

Julie A. Alvarez, PhD

Department of Psychology

Tulane University

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LICENSURE, EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND, HONORS/AWARDS

- 2021** [Suzanne and Stephen Weiss Presidential Fellow](#), Awarded for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Tulane University (New Orleans, LA)
- 2020** [Dean's Hero Award](#), School of Science and Engineering, Tulane University (New Orleans, LA)
- 2015** Named as one of the "Ten Must Take Psychology Professors in New Orleans, LA" by [CareersΨnPsychology.org](#)
- 2012–Present** Licensed Clinical Neuropsychologist (#1204), LA State Board of Examiners of Psychologists
- 2005** PhD in Clinical Psychology, Emory University (Atlanta, GA)
- 2001** MA in Clinical Psychology, Emory University (Atlanta, GA)
- 1999-2002** Beinecke Brothers Memorial Scholarship for Graduate Study
One of seventeen awarded nationally for doctoral students in any field, awarded 1997
- 1998** BA in Psychology and Classical Studies, Tulane University (New Orleans, LA)
Phi Beta Kappa, *Summa Cum Laude* with Honors in Psychology

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2014–Present** Senior Professor of Practice and Director of Master's Programs in Behavioral Health and Psychological Science, Department of Psychology, Tulane University (New Orleans, LA)
- 2013–2015** Psychologist, Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System (New Orleans, LA)
- 2012–2013** Senior Professor of Practice, Department of Psychology, Tulane University (New Orleans, LA)
- 2006–2012** Professor of Practice, Department of Psychology, Tulane University (New Orleans, LA)
- 2005–2007** Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellow, Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center (Houston, TX)
- 2004–2005** Clinical Psychology Predoctoral Intern, Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System (New Orleans, LA)
- 2003–2004** Dean's Teaching Fellow, Department of Psychology, Emory University (Atlanta, GA)

TEACHING GRANTS

Faculty Development Grant, Center for Engaged Learning and Teaching (CELT) at Tulane University (Summer 2019). Attended the Teaching Professor Conference in New Orleans from June 7-9, 2019.

CELT Classroom Enhancement Grant (Spring 2016). Purchased clinical neuropsychological test battery norms for an interactive classroom activity in PSYC 3180 Psychological Testing and Measurement.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

COLQ 1020 Sports Head Injuries and Concussions, Tulane University, Fall 2016–Fall 2017. Reviewed research studies examining sport-related concussion (SRC), discussed the challenges in studying athletes with SRC, and introduced students to clinical tools for assessment of SRC as well as SRC management.

INTU 2000 Seeking Knowledge: Exploring How Various Disciplines Recognize Truth, Tulane University, Fall 2010–Fall 2012. Examined various academic disciplines' epistemological approaches and methods of research. Helped students formulate their own research questions to study.

PSYC 1000 Introductory Psychology, Tulane University, Fall 2006–Summer 2021. Introduced students to various areas within the field of psychology. Discussed psychology from a scientific perspective, using experimental findings to explain mental processes and behavior.

PSYC 200 Experimental Methods Laboratory, Emory University, Spring 2001. Introduced students to the process of how to conduct, analyze, and write up three commonly used methods of psychological research (naturalistic observation, survey research, and experimental research).

PSYC 210 Adult Abnormal Psychology, Emory University, Summer 2003. Examined etiology, diagnosis, and treatment of adult psychological disorders. Covered major theoretical models of clinical disorders.

PSYC 230 Elementary Statistics Laboratory, Emory University, Fall 2000. Taught weekly labs using SPSS. Graded lab assignments, organized a class website, held review sessions, and proctored exams.

PSYC 313 Neuropsychology of Childhood Disability, Emory University, Fall 2003. Surveyed the neuropsychology of developmental disorders, including the implications for education and social adjustment.

PSYC 3180 Psychological Testing and Measurement, Tulane University, Fall 2006–Fall 2022. Presented students with an overview of the process of psychological test development and analysis.

