

2020 Convocation



**Psychology Department
University of New Mexico**



**Department
of
Psychology**

2019-2020



Psychology Faculty



The University of New Mexico

Department of Psychology

Convocation



2020

University of New Mexico

Popejoy Hall

Alma Mater



New Mex - i - co, New Mex - i - co, we sing to hon - or thee, this



gold - en haze of coll - ege days will live in mem - o - ry, this



praise we sing will ev - er ring with truth and loy - al - ty, New



Mex - i - co, your fame we know will last e - tern - al - ly.

Graduation is

a time to remember and a time to dream,

a time to look back and a time to reach forward,

a time for songs of laughter and a time for tears of joy,

a time for letting go and a time for discovering

hopes and dreams that are yet unborn,

a time to say good-bye to yesterday and

a time to greet tomorrow with courage,

a time for loving hearts to gather and

a time to celebrate all that you are...

and all that you may become

Congratulations Graduates!

Dear Graduating Class of 2020:

This is a “first” for me: Preparing a graduation “Welcome” that will never be spoken. Odd indeed. Nonetheless, I can still offer my heartfelt **CONGRATULATIONS!** Did you think this day was *never* going to arrive?! More importantly – did your *family* think this day was never going to get here? This is a huge accomplishment for you, and a source of great pride for your loved ones.

Do you have any idea how unique you are as a college graduate? We know that:

- **40%** of college students nationwide **drop out** before graduating. But *you* didn’t.
- Only **1/3 of adults** in the U.S. have a **4-year college degree**. And now *you* do.
- Individuals in New Mexico with bachelors’ degrees **earn 68% more** than those without one. You are now in that elite group.

Let’s pause so you can congratulate yourself. At the same time, go ahead and offer sincere thanks to all the people in your life who helped you get here; parents and grandparents, spouses and partners, boyfriends and girlfriends, children, siblings, and those all-important friends. You needed them, and they were there for you.

Typically, I use this time to brag a bit about the Psychology Department, but I obviously will keep that to a minimum. Although we are a large department (approximately 1200 majors), we hope you had the opportunity to work side-by-side in a lab with one of our top researchers. Our 28 faculty published over 160 papers this year and brought in *millions* of dollars in grant money. Or maybe you instead chose to gain clinical experience through our Basics in Addiction Counseling (BAC) undergraduate concentration, or our peer-facilitated Body Project program that improves students’ body image. And we can’t forget Agora, who unfortunately had to cancel a 50th anniversary celebration (for now).

Are you trying to decide what to do next? Does graduate school sound appealing? If so, why not consider UNM? Our graduate program is the most selective one on campus, and yet why shouldn’t one of the slots go to *you*? It’s a myth that we don’t accept some of our own undergraduates into our graduate program each year: We do! To make it sound even more intriguing: Our program recently added a graduate minor in Diversity and Multicultural Psychology. Not only does this minor require special coursework, but it also requires that students do multicultural research *and* get training in doing clinical work with diverse clients. So, check us out!

Enough? OK. In closing, I would like to suggest, “The tassel is worth the hassle”. On behalf of all the Psychology Department: **Congratulations Class of 2020!**

All my best,



Jane Ellen Smith, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair

Psychology Department

Psychology Departmental Honors

Each year a small number of qualified psychology majors are admitted to the department's Honors program. The Honors program is designed to provide intensive and personal instruction for selected students who intend to pursue graduate or professional study. All students acquire advanced knowledge and skills in psychology and conduct their own research projects.

The Psychology Department has offered an Honors Program in Psychology for 55 years. The program involves a total of 12 semester hours distributed over the Junior (Psychology 391, 392) and Senior (491, 492) years. In the senior year each student works with a faculty advisor to design and complete an individual research project. Upon completion of the program and with the recommendation by the Psychology Faculty, students will graduate with Honors in Psychology. Based on work in the Honors courses and the individual research project, students are selected to graduate from UNM with one of the following levels of honor: Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, and Summa Cum Laude.

Departmental Honors Graduates

Karaya Morris— *Summa Cum Laude*

(Faculty Mentor-Geoffrey F. Miller, Ph.D.)

Thesis Title: “Anti-Polyamory Prejudice: A Comprehensive Scale & Analysis of Predictive Beliefs.”

Kevin Diegel— *Summa Cum Laude*

(Faculty Mentor—Jeremy Hogeveen, Ph.D.)

Thesis Title: “Age-related Empathy in Brain-Injured and non-Brain-Injured Vietnam Veterans.”

Leslie Bauchman— *Magna Cum Laude*

(Faculty Mentor-Vince Clark, Ph.D.)

Thesis Title: “Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation-Mediated Working Memory Training to Improve Delay Discounting.”

Departmental Honors Graduates

Anthony Lisignoli— *Magna Cum Laude*

(Faculty Mentor—Nathan Pentkowski, Ph.D.)

Thesis Title: “Alzheimer’s Disease and Hippocampal Expression of Corticotropin Releasing Factor.”

Nicole Reyna— *Summa Cum Laude*

(Faculty Mentor—Nathan Pentkowski, Ph.D.)

Thesis Title: “Social Reward-Conditioned Place Preference: Interaction Between Methamphetamine and Social Reward in Adolescent Rats.”

Jacob Spinks— *Summa Cum Laude*

(Faculty Mentors-Vince Clark, Ph.D.)

Thesis Title: “Characteristics Associated with More or Less Choice Blindness.”

Timothy Vandiver— *Summa Cum Laude*

(Faculty Mentor-Claudia Tesche, Ph.D.)

Thesis Title: “Comparison of Vipassana Meditation with Other Mindfulness Traditions in the Response to Experimentally Induced Pain.”



Basics in Addiction Counseling (BAC)

The Basics in Addiction Counseling (BAC) program is a concentration within the Psychology Major that provides academic coursework and applied clinical experience to help prepare students for careers in the addiction counseling field.

"We congratulate the Spring 2020 BAC Graduates!"

Lawrence Jaramillo

Vannassa Thompson

Sierra Rhodes



Master's Degree Recipients 2019-2020

Jalene Herron

(Faculty Mentor-Kamilla Venner, PhD.)

Thesis Title: “Cultural Factors and Alcohol Use in American Indian Adults: Results from a Randomized Controlled Trial of Contingency Management.”

Thesis Description: My thesis examined the impact of cultural relevant risk and protective factors on alcohol use in American Indian adults involved in a randomized controlled trial of contingency management to reduce alcohol use. Results suggested the importance of enculturation as a protective factor against heavy drinking in reservation dwelling American Indian adults.

Acknowledgements: “I’d like to express my gratitude to my mentor, Kamilla Venner, and my committee members, Davood Tofighi and Michael McDonell, for guiding me through the process of my thesis. Thank you to my fellow lab mates, friends, and my partner for their support and encouragement. *Quyana cakneq*, to my parents, Bob and Margaret Herron, for their love and guidance and for raising me with Yup’ik values that I carry with me always, *kenkamken*.”

John Madden

(Faculty Mentor-Nathan Pentkowski, Ph.D.)

Thesis Title: “Antagonizing serotonin 2A (5-HT_{2A}) receptors attenuates.”

Thesis Description: Our study investigated the effects of the selective 5-HT_{2A} receptor antagonist M100907 on the acquisition of methamphetamine-conditioned place preference and methamphetamine-induced anxiety in adult male rats.

Acknowledgements: “I’d like to thank my undergraduate research assistants Nicole Reyna and Emerald Goranson for their tireless efforts in helping with this research, my advisor Dr. Pentkowski for guiding me through this entire process, and lastly my wife Krystalyn Madden for all of her love and support across these last few years.”

