

Alyssa Marie Hernandez

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EDUCATION

- 2022- Present **University of Pennsylvania**
PhD Student, Clinical Psychology
Faculty Advisor: David Mandell, PhD
- 2024 **University of Pennsylvania**
MA, Psychology
- 2016 **University of Texas at Austin**
BS, Psychology, Biology Minor
Faculty Advisor: Jessica A. Church-Lang, PhD

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & SPONSORSHIPS

- 2023 – 2027 **Health Policy Research Scholars - \$124, 000**, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation,
A national leadership development program for PhD students who are committed
to ensuring their research is aligned with the health needs of communities
- 2022 - 2023 **Fontaine Fellowship - \$82,000**, University of Pennsylvania,
Awarded to PhD students whose research and experiences will enhance the
diversity of the professoriate
- 2015 -2016 **Hibbs Undergraduate Research Award - \$1,000**, UT Austin,
Task Switching Manipulations in Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity
Disorder
Role: PI, undergraduate honors thesis
- 2015 - 2016 **Undergraduate Research Fellowship - \$1,000**, UT Austin,
Task Switching Manipulations in Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity
Disorder
Role: PI, undergraduate honors thesis
- 2015 - 2016 **Liberal Arts Honors Rapoport Fourth-Year Scholarship - \$2,000**, UT Austin,
Awarded by honors program based on academic performance
- 2016 **Dallas Foundation and Decherd Scholarship - \$4,500**, UT Austin,
Awarded by honors program based on academic performance
- 2014 **Liberal Arts Honors Second-Year Scholarship - \$1,000**, UT Austin,
Awarded by honors program based on academic performance

- 2013 **Liberal Arts Honors Prather Scholarship - \$1,000**, UT Austin
Awarded by honors program faculty based on academic performance
- 2012 - 2013 **South Texas Academic Rising Scholars Scholarship - \$3,500**, STARS Scholarship Fund. Awarded to South Texas students based on academic performance to provide equal opportunity for advancement in higher education

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2025 **Penn Arts & Sciences Dean's Scholar**, UPenn
- 2016 **College of Liberal Arts Dean's Distinguished Graduates Departmental Finalist**, UT Austin
- 2016 **Psychology Departmental Honors**, UT Austin
- 2015 **Psi Chi International Psychology Honors Society**, UT Austin
- 2012 **Liberal Arts Honors Program**, UT Austin

MANUSCRIPTS

1. Hugh, M.L., Michael, O., Joshi, M., **Hernandez, A. M.**, & Locke, J. (under review). Educators' Exploration and Adoption-Decisions of Evidence-Based Practices for Autistic Students.
2. **Hernandez, A. M.**, Straiton, D., Mandell, D. S., Ingersoll, B., Crabbe, S., Rieth, S., & Pellecchia, M. (2025). Short report: Associations of family characteristics and clinicians' use of caregiver coaching in early intervention. *Autism*, 13623613251317780. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13623613251317780>
3. Tagavi, D. M., Harbin, S. G., Hugh, M. L., **Hernandez, A. M.**, Joshi, M., Pullmann, M. D., & Locke, J. (2024). Examining Professional Development for Special Education Teachers, General Education Teachers, and Paraeducators Who Support Autistic Elementary Students. *Evidence-Based Practice in Child and Adolescent Mental Health*, 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23794925.2024.2378419>
4. Albright, J., **Hernandez, A. M.**, Piotrowski, Z., Russo, J., Cooney, D., Nutini, M., Sabatino, N., Dodd, D., Mandell, D., & Worley, J. (2024). Lessons Learned from a University-School District Partnership to Improve Autism Care in Public Schools. *Journal of Educational and Psychological Consultation*, 1–22. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10474412.2024.2303512>
5. Ahlers, K., Hugh, M. L., Tagavi, D., Eayrs, C., **Hernandez, A. M.**, Ho, T., & Locke, J. (2023). "On an island by myself": Implications for the inclusion of autistic students in self-contained classrooms in public elementary schools. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 14, 1241892. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2023.1241892>
6. **Hernandez, A.M.**, Michael, O., Canning, G., Joshi, M., Osuna, A., Locke, J. (2023). Educators' Experiences and Reflections on the Implementation of Evidence-Based Practices for Autistic Students in Public Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Implementation Research and Practice*. 4 26334895231189197. <https://doi.org/10.1177/26334895231189197>.
7. Hugh, M. L., Pullmann, M. D., Joshi, M., Tagavi, D. M., Ahlers, K., **Hernandez, A. M.**, & Locke, J. (2023). Educators' Perspectives on Training Mechanisms That Facilitate Evidence-Based Practice Use for Autistic Students in General Education Settings: A Mixed-Methods Analysis. *Teacher Education and Special Education*, 08884064231178768. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08884064231178768>

