic investigations covering liability, workplace safety, and transportation mishaps and accidents.
- Provided deposition testimony in forensic human factors matters and expert-witness testimony on premises liability (human perception, visibility, and reaction times in slip-and-fall and trip-and-fall incidents); transportation accidents (driver and pilot distraction, hazard-recognition delays, and human performance limits in motor vehicle, aviation, and maritime crashes); and systems design and usability (how organizational safety culture, user-interface design, or equipment configuration contribute to catastrophic errors or industrial mishaps).

Human Factors Scientist / Consultant **Jul 2019 – Jan 2021**
Forensic Engineering Technologies, LLC | Orlando, FL
- Applied human factors to the forensic evaluation of industrial and medical incidents, consumer products, aviation, maritime (including SCUBA), traffic accidents, and premises liability.
- Conducted human-centered systems investigation of systems design, usability, operator performance, and user research, and forensic investigation of mishaps with a focus on human performance, human error, systems design, and organizational safety culture.
- Completed Certified XL Tribometrist (CXLT) certification and Traffic Crash Investigation I at Northwestern University Center for Public Safety (2019).

Experimental Psychologist, Human Factors Engineer & Data Scientist (Consultant) **Aug 2015 – Present**
Independent consulting practice | Pensacola, FL

- Provides evidence-based consulting on human sensory, perceptual, and cognitive performance in high-risk environments, including medicine, aviation, ground transportation, military, process industry, and heavy-machinery cabin design.
- Veterans Health Administration (projects as of 2024): (1) usability evaluation of the Oracle Health/Cerner electronic health record in a simulated moderate-sedation scenario; (2) chronic kidney disease progression modeling using survival analysis and regression.
- Caterpillar: human factors / UX research supporting Caterpillar UX Design Strategy and human-machine interface (HMI) design.

Senior Human Factors Engineer / Consultant **Sep 2017 – May 2019**
Sirius Technical Services / Chevron Corporation

- Conducted applied human factors and human-performance work in the process industry, including safety, ergonomics, operational instructions and procedures, field walkthroughs, and safety-investigation support. Earned Lean Six Sigma Green Belt (Chevron).

Research Associate **2016 – 2017; also 2000 – 2001**
Florida Institute for Human & Machine Cognition (IHMC)

- Helped develop an electroencephalography (EEG) system used in IHMC research.

Adjunct Professor **Jun 2011 – Jun 2021**
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

- Courses included research methods, statistical analysis, human factors, sensation and perception, human cognition, aviation psychology, and virtual environments/simulation.

Editor **2018**
Journal of Ergonomics

Naval Aerospace Experimental Psychologist / Principal Investigator **2001 – Aug 2015**
U.S. Navy, Medical Service Corps (retired as Lieutenant Commander) | Pensacola, FL

- Final tour: Human Factors faculty and Principal Investigator, U.S. Navy/Marine Corps School of Aviation Safety; taught safety culture, situation awareness, decision-making, CRM/communication, high-risk behavior, and human error/performance enhancement.
- Led Human Factors Analysis and Classification System (HFACS) research on military aviation mishaps; descriptive and advanced statistical models explained hundreds of fatalities/injuries and more than $5 billion in materiel losses.
- Voting member, interservice DoD Human Factors Working Group; contributed to the development of DoD HFACS (credited in a 2015 AFRL report; not an author of the original HFACS framework); produced minimum-standard HFACS training across the military services; led collaborative cross-service research on human factors causes in H-60 helicopters.
- Principal Investigator on funded research for ONR, NAVAIR, the Naval Air Warfare Center, and CNET; military consultant to DARPA IPTO and ONR, including head-mounted-display simulator sickness, EEG measures of attention and spatial processing, and aviation selection testing.

Personnel Psychologist **2000 – 2001**
Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET)

Hospital Corpsman; Aerospace Medical Technician; Aerospace Physiology Technician **1989 – 2000**
U.S. Navy (enlisted); also Water Survival Instructor and Navy SCUBA Diver

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- “Salient Human Factors Issues in Motor Vehicle Accidents” (2019).
- “Behavior-based safety program effectiveness and culture” (2018).
- Corresponding author, “Human Factors in Offshore Small Modular Reactors,” Offshore Technology Conference (OTC), 2026.
- “DoD Analysis and Classification System (DoDHFACS): Human Factors Causes in U.S. Naval Aviation Class A Mishaps” (2014).
- “DoD HFACS Frequency Analysis Across Platforms” (2012; with B. Little).

CERTIFICATIONS, TRAINING & AFFILIATIONS

Certifications & training: Certified XL Tribometrist (CXLT); Traffic Crash Investigation I (Northwestern University Center for Public Safety, 2019); Lean Six Sigma Green Belt (Chevron); Google Analytics Certification (Google; issued Jun 2021, expired Jun 2022); HFACS; UX Research & UI Design; Advanced Statistics Using R; R Programming; SQL Bootcamp; Tableau 2020.

Affiliations: Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (member, 2019); DoD Human Factors Working Group (former voting member).