Ph.D. Recipients - 2019-2020

Justina F. Avila-Rieger PhD

(Faculty Mentor-Steven Verney, PhD.)

Dissertation Title: “Intersectionality Between Sex/Gender and Race/Ethnicity on Cognitive Trajectories and Development of Alzheimer’s Disease.”

Dissertation Description: Justina investigated the intersectionality between race/ethnicity and sex/gender as determinants of specific socio-cultural experiences that shape biological risk factors and distinct cognitive health trajectories leading to Alzheimer’s disease (AD). Her findings suggest that testing interactions between race/ethnicity and sex/gender yields a more nuanced understanding of mechanisms of AD disparities and may lead to the development of new strategies to prevent or slow AD-related cognitive decline.

Acknowledgements: “I would like to thank my mentor Dr. Steven Verney for his guidance, support, and wisdom. Thank you, Dr. Verney, for investing in my professional development and helping me to cultivate my passion for health disparities. Thank you to my mother for instilling in me a strong commitment to education and social justice and my father for teaching me his strong work ethic. To my amazing wife, I am so happy we get to share this experience together. Thank you for making me a better person every day and always supporting my dreams. Thank you to my brother and second mother, as well as the rest of my amazing family and friends who have supported me from the beginning.”

Rebecca Avila-Rieger PhD

(Faculty Mentor-Ron Yeo, PhD)

Dissertation Title: “Socioeconomic and Neuroanatomic Contributions to Language Performance in Children born Very Preterm at Preschool and School Age.”

Dissertation Description: The complex associations among socioeconomic status, prematurity, and neuroanatomy on language performance were examined in children born very preterm.

Acknowledgements: “I would like to thank my mentor, Dr. Ronald Yeo, for his encouragement and wisdom. Dr. Yeo’s curiosity, intellectual rigor, and overall passion for the integrity of science has made me a better researcher. To Dr. Steven Verney, whose commitment to health disparities inspired me to ask these hard questions. I have learned from you not just to sit with disheartening realities but to ask what I personally can do about them. I would like to thank Dr. Jean Lowe, who so seamlessly bridges her clinical and research

Ph.D. Recipients - 2019-2020

endeavors. Your dedication to families of very preterm children is inspirational, and I will always be grateful that you introduced me to the complex phenomenon of preterm birth. I would also like to thank Dr. Richard Campbell for being one of my first clinical supervisors and teaching me how to translate my research into clinical practice. Thank you to Dr. Robin Ohls for allowing me to be involved in the BRITE project. And I want to thank all of my clinical supervisors over the course of graduate school who showed me the importance of this kind of work.

Finally, I want to acknowledge my family and friends for their unwavering support. To my wife, Justina, whose academic passion and fierce dedication to fighting health disparities was catching. Thank you for your support and encouragement. Thank you to my parents, Heidi and Richard, for encouraging me to pursue graduate school and supporting me even when I moved across the country to do so. To my sisters, Hillary and Abigail, who always offered an empathetic ear and whose dedication to healthcare parallels my own.

Gabriela Lopez PhD

(Faculty Mentor-Elizabeth Yeater, Ph.D.)

Dissertation Title: “Sexual Victimization, Mental Health, and Protective Factors among Women with Multiple Marginalized Statuses.”

Dissertation Description: Intersectionality (Crenshaw, 1989) and minority stress (Meyer, 2003) frameworks were used as theoretical foundations to examine associations among sexual minority status (e.g., lesbian and bisexual) and race/ethnicity (e.g., White, Black, Latinx), adult sexual victimization and revictimization, mental health symptoms (i.e., depression, anxiety, posttraumatic stress disorder), and protective factors (i.e., religiosity, spirituality, social support).

Acknowledgements: First and foremost, I would like to thank my mentor, Dr. Elizabeth Yeater, for her invaluable mentorship and support throughout seven years of graduate school. Dr. Yeater’s intellectual rigor and dedication to addressing sexual violence among women is admirable. She has made me a better clinical scientist. To my dissertation committee members, Dr. Kamilla Venner, Dr. Steve Verney, Dr. Tonda Hughes, and Dr. Cindy Veldhuis, thank you for your support and feedback throughout this project. I would also like to thank Dr. Blake Boursaw, Dr. Chance Strenth, and Dr. Katie Witkiewitz for their statistical guidance. To my fellowship mentors, Dr. Shannon Sanchez-Youngman and Dr. Gabriel Sanchez, thank you for teaching me everything you know about health disparities. Special thanks to Dr. Sarah Ullman, who invested in me as an undergraduate student and encouraged me to pursue graduate school. To all my clinical supervisors, I am so grateful for your dedication in helping me advance my clinical expertise in women’s mental health. To every single one of my patients throughout graduate school and internship, it was an honor to be a part of your mental health journey.

Last, but never least, I would like to thank my friends and family for their continuous support, laughter, and encouragement. Thank you to my parents, Rafael and Teresa, for their love and guidance. *Muchas gracias por el sacrificio durante estos siete años; este doctorado es tanto suyo como es mío.*

Ph.D. Recipients - 2019-2020

John F. L. Pinner PhD Experimental Psychology

(Faculty Mentor-James Cavanagh, Ph.D.)

Dissertation Title: “The Relationships Between Brain Function, Brain Structure, and Behavior in Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.”

Dissertation Description: Prenatal alcohol exposure (PAE), the leading cause of childhood developmental disability, has long-lasting effects extending throughout the lifespan. In this dissertation, we intend to show how white matter integrity, as assessed by fractional anisotropy, is associated with neural functioning, assessed via magnetoencephalography, and how this association relates to behavior. It is well documented that children prenatally exposed to alcohol have difficulties inhibiting behavior and sustaining attention. Thus, the Sustained Attention to Response Task, a Go/No-go paradigm, is especially well suited to assess the behavioral and neural functioning characteristics of PAE children. This dissertation shows that children 8-12 years old with PAE have decreased associations between brain structure and function, and that these deficits are associated with poorer performance on neuropsychological functioning.

Acknowledgements: “First, I would like to thank my advisor, James F. Cavanagh, Ph.D. for taking me into his lab when I needed a new “home”, for his continuous encouragement, and for keeping me on track. Thanks for getting me back up on that horse when I needed it. I would also like to thank Julia M. Stephen, Ph.D. for welcoming me into her lab and entrusting me with her project. Your guidance and friendship are invaluable and enduring. Thank you for your unending patience and sincere kindness.

Ruth Sarafin PhD

(Faculty Mentor-Geoffrey Miller, Ph.D.)

Dissertation Title: “Manipulation of human behavior by sexually transmitted organisms: STO infection status as a predictor of later sexual behavior.”

Dissertation Description: Men who contract genital herpes have more sexual partners at follow-up than STO-free men, which is consistent with theories of manipulation of host behavior by pathogens.

Acknowledgements: “Thanks to my advisor, Geoffrey Miller, and my committee, Joe Alcock, Marco Del Giudice, and Steve Gangestad. Also, thanks to my family and my friends who became my family. I love you all.”

Ph.D. Recipients 2019-2020

Brandi Shannon Seaman PhD

(Faculty Mentor: Ron Yeo, PhD)

Dissertation Title: “Subjective Cognitive Complaints, Affective Distress, and Objective Cognitive Performance in Mild Traumatic Brain Injury.”

Dissertation Description: My doctoral dissertation focused on individuals with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI) and examined subjective cognitive complaints, objective cognitive deficits (as measured by neuropsychological assessment), and the role mood plays in overall symptom presentation. Results indicated that depression appears to be a critical treatment target for improving quality of life in patients with mTBI.