PSYC 3185 Psychological Testing and Measurement Laboratory, Tulane University, Fall 2006–Fall 2020. Provided students with an opportunity to work “hands-on” with the development, administration, and analysis of a psychological test in which students wrote and critiqued test items, entered test data, analyzed test data, and communicated the results of their statistical analyses in writing.

PSYC 3530 Introduction to Health Psychology, Tulane University, Fall 2021–Fall 2024. Introduced students to the field of health psychology. Discussed how psychological research methods, theories, and principles can be applied to enhance biomedical approaches for promoting health and treating illness.

PSYC 4670/6670 Clinical Neuropsychological Assessment, Tulane University, Fall 2007–Spring 2022. Introduced students to the theory and practice of clinical neuropsychological assessment. Examined the basic domains of cognitive functioning and discussed how clinical neuropsychologists measure those functions.

PSYC 6700 Health Psychology I, Tulane University, Fall 2014–Fall 2024. Examined how biological, psychological, and social factors interact with and affect the efforts people make in promoting good health and preventing illness, the treatment people receive, how effectively people cope with and reduce stress and pain, and the recovery, rehabilitation, and psychosocial adjustment of patients with serious health problems.

PSYC 6710 Health Psychology II, Tulane University, Spring 2015–Spring 2024. Examined contemporary topics in health psychology with direct relevance to the priorities outlined in recent healthcare reforms.

PSYC 6810 Professional Issues for MS Students, Tulane University, Spring 2024–Fall 2024. Created a new 3-credit course for terminal master of science students in Behavioral Health and Psychological Science to help them utilize and apply their skills and knowledge of psychology and prepare them for their future professions.

PSYC 755 Neuropsychological Assessment Practicum, Emory University, Spring 2002. Instructed advanced doctoral students regarding the administration, scoring, and interpretation of clinical neuropsychological tests.

PSYC 7620 Psychoeducational Assessment II, Tulane University, Spring 2008–Spring 2011. Familiarized doctoral students with research related to clinical judgment and diagnostic decision-making. Provided training in clinical assessment of personality and socioemotional functioning in children, adolescents, and adults through the use of clinical interviews, symptom rating scales, and personality instruments.

TIDE 1270 Psychology in the Movies, Tulane InterDisciplinary Experience Seminar, Fall 2009–Fall 2012. Introduced first semester freshmen to current theory and research in social and clinical psychology and used films to assist in provoking thought and analysis of the theory and research.

Undergraduate Summer Study Abroad Program, Emory University, Summer 2000. Oversaw neuropsychological data collection at elementary schools in Canterbury, England. Assisted students with data analysis and write-up of results at University College London.

PUBLICATIONS

- Alvarez, J. A.,** & Emory, E. (2012). Executive functions and the frontal lobes: A meta-analytic review. In G. J. Boyle, D. H. Saklofske, & G. Matthews (Eds.), *Psychological assessment (SAGE benchmarks in psychology): Volume three: Clinical neuropsychological assessment* (pp. 27-73). SAGE.
- Alvarez, J. A.,** Oveson, K., & Vasterling, J. J. (2011). Neurobehavioral aspects of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). In G. Goldstein, T. M. Incagnoli, & A. E. Puente (Eds.), *Contemporary neurobehavioral syndromes* (pp. 151-174). Psychology Press.
- Vasterling, J. J., Grande, L., Graefe, A., & **Alvarez, J. A.** (2010). Neuropsychological assessment of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). In C. Armstrong & L. Morrow (Eds.), *Handbook of medical neuropsychology* (pp. 447-465). Springer.
- Vasterling, J. J., & **Alvarez, J. A.** (2008). Cognitive impairments associated with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). In G. Reyes, J. D. Elhai, & J. D. Ford (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of psychological trauma* (pp. 138-140). Wiley.
- York, M., & **Alvarez, J. A.** (2008). Cognitive impairments associated with Parkinson's disease. In M. Trail, E. Protas, & E. Lai (Eds.), *Neurorehabilitation in Parkinson's disease: An evidenced-based treatment model* (pp. 71-100). Slack Incorporated.
- Alvarez, J. A.,** & Emory, E. (2006). Executive functions and the frontal lobes: A meta-analytic review. *Neuropsychology Review, 16*, 17-42. doi:10.1007/s11065-006-9002-x
- Tan, G., **Alvarez, J. A.,** & Jensen, M. P. (2006). Complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) approaches to pain management. *Journal of Clinical Psychology: In Session, 62*, 1419-1431. doi:10.1002/jclp.20321
- Alvarez, J. A.,** & Freides, D. (2004). Research on attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder using the covert orienting paradigm of Posner. *Developmental Neuropsychology, 26*, 627-645. doi:10.1207/s15326942dn2602_6

PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- Alvarez, J. A.** (2004, April). *A clinical version of Posner's covert orienting of visuospatial attention task.* Paper presented at the Emory University Clinical Research Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Alvarez, J. A.** (2003, April). *Executive function measures: A meta-analytic review.* Paper presented at the Emory University Clinical Research Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Alvarez, J. A.** (2002, June). *Sensory variables influence the magnitude of inhibition of return.* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Society, New Orleans, LA.
- Alvarez, J. A.** (2002, April). *Temporal parameters of inhibition of return.* Paper presented at the Emory University Clinical Research Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Freides, D., Simmons, W. K., **Alvarez, J. A.,** & Cederberg, K. (2001, March). *Posner's covert orienting of attention.* Paper presented at the Emory University Clinical Research Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Alvarez, J. A.** (2000, April). *A clinical test of covert orienting: Exogenous and endogenous processing in a single task.* Paper presented at the Emory University Clinical Research Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Fader, A. J., **Alvarez, J. A.,** & Dohanich, G. P. (1998, May). *Estrogen impairs performance during acquisition of the Barnes circular platform maze.* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, Atlanta, GA.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellow (September 2005 – March 2007)

Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center (Houston, TX)

Administered a neuropsychological assessment battery to veterans with Parkinson's disease as part of a longitudinal study entitled "A Comparison of Best Medical Therapy and Subthalamic Nucleus and Globus Pallidus Deep Brain Stimulation for the Treatment of Parkinson's Disease."

Clinical Psychology Predoctoral Intern (July 2004 – July 2005)

Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System (New Orleans, LA)

Administered a neuropsychological assessment battery to Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans at Fort Lewis and Fort Hood as part of a longitudinal study entitled "Prospective Neurocognitive Assessment of Future Deployed and Non-Deployed Military Personnel."

Graduate Student Research Assistant (August 1999 – July 2004)

Emory University, Department of Psychology, Neuropsychology Laboratory (Atlanta, GA)

Conceptualized laboratory projects, collected and analyzed data, submitted findings, and supervised undergraduate research assistants. Master's thesis research examined a version of the covert orienting task designed to clarify the temporal parameters necessary for generating inhibition of return. Dissertation research examined a modified version of the covert orienting task in order to determine whether this task could be used as a diagnostic tool for the measurement of attention in clinical settings.

Professional Psychology Trainee (August 1998 – August 1999)

Devereux Foundation, Institute of Clinical Training and Research (Villanova, PA)

Completed full-time, 12-month program that combined didactic and applied training in mental health research and psychological services. Participated in applied research projects, including refinement of the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment and Devereux Early Childhood Initiative. Responsible for data collection and analysis for a study examining the relationship between aggression and depression in an adolescent population with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities and comorbid behavioral disorders.