8. Mathias, S. R., Knowles, E. E. M., Mollon, J., Rodrigue, A. L., Woolsey, M. K., **Hernandez, A. M.**, Garret, A. S., Fox, P. T., Olvera, R. L., Peralta, J. M., Kumar, S., Göring, H. H. H., Duggirala, R., Curran, J. E., Blangero, J., & Glahn, D. C. (2023). Cocktail-party listening and cognitive abilities show strong pleiotropy. *Frontiers in Neurology*, 14, 1071766. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fneur.2023.1071766>
9. Locke, J., **Hernandez, A. M.**, Joshi, M., Hugh, M. L., Bravo, A., Osuna, A., Pullmann, M. D. (2022). Supporting the inclusion and retention of autistic students: Exploring teachers' and paraeducators' use of evidence-based practices in public elementary schools. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 13, 961219. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyt.2022.961219>.
10. Mathias, S. R., Knowles, E. E. M., Mollon, J., Rodrigue, A. L., Woolsey, M. K., **Hernandez, A. M.**, Garrett, A. S., Fox, P. T., Olvera, R. L., Peralta, J. M., Kumar, S., Göring, H. H. H., Duggirala, R., Curran, J. E., Blangero, J., & Glahn, D. C. (2022). The Genetic contribution to solving the cocktail-party problem. *iScience*, 25(9), 104997. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isci.2022.104997>

WORKING MANUSCRIPTS

1. Straiton, D., **Hernandez, A.M.**, Mandell, D. S., Pellechia, M. (in preparation) Construct Validity of Parent Empowerment and Coaching in Early Intervention (PEACE) Caregiver Coaching Fidelity Tool.
2. **Hernandez, A. M.**, Zhang, K., Kahn, A., Piotrowski, Z., Cooney, D., Sabatino, N., Mandell, D., Worley, J. (in preparation) School Characteristics and EBP Fidelity Predict Attrition Among Autism Support Teachers in Urban Economically Disadvantaged Schools: A Ten-Year Survival Analysis

INVITED TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

1. **Hernandez, A. M.**, Jones, J., Davis, C., Dorsey, S. (2022, July). *SMARTer Presentation: Applying to Graduate School*. Invited panelist for School Mental Health Assessment, Research, & Training (SMART) Center SMARTer series presentation. [Recording](#)

POSTERS

1. **Hernandez, A. M.**, Zhang, K., Kahn, A., Russo, J., Piotrowski, Z., Cooney, D., Nutini, M., Dodd, D., Sabatino, N., Mandell, D., Worley, J. (2024, September) Examining implementation factors associated with attrition among autism support educators in urban economically disadvantaged schools: A survival analysis approach [Poster presentation] Society for Implementation Research Collaboration 7th Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado.
2. **Hernandez, A. M.**, Straiton, D., Mandell, D., Crabbe, S., Pellechia, M. (2024, May) Construct Validity of Parent Empowerment and Coaching in Early Intervention (PEACE) Caregiver Coaching Fidelity Tool. [Poster presentation] International Society for Autism Research 23rd Annual Meeting, Melbourne, Australia.
3. **Hernandez, A. M.**, Kahn, A., Russo, J., Piotrowski, Z., Cooney, D., Nutini, M., Dodd, D., Sabatino, N., Mandell, D., Worley, J. (2024, May) Should I Stay or Should I Go? When and Why Autism Support Teachers Leave. [Poster presentation] International Society for Autism Research 23rd Annual Meeting, Melbourne, Australia
4. **Hernandez, A.M.**, Mandell, D. S., Ingersoll B. R., Crabbe, S. R., Carranco, D. E., Pellechia, M. (2023, May) The Association of Family Characteristics and Clinicians' Use of Caregiver Coaching in Early

Intervention. [Poster presentation] International Society for Autism Research 22nd Annual Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden.

5. **Hernandez, A.M.**, Pullmann, M., Hugh, M., Joshi, M., Locke, J. (2022, May) The Use of Psychological and Organizational Theories to Predict Implementation of Evidence-Based Practices in School Settings. [Poster presentation] International Society for Autism Research 21st Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.
6. Bravo, A., Hugh, M., **Hernandez, A.**, Joshi, M. Pullmann, M., Osuna, A., & Locke, J. (2022, March) Educators use of evidence-based strategies to facilitate inclusion of autistic students. [Poster presentation], Association for Behavior Analysis International 16th Annual Autism Conference, Seattle, WA.
7. Pierucci, J. M., **Hernandez, A. M.**, H. Lucente, Aquino, G. A., & Garcia, G. (2021, May). Systematic review of ASD intervention services and treatment programs in Africa. [Poster presentation], International Society for Autism Research 20th Annual Meeting, Virtual.
8. Zheng, A., **Hernandez, A.M.**, Bauer, J.R., Larsen, M.E., Church, J.A. (2017, April). Cued Task Switching Performance in Children with and without an ADHD Diagnosis. [Poster presentation], Society for Research in Child Development 2017 Biennial Meeting, Austin, TX.
9. **Hernandez, A.M.**, Zheng, A., Martinez, J. E., Roe, M. A., Bauer, J.R., Church, J. A. (2016, April–May). Task Switching Manipulations in Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. [Poster presentation], University of Texas at Austin: Longhorn Research Bazaar; College of Liberal Arts Honors Poster Session; and Psychology Departmental Honors Poster Session, Austin, TX.

MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Date	Name, Institution	Role
2024-	Abetzi Vazquez, University of Pennsylvania	Undergraduate Student
2022-2024	Olivia Michael, University of Miami	Graduate Student
2022-	Adora C Du, University of Washington	Research Coordinator

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

July 2021 – **Project Coordinator**
 Aug 2022 *School Mental Health Assessment, Research, and Training Center | University of Washington, WA*
Principal Investigator: Jill J. Locke, Ph.D.

Project Title(s):

Autism Intervention Research Network for Behavioral Health (AIR-B) Projects
 (Health Resources and Services Administration - UT3MC39436)

Preparing Teachers and Paraeducators for the Successful Inclusion of Children with ASD (Institute of Education Sciences [IES]- R324A200033)

Responsibilities: Collaborated enrollment and data collection with over 11 schools across 8 districts in Washington state; conducted descriptive and inferential statistical analyses; co-facilitated Community Advisory Board meetings; communicating, consenting, and distributing measures to parents of autistic children enrolled; developed HIPAA-compliant data collection measures via REDCap

and Qualtrics applications; trained research associates across recruitment, data collection, and analyses protocols

Mar 2019 –
June 2021

Research Area Specialist

Research Imaging Institute | UTHealth San Antonio, TX

Principal Investigator: David Glahn, Ph.D.

Project Title: Imaging Genomics of the Aging Brain (National Institute of Health [NIH] - R01AG058464)

Responsibilities: Conducted Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview (MINI) and health and wellness interview with >100 Mexican-American adults and geriatric participants of diverse socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds; participated in case conferences with licensed clinical psychologist; administered clinical instruments and neurocognitive tasks to >250 participants; developed Spanish adaptation of clinical and neurocognitive battery

Jan 2015 -
Aug 2016

Undergraduate Honors Research Student

Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Lab | University of Texas at Austin, TX

Principal Investigator: Jessica A. Church-Lang, Ph.D.

Project Title: Task Switching Manipulations in Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

Responsibilities: Proposed, initiated, and designed protocol for independent honors research study; administered neuropsychological assessments and neurocognitive computer tasks to >50 children with ADHD; conducted descriptive and inferential statistical analyses, including mixed-effect model analyses of performance accuracy and reaction time data, utilizing R statistical software; initiated and established working relationship with Austin Independent School District

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Feb 2017 -
Mar 2019

Psychometrician

South Texas Neuropsychology | San Antonio, Texas

Administered neuropsychological assessments to adult and geriatric clients for neurological and psychological diagnostic considerations. Conducted and observed English- and Spanish-speaking patient psychoanalytic interviews.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Aug 2016 -
Dec 2016

Volunteer Teacher Assistant

English Opens Doors Program, Ministry of Education

Liceo Bicentenario Enrique Ballacey Cottereau | Angol, Araucanía Region, Chile

Taught and planned English language lessons to native Spanish speaking high school students. Mentored and directed English Debate team.

July 2014 -
Aug 2015

Counselor

Spilled Milk Social Club | Austin, Texas

Provided care and tutoring services to elementary age children, including neurotypical and children with neurological, developmental, and learning

disabilities. Initiated and executed interactive projects to engage children and cultivate enthusiasm for learning and creativity.

May 2013 -
July 2013

Elementary School Tutor

Gonzalez Elementary School | Weslaco, Texas

Taught bilingual pre-kindergartener and kindergartener students. Cooperated with multiple teachers in lesson plans and goals for the summer program.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2022 – Present | Founder and President, Penn Multicultural Consultation Team |
| 2022 – Present | Member, Penn Clinical Psychology Inclusion, Diversity, Equity Action Committee:
<i>Syllabus Review Team</i> |
| 2022 – Present | Volunteer Mentor, Penn's Diversity & Equity Initiative (DivE In) in the mind sciences |

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2022 – Present | Penn Science and Diplomacy Group
<i>Science Policy Special Interest Group</i>
<i>Science Communication Special Interest Group</i> |
| 2022 – Present | AcademyHealth |
| 2020 – Present | University of California, San Diego Dissemination & Implementation Science Center |
| 2020 – Present | International Society for Autism Research |

TECHNOLOGY AND LANGUAGE SKILLS

Spanish, Advanced
R statistical software, Proficient
REDCap database platform, Proficient
Qualtrics survey platform, Proficient