Acknowledgements: “I would like to express my gratitude to my mentor, Dr. Ron Yeo, whose expertise, guidance, and patience has been invaluable throughout my graduate training. My deepest heartfelt appreciation goes to my parents, Susan and Ray Seaman for always believing in me. Thank you for your unfailing support and continuous encouragement. Thank you to my friends, family, and colleagues for your love and support.”



Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science

Fall 2019 Graduates

Allen, Erika
Allison, Justin
Anderson, Samantha
Andrews, Lydia
Aragon, Autumn
Archuleta, Samantha
Armijo, Isabella
Armstead, Lanisa
Arndt, Bela
Arvizu, Alejandro
Ashlock, Erin
Avila, Mayra
Banda, Ramiro David
Berretta, Rachel
Birdsong, Anna
Boggs, Amanda
Botha, Hanno
Boughter, Bryanna
Brissey-Cohen, Jesse
Brown, Jared
Browning, Chelsea
Callison, Cheyenne
Caraveo, Victor
Carrillo, Hector
Chacon-Solis, Giselle
Chase, Isaac
Chavez, Loryn
Chornonos, Alina
Cornejo, Lucia
Crank, Joseph
Crespin, Raquela
Davis, Sara
Davis, Micah
Davis, Micah

Dee, Denise
Deschinn, Rhianna
Diaz, Paola
Doolittle, Steven
Enriquez, Cristian
Estrada, Adrian
Fay, Jensen
Gallagher, Ryan
Gallarza, Wendy
Gallegos, Andrew
Garcia, Ariana
Garcia, Theresa
Gonzales, Shannen
Gonzales, Miranda
Gonzalez, Gabriela
Grando, Salma
Graham, Jahailah
Grajeda, Jennifer
Grider, Andrea
Grindell, Jessica
Grollman, Maya
Gunther, Sarah
Hailu, Bethlehem
Hambay, Tiffany
Hendrix, Sarah
Hernandez, Kenia
Hill, Hunter
Howard, Pamela
Hubbs, Clayton
Jaramillo, Vanessa
Kallan, Tanya
Kamrowski, Cody
Kazmar, Amy
King, Tabitha

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science

Fall 2019 Graduates

Labarbera, Gabriel
Largo, Selena
Lengstorf, Laura
Loleit, Jacelyn
Lopez, Margaux
Lopez, Julian
Lopez, Felicia
Lorass, Matthew
Lords, Brandi
Lovato, Lauren
Lucero, Mariah
Lucero, Taylor
Lyon, Trevor
Maestas, Raylynn
Mangold, Meghann
Marquez, Donald
Marshall, Farah
Martinez, Angelo
Montoya, Lorenzo
Mujynya, Aurelie
Munoz Rivera, Alexis
Neil, Luz
Ngo, Lan
Nieto, Amanda
Nishite, Dior
Nunez, Nina
Nutter, Alexis
Pacheco, Santiago
Parrilla, Monica
Pecos, Justine
Perez, Adelina
Pohl, Miranda
Prado, Mercedes
Puglisi, Chloe
Quintana, Jacqueline
Quintana, Felicia
Quintana Matz, Sara

Ramirez, Angel
Ramirez Solano, Alejandra
Reza, Andres
Rising, Brittany
Rivera, Jaclyn
Rodrigues, David
Romero, Crystal
Romero, Sherise
Romero, Adam
Romo, Katrina
Rosner, Rebecca
Rutledge, Fallon
Saavedra, Mason
Saenz Nevarez, Sergio
Santistevan, Christianne
Sisneros, Stephanie
Slocum, Lena
Smith, Matthew
Solis Gutierrez, Edith
Stafford, Amy
Stith, Hannah
Suazo, Adrianna
Swass, Gabrielle
Tabaldo, Angelique
Thornburg, Rhiannon
Thulin, Ian
Townsend, Alexis
Trejo Rico, Kehiry
Tseng, Richard
Valdez, Nizhoni
Valenciano Flores, Wendy
Velasco, Mia
Wigh, Shreya
Willis, Hannah
Zamora, Denise
Zarick, Andrew

Congratulations
Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science
Graduating Class of Fall 2019



Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science

Spring 2020 Graduates

Abreu, Breanna
Acosta, Gabriela
Ahluwalia, Madeleine
Alaouieh, Danielle
Alisudjana, Ilona
Allen, Kenyon
Anaya, Raymond
Anwar, Sana
Apodaca, Jessica
Archibeque, Courtney
Avalos, Athena
Ayers, Kelsey
Baca, Andres
Baca, Laura
Baker, Charmaine
Bardouche, Andie
Barker, Kortney
Barnhart, Kimberly
Bath, Jesse
Bejarano, Karen
Benavidez, Samantha
Bobchak, Melody
Boswell, Aaron
Bowman, Talia
Britt, Amanda
Brown, Michelle
Brown, Sarita
Brown, Ashley
Brug, Mary
Brumbelow, Kandice
Burton, Finnigan
Butler, Emma
Buzzard, Craig
Campos, Natalia
Candelaria, Anthony
Canete, Mary-Trynee
Cannon, Blair
Castillo, Jazmin
Castillo, Jordan

Cde Baca, Christopher
Chacon, Sydney
Chambers, Natalie
Chavez, Angelica
Chavez Torres, Eduardo
Choi, Hyesun
Clinton, Isabella
Coca, Cecily
Colon, Ashlee
Conklin, Jordan
Connolly, Brigit
Cordova, Lillian
Coronado, Jerry
Currence, Samaira
Dart, Kianna
De W Romero. Anastacia
DeBoo, Inga-Lisa
DeGray, Jason
Delgado, Angelica
Diegel, Kevin
Doty, Melissa
Drago, Nasielys
Duran, Leah
Enriquez, Kaitlin
Escobedo, Kayla
Estrada, Paulina
Farhad, Firdous
Feng, Angela
Fernandez, Saul
Ford, Andrew
Frazier, Stephen
French, Justin
Gale, Courtney
Gallegos, Joaquin
Garcia, Manuel
Garcia, Nazareth
Garcia, Zakary
Goodhart, Meghan
Green, Kathryn

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science

Spring 2020 Graduates

Grijalva, Amber
Grijalva Canales, Ana
Gumabay, Luzette
Gutierrez, Seriana
Gutierrez Fierro, Isaac
Hagstorm, Eric
Hall, Rhonda
Hammersley, Haley
Herrera, Alex
Herrera, Jayme
Herrera, Savaunah
Hiester, Hope
Hizal, Daniel
Haffman, Victoria
Holly, Jesse
Holm, Madison
Hubartt-Gundelach, Sophia
Hutchison, Veronica
Ibarra-Ortiz, Jacquelin
Intong, Campbell
Izquierdo, Angela
Jake, Ineka
Jaramillo, Lawrence
Joe, Nathaniel
Kayser, Haylee
Kehrer, Penelope
Kelsey Curley, Chelrissa
Kennedy, Kylee
Kie, Kristin
Kosorukoy, Filip
Laird, Samuel
Lantz, Jessica
Linthicum, Peyton
Lopez, Gladis
Lucero, Laetitia
Lucero, Leslie
Lujan, Kristin
Maez, Gabriela
Manicke, Matthew