Undergraduate Student Research Assistant (May 1997 – May 1998)

Tulane University, Department of Psychology, Psychobiology Laboratory (New Orleans, LA)

Examined the effects of estrogen and gender on performance of Long-Evans rats on tasks of learning and memory, including the Morris water maze and radial arm maze. Participated in all phases of laboratory research, including animal handling and care, surgical techniques, drug and hormone administration, behavioral testing, and data collection and analysis. Conducted an honors thesis that examined the effects of estrogen and gender on performance of Long-Evans rats during acquisition of two versions of the Barnes circular platform maze.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Psychologist (June 2013 – May 2015)

Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System (New Orleans, LA)

Performed compensation and pension evaluations for veterans and active duty servicemembers requesting or receiving service-connection for disabilities related to posttraumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and/or other mental disorders listed in the Request for Examination received from the Veterans Affairs Regional Office (VARO). Reviewed each patient's claims file, service treatment records, and electronic medical records in the VA's Computerized Patient Record System. Conducted extensive psychological interviews, including psychological testing when necessary. Utilized Disability Benefits Questionnaires prepared by the Disability Examination Management Office and tailored to the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities to document pertinent information from the records review and clinical interview. Scored and interpreted psychological testing and reviewed all data to arrive at an objective diagnostic opinion using the current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. Prepared and electronically submitted a written report of the findings to VARO through the Compensation and Pension Record Interchange.

Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellow (September 2005 – March 2007)

Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center (Houston, TX)

Reviewed neuropsychology consults, conducted clinical interviews with veterans (and family members when appropriate), reviewed relevant medical records, administered and scored a neuropsychological test battery, prepared a written report of the findings and conclusions, and provided feedback to the veteran, family members, and/or treatment team. Led weekly group on an inpatient psychiatry unit. Attended Postdoctoral Program Seminar, Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Centers Career Development Seminar, Neuropathology Rounds, and Baylor Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Grand Rounds. Presented an assessment case and a psychotherapeutic case at the VA Postdoctoral Program Seminar.

Clinical Psychology Predoctoral Intern (July 2004 – July 2005)

Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System (New Orleans, LA)

Completed Behavioral Medicine, Clinical Neuropsychology, Research, and Geropsychology rotations. Led weekly smoking cessation, chronic pain management, and hepatitis C groups. Provided individual psychotherapy to selected neurologically compromised veterans. Reviewed neuropsychology consults, conducted clinical interviews with veterans (and family members when appropriate), reviewed relevant medical records, administered and scored a neuropsychological test battery, prepared a written report of the findings and conclusions, and provided feedback to the veteran, family members, and/or treatment team. Conducted weekly compensation and pension examinations to assess claims for service-connected disabilities related to a cognitive or emotional problem and submitted a written report of the findings to the VA Regional Office. Attended weekly clinics and seminars including the Memory Disorders Clinic, Comprehensive Pain Evaluation Team, Neuroradiology Case Conference, and Neuroanatomy Laboratory. Presented a psychotherapeutic case and an assessment case at the Mental Health Service Line Inservice.

Neuropsychology Extern (August 2003 – June 2004)

Emory Center for Rehabilitation Medicine (Atlanta, GA)

Conducted clinical interviews with patients (and family members when appropriate), reviewed relevant medical records, administered and scored an extensive neuropsychological fixed test battery, prepared a written report of the findings and conclusions, and provided feedback to a population of adolescents and adults with various impairments including epilepsy, traumatic brain injury, stroke, neurocognitive disorders, and post-traumatic amnesia. Presented cases at a weekly case conference.

Clinical Psychology Extern (June 2001 – June 2004)

Emory University Psychological Center (Atlanta, GA)

Provided individual psychotherapy at a low-cost, sliding scale community clinic to adult clients with mood disorders, anxiety disorders, adjustment disorders, substance-related disorders, and personality disorders. Supervised in cognitive-behavioral, behavioral, interpersonal, and family systems approaches. Conducted psychological and neuropsychological assessments (i.e., interview, testing, report writing, and feedback) with children, adolescents, and adults with various disorders including specific learning disorders, intellectual disabilities, and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. Presented cases at a weekly case conference meeting. Assisted fellow graduate students with administering, scoring, and interpreting tests.