Manzanares, Alyssa
Manzanares, Lailah
Marchand, Jennifer
Marquez, Magdalena
Martinez, Meghan
Martinez, Jonathan
Martinez, Elijah
Martinez Corral, Valeria
Mason, Madisen
Mayhon, Natalie
McCurdy, Kathryn
McQuerry, Catherine
Medina, Francisco
Melendez, Glenda
Memarian, Tara
Mena, Alan
Mendoza, Kristen
Mendoza, Marcus
Michealson, Marisa
Miller, Brian
Mondragon, Michael
Montano, Juan
Montoya, Theresa
Mora, Larry
Morris, Karaya
Munoz, Joselyn
Neal, Janet
Nelson, Triton
Nelson, April
Nieto, Alysia
Nugali, Layla
O'Dea, Cynthia
Ojeda, Christian
Olberding-Brown, Jeffrey
Olguin, Jillian
Olivares, Maryjane
Oliver, Julia
Ortiz, Candace
Paglia, Taylor

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science

Spring 2020 Graduates

Pagilia, Taylor
Patten, Patrick
Patterson, Hailey
Patterson, Cedric
Payne, Maravel
Pedersen, Joesaph
Perez, Patricia
Perez, Samantha
Pettinger, Wynn
Phan, Sam
Pina, Kendra
Ponce, Ana
Quintana, Joslyn
Ramirez, Sergio
Rappaport, Ella
Reyna, Nicole
Rhodes, Sierra
Ricci, Samantha
Richardson Noelle, Erin
Richter, Curt
Risner, Megan
Risner, Megan
Rivera, Bianca
Rivera, Diego
Rivera, Savannah
Rivera Holguin, Arely
Rivera Ramirez, Michel
Robinson, Sierra
Robles, Nayely
Rogers, Emma
Romero, Meagan
Romero, Tomas
Ross, Tessa
Rowland, Sierra
Russell, Ava
Ruvalacaba, Kimberly
Saeger, Isabella
Sanchez, Anniela
Sanchez, Elianna

Sandoval, Jaeden
Schulz, Morgan
Schwartz, Meagan
Scrimshaw, Nathan
Segura, Monet
Shattuck, Jordan
Silva, Jazzmin
Simmons, Ashton
Sizemore, Setasha
Smiley, Presleigh
Smith, Elizabeth
Smith, Jade
Smith, Taylor
Smith, Nathan
Sorbin, Rebecca
Spinks, Jacob
Spooner, Abigail
Stanley, Darsha
Steffen, Robert
Sterling, Marcus
Steward, Kayla
Stoff, Mallory
Tafoya, Tatiana
Tafoya, Tiffany
Talamante, Tiffany
Tchiloyans, Natalia
Tena, Janet
Thies, Alexandra
Thompson, Vannassa
Toney, Brandon
Torrez, Kay-Keililani
Traffanstedt, Hannah
Trujillo, Ashley
Trujillo, Joshua
Uhiriwe, Stella
Valdez, Tyler
Vandiver, Timothy
Vega, Yamilex
Verduzco, Jesus

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science

Spring 2020 Graduates

Win, Alexander
Winter, Jeremy
Yazzie, Phyllis
York, Alexandra
Zetina, Jorge

Congratulations

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science

Graduating Class of Spring 2020



*On behalf of all thinking, feeling,
compassionate people we extend our deepest
respect and thanks for all the Coronavirus
frontline workers of every kind who perform for
the benefit of us all.*



BA - BS
Graduate
Photo Submissions
and Acknowledgements





Ilona Nathania Alisudjana

Degree:

BA Psychology, BA Communication

Thank you to my teachers, advisors, friends, and my amazing boyfriend Jaime, for their endless support the past 4 years. Terima kasih Papa, Mami dan Marsha, for letting me achieve the impossible!



Kenyon Allen

Degree:

BA Psychology (Communication minor)

My parents as well as my husband have played major roles in helping me achieve my degree. My parents throughout my life have stressed the importance of education and have completely supported me throughout my undergraduate journey. I would have never been able to attain my degree without my parents' guidance and support. My husband has also helped me achieve my degree while standing by my side everyday cheering me on!



Kelsey Robyn Ayers

Degree:

BS Psychology (Biology minor); BS Biology (Psychology minor)

Thank you to my family for putting up with me for the past four years while I only talked about the Mitochondria and Freud. Next step, Medical School!

Jesse Bath

Degree:

BS Psychology; BS Biology

Thank you to my family and professors for helping me get this far.



Shannon Marie Benally

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Native American Studies

I would like to thank my parents Arnold Benally and Virginia Jones, without their love, support and encouragement this would not be possible. My degrees are in honor of my father who passed away in October 2019. Without his belief in me and his inspiration I would not have finished my degrees. Thank you, Mom and Dad! I love you



Samantha Benavidez

Degree:

BS Psychology (Evolutionary Anthropology minor)

This LOBO journey taught me that ANYTHING is possible if you put your heart, mind, and spirit into achieving your goals! Thank you, Mom & Dad, (and Auntie Claud)!





Ashley Lily Brown

Degree:

BA Psychology (Family and Child Studies minor)

Ahé'héé Ntsaágo shik'é dóó shídine'e for helping me accomplish this major life goal of mine! You are the best support system I could for and I will continue to make you proud! Ayóó Áníishní.



Michelle Paula Brown

Degree:

BA Psychology (Communication minor)

It's possible. Thank you, Zoe Jane and Giovanni for the motivation to complete something that was started years before I met you. I love you.



Kandice Lynn Brumbelow

Degree:

BA Psychology (Sociology minor)

Thank you to my friends and family for your continuous support and for providing me with any resources that I needed in order to succeed, even in times that it felt impossible. Thank you to UNM for the amazing adventure. Go lobos!

Jessica Rae Burnham

Degree:

BA Psychology (Management minor); BA Biology (Psychology minor)

Thank you to my friends and family for all of the unconditional love and support during my time as an undergrad. I am truly blessed, and I can't wait to see what the future holds. Cheers to the class of 2020. Go Lobos!



Mary-Trynee Canete

Degree:

BS Psychology (Health, Medicine, and Human Values minor; Chemistry minor)

Thank you to all my wonderful professors for giving me 4 amazing years at UNM. Thank you to my amazing family and friends for the endless love and support! My Psychology degree will help me as I continue my journey at the UNM School of Medicine!



Jazmin Mariah Castillo

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Sociology

The four years I spent as an undergrad were some of the best of my life. I was fortunate enough to have met many spectacular individuals who helped make the beginning of my educational journey what it was. A very special thank you to those who helped me in continuing my educational journey as a Master's student in the Counselor Education program at UNM this coming Fall 2020.





Sydney Elizabeth Chacon

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Criminology

I would like to thank all of my friends, family, and teachers who have encouraged me to keep moving forward towards my goals. I couldn't have done it without your support!



Isabelle Clinton

Degree:

BS Psychology (Evolutionary Anthropology minor)

Receiving encouragement and support to attend college has been crucial to my being able to graduate. My parents have helped me in innumerable ways throughout these past years, and I am endlessly grateful. My sisters, my grandmas, and the wonderful friends I have made have also provided so much love and support. My college years have led to growth and have prepared me to pursue my most ambitious goals.



Kianna Dart

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Intercultural Communication

I feel so blessed to be a part of UNM's graduating class of 2020. While this last semester has certainly not been easy, it has reminded me of what an amazing community I've been able to be a part of over the past four years. I would like to thank my instructors, classmates, coworkers, friends, and family for the love and support you've all shown me. I appreciate you more than you know. Go Lobos!

Inga-Lisa DeBoo

Degree:

BA Psychology (Health, Medicine, and Human Values minor)

My husband, kids, family and friends...

Thank you for believing in me when I didn't believe in myself.

XOXO



Kevin Diegel

Degree:

BS Psychology-Summa Cum Laude

Thank you to everyone who showed faith in me. I will never forget you.



Stephen J. Frazier

Degree:

BA Psychology (Communication minor)





Nazareth Garcia

Degree:
BS Psychology (Chemistry)

Those who run with wolves learn how to howl. Thank you to my wolf pack for support, guidance, and endless hope. Para mi gente!



Katie Green

Degree:
BA Psychology; BS Population Health

I am so grateful for the loving, ongoing support of my friends and family throughout my time at UNM. More than just supporting me, my family allowed me the space and the freedom to pursue my passions and career interests without any judgement. I am so inspired by my education, my professors, my peers, and I can't wait to see what the future holds.



Rhonda Hall

Degree:
BA Psychology; BA Sociology-Pre-Law Concentration (Honors Interdisciplinary Studies minor); Magna Cum Laude

I am so grateful to have the most supportive and loving family who has pushed me to strive for my best self especially through my academic work. Without them, I wouldn't be where I am today. Every interest and passion I have pursued here at UNM has been fully embraced by my family and friends which has allowed me to flourish in ways I didn't know possible. I am so very appreciative and it means the world.

Alex Herrera

Degree:

BA Psychology

I want to acknowledge my parents who passed while I was pursuing my degree. The best anyone son or daughter could wish for. And thanks to all my professors who were above and beyond the best teachers and people I could have hoped for.



Veronica Hutchison

Degree:

BS Psychology (Chemistry minor); BS Biology (Health, Medicine, and Human Values minor)

I want to thank my best friend, Jules, for bringing joy and laughter into my life for the past 10 years. I want to thank my sister and brother for always being there for me when I needed it. My Aunt Brenda for reminding me that I can do anything and my mother for listening to me and showing an interest in my life. I thank my entire family for all their love and support.



Campbell Intong

Degree:

BA Psychology (Criminology minor)

I would like to thank my friends, family, and my professors for making my experience at the University of New Mexico an amazing one and helping me reach my goal in getting my degree!





Samera Issa

Degree:

BS Psychology (Biology minor); BS Biology

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal, it is the courage to continue that counts” -Winston



Lawrence Stephen Jaramillo

Degree:

BA Psychology-BAC Concentration

I am Lawrence Jaramillo and probably the oldest graduate of the class of 2020. My journey started in the fall of 1967, and 53 years later, I earned my degree. My major is Psychology with a BAC concentration. The person I want to thank the most is my wife Evangelene for her support and for not letting me quit and a big thank you to all my instructors here UNM for their help and support.



Kylee Dawn Kennedy

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Speech and Hearing Sciences

I had an incredible four years at UNM; I would like to thank my family for their unconditional support and my friends for the great memories! I am excited to continue my education at the UNM Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences Graduate Program. I am thrilled to take these next steps in my life.

Kristin Kie

Degree:

BS Psychology; BS Biology (Chemistry minor)

I am honored as a commuter student from Laguna Pueblo to have completed my degrees at University of New Mexico. As you know, a college education is quite expensive, but it is an investment that is unquestionably meaningful. I want to thank my family, community, scholarship donors, and UNM faculty for all the support in completing my education. Daa'waa'eh



Fillip Kosorukov

Degree:

BA Psychology

I am beyond grateful for my family and friends that have been along for this journey. I strive to keep growing as a person and to make you proud. I am also so thankful to my mentors that have helped me find where I want my next steps in life to be. I am excited for the future and continuing my education. Resilience has been a huge part of my momentum and why I'm here today.



Samuel Barnett Laird

Degree:

BA Psychology

I would like to thank my family and my friends for sticking with me. I don't know if I could have persevered without their support. I never imagined I would make it this far when I was younger, but I'm glad that I did and am excited to see what the future has in store.





Jessica Grace Lantz

Degree:

BA Psychology (Family & Child Studies minor)

Having a college degree is something that I never thought would be possible for myself, and I couldn't have done it without the continued support of those around me. Thank you to everyone that pushed me, cared for me, and loved me along the way. I appreciate each and every one of you more than words can summarize.



Gladis Lopez

Degree:

BA Psychology (Latin American Studies minor)

Family and friends have been an integral part of my whole college/university experience, without their constant support days at university would have been much more difficult. That is why being part of the historic class of 2020 is something that I am extremely proud of. Although, the current situation we are in took all of us by surprise, I am glad to have finally graduated. Thank you to everyone and congratulations Class of 2020!



Leslie Alanna Lucero

Degree:

BA Psychology (Communication minor)

It's been a long journey, but I finally made it! I couldn't have done it without the grace of God and support from all my friends and family. I especially want to thank my husband Greg for all the late nights he stayed up in solidarity and the support and love from my beautiful children. Thank you and I love you all!

Kristin Lujan

Degree:

BA Psychology (Family & Child Studies minor)

I can honestly say I wouldn't have been able to reach the point in my life that I am at now if it wasn't for my supportive parents. They were always there to help support me when things were tough in and out of school. I'm excited to know that I will still have their support in the next step in my journey. I can't express enough how much you two mean to me.



Lailah Rose Manzanares

Degree:

BA Psychology

I am so lucky to have tremendous support from my parents, brother, fiancé, my coworkers, and all of my friends. I couldn't have gotten to where I am without all of these amazing people and I hope that I always make them proud! GO LOBOS!



Jennifer L. Marchand

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Criminology (Interdisciplinary Studies minor)

Thank you to my family and friends who encouraged me to do my best and supported me throughout my journey here at UNM; your support means the world to me!





Genissa Mata

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Interpersonal Communication

I would like to thank my friends and family for pushing me to become the best version of my self. My mother has shown me what it means to be a strong independent woman. Never give up on your dreams. Congratulations class of 2020!



Tara Memarian

Degree:

BA Psychology (Chemistry minor); BS Biology

Receiving a BS in Biology and BA in Psychology in 3.5 years was one of the best decisions I made while studying here at UNM. Although the road was hard, I could not have done it without the support of my family and friends. I am lucky to have them all and I appreciate every one of their efforts. I cannot wait to see what the future holds.



Marisa Michealson

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Biology

I would like to thank my parents and the amazing friends I have made in college. Without your support, I would not be here.

Esmeralda Montes

Degree:

BA Psychology (Family & Child Studies minor)

I would like to thank my parents, family, and friends who were there to support and guide me through this amazing experience. Especially my parents who left everything to give me a better future. Si se puede!



Paulina Estrada Oaxaca

Degree:

BA Psychology (Communication minor)

I'm so grateful with God and with all the people who have supported me along the path of achieving my BA. Thank you mom for inspiring me and encouraging me to accomplish my dream. I'm grateful for your unconditional love. Thank you CAMP and TRiO-SSS friends for your unconditional support. I'm grateful for all my SOLmates, friends, boyfriend and family for being always there to motivate me to do my best



Jillian Olguin

Degree:

BS Psychology; BS Biology (Chemistry minor)

I would like to thank my friends and family for their support through this journey. UNM will be missed but I'll always be a lobo!





Julia Ragas Oliver

Degree:

BA Psychology (Family & Child Studies minor)

I would like to thank my family and friends for all of the support I've received these last four years. I couldn't have done it without their encouragement!



Taylor Paglia

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Criminology

Thank you to all of my friends and family that have supported me through this journey. I couldn't have done any of it without you all! You gave me the strength and motivation I needed during the low times when I wanted to give up. And most importantly, you pushed me to stay true to myself.

"You make your mark by being true to who you are and letting that be your staple" -Kat Graham



Kenda Lee Piña

Degree:

BS Psychology

Thank you to my family for all the support and love, I couldn't have done it without you guys. I love you all always.

Joslyn Yvette Quintana

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Criminology

" I stand at the finish line with trophy in hand today, in awe.

The sleepless nights, tears, frustration, and doubt I sometimes suffered on this journey are worth every memory, triumph, friendship, and most importantly - pride gained from a badge of honor that can never be taken.

This journey, finally completed, symbolizes generational curses disbanded & internal myth demolished.

This paper, so much more than a paper - is Hope. Health. Freedom. "



Ella Joy Rappaport

Degree:

BS Psychology; BA Chemistry

To my parents – thank you for being my very first teachers, for appreciating everything I have to offer, and most importantly for putting up with me these past few months of quarantine. To my friends – thank you for being a second family to me, for sharing in all of my ups and downs, for making me laugh, and for keeping me sane. And of course, shout out to my dog for always being a pal.



Lydia Raymond

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Music

I am incredibly grateful for everyone who has stood beside me throughout the past four years. Thank you to my family and friends who have supported me and pushed me to be the best person I can be. Thank you to my fabulous professors! You have never ceased to believe in me and inspire me with your passion! Thank you to Dr. Bruce Smith for your encouragement and the wonderful opportunities you have given me!





Nicole Reyna

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Philosophy

A huge thank you to my partner, family and friends who supported me through college!



Samantha Kathryn Ricci

Degree:

BA Psychology

Thank you to my parents for their love and encouragement in sending me off to college many miles away. Also, a special thanks to Janie and Bob, for taking me in and believing in me.



Jaclyn Rivera

Degree:

BA Psychology (Communication & Journalism minor)

I would like to thank my family, my daughter and my boyfriend for supporting and encouraging me to finish my degree. It wasn't an easy road and I wanted to give up many times but you guys pushed me every time. If it wasn't for the support and love I wouldn't be where I am today. Thank you helping me achieve and finish my dream!

Savannah Alexine Rivera

Degree:

BS Psychology (Anthropology minor)

I want to say thank you to all my friends and family for the constant love and support shown to me throughout this journey. I especially want to thank my mama for being a wonderful role model and my BIGGEST fan- you're the best! Also, a huge thank you to my Zachery for pushing me to realize my full potential and always uplifting me. I couldn't have done this without you! Love you all!



Nayely Robles

Degree:

BA Psychology-BAC Concentration; BA Spanish

¡Aveces dudé, aveces lloré, pero nunca me rajé! Thank you to my family for the unconditional love and support. Por ustedes y para ustedes!



Emma Francesca Gagan Rogers

Degree:

BA Psychology (English & Art History minors)

To every educator who ever inspired me, with a special thank you to Dr. Allen Butt – the man and researcher who taught me not only how to be a successful academic, but ignited my love for neuroscience and cognitive psychology. Other thanks to Mr. Dotts, Mr. Eadie, Mr. Buckley, Matthew Hofer, Dr. Susanne Anderson-Riedel, Dr. Kevin Mulhearn, Dr. Darin Brown, & Dr. Kristina Ciesielski.





Anastacia Grace De W Romero

Degree:

BS Psychology-BAC Concentration (Biology & Criminology minors)

I want to thank Dr. Steven P. Verney, Dr. Lynette Abrams-Silva, and Marni Goldberg for their boundless support of my academic career. I would not have made it this far without my wonderful husband Craig, my son Arsen, and my parents Gretel & Jake. Much love to you all, and I hope to make you proud in the next chapter of my life.



Vannessa M. Ruelas

Degree:

BA Psychology

I have worked hard to get my degree and I must give thanks to a couple professors of mine that I had throughout my time in school. Mostly I would like to say thank you to the family that stuck by myside and helped me make it here. Covid-19 did not stop us, WE DID IT!!!! Congratulations class of 2020!!!



Anniela Elicora Sanchez

Degree:

BA Psychology (Philosophy minor)

Thank you so much to everyone in my family, my amazing friends, and all the wonderful professors and university staff who supported me and helped make my time at UNM so meaningful. I could not have done it without you all. You have helped me become the strong, independent young woman I am today, and for that I am eternally grateful. Thank you for believing in me even when I did not believe in myself.

Elianna Aldora Sanchez

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Criminology

I'd like to give a huge thank you to everyone who supported me through this exhilarating UNM journey. Special appreciation goes out to my family who always helped me back on my feet when the turbulence of each semester started to kick in. Many thanks to my professors for guiding me through a path of knowledge, devotion, and intellectuality. I have grown into a strong and encouraged individual, and I won't stop here!

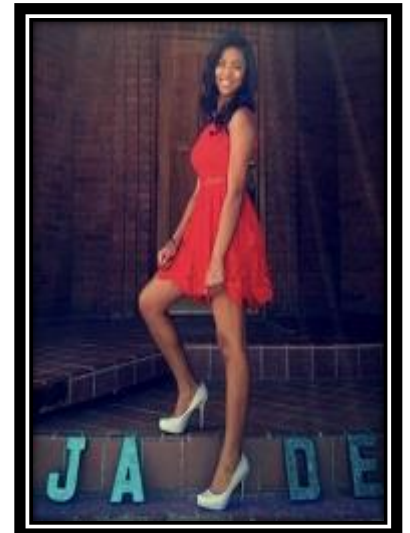


Jade M. Smith

Degree:

BA Psychology

I would like to thank all of my friends & family for helping me throughout my four years at The University of New Mexico. I have achieved so much, including being a part of three Honor Societies. These include The Phi Eta Sigma National Society, The National Society of Leadership & Success, & The National Society of Collegiate Scholars. I am so grateful to be a part of those communities & to now be a graduate of UNM!



Nathan Smith

Degree:

BA Psychology; BA Sociology, Pre-Law

Started higher education circa '96. Paused that to sail the 7 seas punching holes in the ocean as a Submarine Mechanic Jack of all Trades Master of none. At 43 this commencement proves this Sea Dog ain't too old to learn new tricks. Thank you to my Father and Mother for your relentless support. RIP My loving mother Teri (05/05/55- 03/05/20)





Kayla Naomi Steward

Degree:
BS Psychology

I would like to thank all my family and friends for the unconditional love, prayers and support! God has blessed me tremendously and I am very excited for what the future holds!



Adrianna Suazo

Degree:
BA Psychology

I'd like to thank my friends and family for the constant understanding, & encouragement. Specifically, my parents, Sharon & Arnold for all the love, support, & inspiration through it all. I would also like to thank the staff in the psychology dept. for all the help given during my time at UNM. To all who helped along the way I am extremely grateful, I wouldn't have gotten to today without such a good support system.



Kylie C. Talamante

Degree:
BA Psychology; BA Criminology

I am proud to have earned my degree from UNM as a first-generation student. This could not have been possible without the work of God in my life and the constant support from my family and friends. I am forever grateful to those in my life who have been there for me along the way. Now on to earning my PhD!

Natalia Tchiloyans

Degree:

BS Psychology (Chemistry minor)

Thank you, Mama and Papa, I couldn't be where I am today without you. You have supported, loved, and helped me to realize my dreams. I love you both so much. I'd also like to thank my fiancé, Jonathan, for being my rock and supporter on this crazy ride we call college. You made me laugh when I was stressed and pushed me to follow my dreams. I love you all. Onto the next!



Vannassa Kathrine-Ann Thompson

Degree:

BA Psychology-BAC Concentration (Sociology minor)

I want to thank my family and friends for their support through all the craziness that came with school and having a job. With little time and missing out on important things over the years, I still got full support. Thank you for making me laugh when I was with you, helping me review my papers, or giving me ideas for homework. It meant the world to me that I had your support and love.



Ian Thulin

Degree:

BS Psychology

I would like to thank my parents for fostering my desire to understand the world around me. I would like to thank my sister for reminding me to enjoy the small things that are easily passed by. And I would like to thank my brother for accompanying me on the many wild journeys of my imagination. Without you none of this would have been possible.





Jesus Alberto Verduzco

Degree:

BA Psychology (Chicano Studies minor)

I want to thank everyone who has helped & supported me throughout this journey. A special thank you to my Mom & Dad for all your sacrifices!

-Mark 9:23



*Congratulations to the Class of
Fall 2019 - Spring 2020*



[illegible]

*Masters & Doctoral Graduate
Photo Submissions
and Acknowledgements*





Degree: PhD

Faculty Mentor: Steven P. Verney, PhD

Dissertation Title: INTERSECTIONALITY BETWEEN SEX/GENDER AND RACE/ETHNICITY ON COGNITIVE TRAJECTORIES AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Dissertation Description: Justina investigated the intersectionality between race/ethnicity and sex/gender as determinants of specific socio-cultural experiences that shape biological risk factors and distinct cognitive health trajectories leading to Alzheimer's disease (AD). Her findings suggest that testing interactions between race/ethnicity and sex/gender yields a more nuanced understanding of mechanisms of AD disparities and may lead to the development of new strategies to prevent or slow AD-related cognitive decline.

Acknowledgements: I would like to thank my mentor Dr. Steven Verney for his guidance, support, and wisdom. Thank you, Dr. Verney, for investing in my professional development and helping me to cultivate my passion for health disparities. Thank you to my mother for instilling in me a strong commitment to education and social justice and my father for teaching me his strong work ethic. To my amazing wife, I am so happy we get to share this experience together. Thank you for making me a better person every day and always supporting my dreams. Thank you to my brother and second mother, as well as the rest of my amazing family and friends who have supported me from the beginning.

Rebecca Avila-Rieger



Degree: PhD

Faculty Mentor: Ron Yeo, PhD

Dissertation Title: Socioeconomic and Neuroanatomic Contributions to Language Performance in Children born Very Preterm at Preschool and School Age

Dissertation Description: The complex associations among socioeconomic status, prematurity, and neuroanatomy on language performance were examined in children born very preterm.

Acknowledgements:

I would like to thank my mentor, Dr. Ronald Yeo, for his encouragement and wisdom. Dr. Yeo's curiosity, intellectual rigor, and overall passion for the integrity of science has made me a better researcher. To Dr. Steven Verney, whose commitment to health disparities inspired me to ask these hard questions. I have learned from you not just to sit with disheartening realities but to ask what I personally can do about them. I would like to thank Dr. Jean Lowe, who so seamlessly bridges her clinical and research endeavors. Your dedication to families of very preterm children is inspirational, and I will always be grateful that you introduced me to the complex phenomenon of preterm birth. I would also like to thank Dr. Richard Campbell for being one of my first clinical supervisors and teaching me how to translate my research into clinical practice. Thank you to Dr. Robin Ohls for allowing me to be involved in the BRITE project. And I want to thank all of my clinical supervisors over the course of graduate school who showed me the importance of this kind of work.

Finally, I want to acknowledge my family and friends for their unwavering support. To my wife, Justina, whose academic passion and fierce dedication to fighting health disparities was catching. Thank you for your support and encouragement. Thank you to my parents, Heidi and Richard, for encouraging me to pursue graduate school and supporting me even when I moved across the country to do so. To my sisters, Hillary and Abigail, who always offered an empathetic ear and whose dedication to healthcare parallels my own.

Jalene Herron



Degree: MS

Faculty Mentor: Kamilla Venner, PhD

Thesis Title: Cultural Factors and Alcohol Use in American Indian Adults: Results from a Randomized Controlled Trial of Contingency Management

Thesis Description: My thesis examined the impact of cultural relevant risk and protective factors on alcohol use in American Indian adults involved in a randomized controlled trial of contingency management to reduce alcohol use. Results suggested the importance of enculturation as a protective factor against heavy drinking in reservation dwelling American Indian adults.

Acknowledgements: I'd like to express my gratitude to my mentor, Kamilla Venner, and my committee members, Davood Tofighi and Michael McDonell, for guiding me through the process of my thesis. Thank you to my fellow lab mates, friends, and my partner for their support and encouragement. *Quyana cakneq*, to my parents, Bob and Margaret Herron, for their love and guidance and for raising me with Yup'ik values that I carry with me always, *kenkamken*.

Eric Kruger



Degree: PhD Health Psychology

Faculty Mentor: Kevin Vowles

Dissertation Title: Addressing Content, Convergent and Predictive Validity of Implicit Pain-Related Fear in Chronic Low Back Pain

Dissertation Description: Chronic low back pain (CLBP) is a common condition that can lead to emotional distress and physical disability. Fear of pain, a phobic-like response to pain, can contribute to avoidance behavior that leads to deconditioning, disability and emotional distress. Physical therapists have increasingly incorporated psychological factors into their practice while simultaneously addressing fear of pain during treatment. Questionnaires remain the gold standard for measurement of pain-related fear. Recent work has explored the use of implicit methods for the measurement of pain related fear. The aim of this study was to assess implicit pain-related fear in participants with CLBP. Additionally, the convergent and predictive validity of implicit pain-related fear was examined in relation to explicit self-report measures, self-reported functioning and physical performance tasks.

Acknowledgements: I'd like to thank my parents, Dennis and Wendy Kruger, my wife, Melissa, and my daughter, Louisa. I could not have done this without the guidance of Dr. Vowles, Dr. Witkiewitz and Dr. Delaney—you all were my Virgil through the inferno. I also especially appreciate my peers in my cohort, I'll cherish these relationships for the rest of my life.

Gabriela López



Degree: PhD

Faculty Mentor: Elizabeth Yeater, PhD

Dissertation Title: Sexual Victimization, Mental Health, and Protective Factors among Women with Multiple Marginalized Statuses

Dissertation Description: Intersectionality (Crenshaw, 1989) and minority stress (Meyer, 2003) frameworks were used as theoretical foundations to examine associations among sexual minority status (e.g., lesbian and bisexual) and race/ethnicity (e.g., White, Black, Latinx), adult sexual victimization and revictimization, mental health symptoms (i.e., depression, anxiety, posttraumatic stress disorder), and protective factors (i.e., religiosity, spirituality, social support).

Acknowledgements:

First and foremost, I would like to thank my mentor, Dr. Elizabeth Yeater, for her invaluable mentorship and support throughout seven years of graduate school. Dr. Yeater's intellectual rigor and dedication to addressing sexual violence among women is admirable. She has made me a better clinical scientist. To my dissertation committee members, Dr. Kamilla Venner, Dr. Steve Verney, Dr. Tonda Hughes, and Dr. Cindy Veldhuis, thank you for your support and feedback throughout this project. I would also like to thank Dr. Blake Boursaw, Dr. Chance Strenth, and Dr. Katie Witkiewitz for their statistical guidance. To my fellowship mentors, Dr. Shannon Sanchez-Youngman and Dr. Gabriel Sanchez, thank you for teaching me everything you know about health disparities. Special thanks to Dr. Sarah Ullman, who invested in me as an undergraduate student and encouraged me to pursue graduate school. To all my clinical supervisors, I am so grateful for your dedication in helping me advance my clinical expertise in women's mental health. To every single one of my patients throughout graduate school and internship, it was an honor to be a part of your mental health journey.

Last, but never least, I would like to thank my friends and family for their continuous support, laughter, and encouragement. Thank you to my parents, Rafael and Teresa, for their love and guidance. *Muchas gracias por el sacrificio durante estos siete años; este doctorado es tanto suyo como es mío.*

John Madden



Degree: MS

Faculty Mentor: Nathan Pentkowski, PhD

Thesis Title: Antagonizing serotonin 2A (5-HT_{2A}) receptors attenuates methamphetamine-induced reward and blocks methamphetamine-induced anxiety-like behaviors in adult male rats

Thesis Description: Our study investigated the effects of the selective 5-HT_{2A} receptor antagonist M100907 on the acquisition of methamphetamine-conditioned place preference and methamphetamine-induced anxiety in adult male rats.

Acknowledgements: I'd like to thank my undergraduate research assistants Nicole Reyna and Emerald Goranson for their tireless efforts in helping with this research, my advisor Dr. Pentkowski for guiding me through this entire process, and lastly my wife Krystalyn Madden for all of her love and support across these last few years.



Degree: PhD Experimental Psychology

Faculty Mentor: James F. Cavanagh, PhD

Dissertation Title: The Relationships Between Brain Function, Brain Structure, and Behavior in Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Dissertation Description: Prenatal alcohol exposure (PAE), the leading cause of childhood developmental disability, has long-lasting effects extending throughout the lifespan. In this dissertation, we intend to show how white matter integrity, as assessed by fractional anisotropy, is associated with neural functioning, assessed via magnetoencephalography, and how this association relates to behavior. It is well documented that children prenatally exposed to alcohol have difficulties inhibiting behavior and sustaining attention. Thus, the Sustained Attention to Response Task, a Go/No-go paradigm, is especially well suited to assess the behavioral and neural functioning characteristics of PAE children. This dissertation shows that children 8-12 years old with PAE have decreased associations between brain structure and function, and that these deficits are associated with poorer performance on neuropsychological functioning.

Acknowledgements: First, I would like to thank my advisor, James F. Cavanagh, Ph.D. for taking me into his lab when I needed a new “home”, for his continuous encouragement, and for keeping me on track. Thanks for getting me back up on that horse when I needed it.

I would also like to thank Julia M. Stephen, Ph.D. for welcoming me into her lab and entrusting me with her project. Your guidance and friendship are invaluable and enduring. Thank you for your unending patience and sincere kindness.

Ruth Sarafin



Degree: PhD

Faculty Mentor: Geoffrey Miller, PhD

Dissertation Title: Manipulation of human behavior by sexually transmitted organisms: STO infection status as a predictor of later sexual behavior

Dissertation Description: Men who contract genital herpes have more sexual partners at follow-up than STO-free men, which is consistent with theories of manipulation of host behavior by pathogens.

Acknowledgements: Thanks to my advisor, Geoffrey Miller, and my committee, Joe Alcock, Marco Del Giudice, and Steve Gangestad. Also, thanks to my family and my friends who became my family. I love you all.

Brandi Shannon Seaman



Degree: PhD

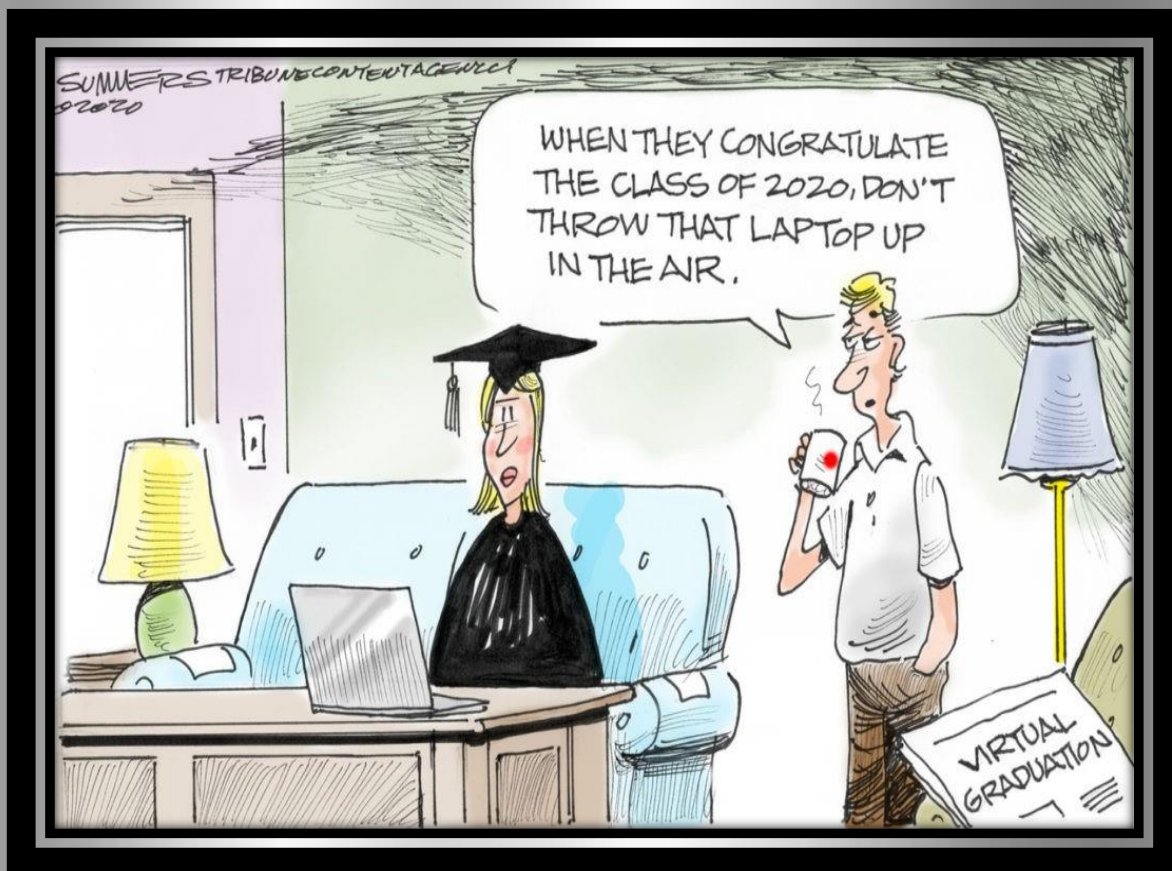
Faculty Mentor: Ron Yeo, PhD

Dissertation Title: Subjective Cognitive Complaints, Affective Distress, and Objective Cognitive Performance in Mild Traumatic Brain Injury

Dissertation Description: My doctoral dissertation focused on individuals with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI) and examined subjective cognitive complaints, objective cognitive deficits (as measured by neuropsychological assessment), and the role mood plays in overall symptom presentation. Results indicated that depression appears to be a critical treatment target for improving quality of life in patients with mTBI.

Acknowledgements: I would like to express my gratitude to my mentor, Dr. Ron Yeo, whose expertise, guidance, and patience has been invaluable throughout my graduate training. My deepest heartfelt appreciation goes to my parents, Susan and Ray Seaman for always believing in me. Thank you for your unfailing support and continuous encouragement. Thank you to my friends, family, and colleagues for your love and support.

Congratulations Masters & Doctoral Graduates



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University of Rhode Island

PROFESSORS

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Neuroscience Center
University of California, San Diego

Derek Hamilton, Ph.D.
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Area Head, Cognition,
Brain and Behavior
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Director of Clinical Training
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The University of New Mexico

Department of Psychology



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
KIM LARRANAGA

JANUARY 20, 1972

NOVEMBER 1, 2019



Kim would like her memory to be carried on to be a happy one. To leave an Afterglow of smiles when the day is done. She would' like to leave an echo... whispering softly down the halls of the Psychology Department to be of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days and would want the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun of happy memories that she has left behind when the day is done.