Psychotherapy Extern (January 2003 – June 2003)

Emory University Student Counseling Center (Atlanta, GA)

Provided individual psychotherapy to undergraduate and graduate students in a free university clinic with various diagnoses including major depressive disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, adjustment disorder, substance-related disorders, and trichotillomania.

Group Facilitator (September 2001 – May 2002)

Atlanta Girls' School, Grades 6-10 (Atlanta, GA)

Conducted weekly psychoeducational group therapy with 11- to 16-year-old girls coping with typical developmental issues. Led group activities and discussion on topics such as self-esteem, stress, body image and eating behavior, relationships, and communication skills. Taught basic social and self-awareness skills, coping strategies, and emotion regulation. Provided consultation to teachers, administrators, and parents.

**Professional Psychology Trainee at the Devereux Kanner Center (August 1998 – August 1999)
Sexual Disorders Treatment Program (West Chester, PA)**

Participated in family and group therapy sessions, attended clinical treatment team meetings, undertook program-based applied research projects, and conducted client assessments with psychosexual assessment instruments at a residential program for the treatment of adolescent sex offenders (ages 13 to 18) with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities. Ran a weekly community living group and held weekly individual sessions for social skills training, life skills training, supportive counseling, and sex education.

Behavior Disorders Program (West Chester, PA)

Observed clients in their classrooms, conducted educational and social skills assessments, attended weekly individualized education program (IEP) meetings and Quarterly Medical Reviews, and participated in applied research projects at a residential treatment facility for children and adolescents with comorbid intellectual disabilities and behavioral disorders. Co-led a weekly family process group and held weekly individual sessions for supportive counseling, social skills training, and recreational activities.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Psychological Association, Member (#8564-0211)

National Academy of Neuropsychology, Professional Member (#8603)

SERVICE TO TULANE UNIVERSITY

Academic Appeals, Department of Psychology, 2014–2017, 2022–2023

Accelerated Master of Science Programs, Department of Psychology, Director, 2014–Present

Colloquium Committee, Department of Psychology, 2006–2007

Committee on Promotion of Professors of Practice, School of Science and Engineering, 2014–2017

Comprehensive Exam & Dissertation Committee Member, Department of Psychology (Tara Mathews, 2007-2009)

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Council, Department of Psychology, Faculty Representative for
Master's Programs in Behavioral Health and Psychological Science, 2023–Present

Flexible and Adaptive Learning Task Force, School of Science and Engineering, 2020

Graduate Training Committee, Department of Psychology, 2016–2020

Honors Thesis Committee Member, Newcomb-Tulane College (Sarah Frances, 2022–2023; Julianna Heron, 2018–2019; Laura Perry, 2015–2016; Camille Hardin, 2014–2015; Carolina Bejarano, 2012–2013; Alexandra Yarost, 2012–2013; Lauren Eierman, 2011–2012; Emma Ross, 2011–2012; Lissy Isaacson, 2010–2011; Stephanie Molina, 2010–2011; Sydney Smith, 2010–2011; Kelly Caravella, 2009–2010; Philip Fontenot, 2008–2009; Kristie Vail, 2008–2009; Cynthia King, 2007–2008; Jenna Rosen, 2007–2008; Samantha Shinsato, 2007–2008)

Independent Study Director, Department of Psychology (Hilary Adams, 2010; David Koppel, 2009; Emily Stammer, 2007)

Jean Danielson Memorial Scholarship, Newcomb-Tulane College, Selection Committee Member, 2015–Present

Letter of Recommendation Writer for Undergraduate and Graduate Students, 2007–Present

Master's Thesis Committee Member, Department of Psychology (Leah Walsh, 2017–2018; Emma Lewis, January 2017 – December 2017; Chinwendu Duru, 2016–2017)

Mortar Board National Honor Society, Newcomb Institute, Faculty Advisor, 2007–2009

MS Education Committee, Department of Psychology, Chair, 2024–Present

Newcomb Alumnae Association (NAA) Awards Committee, 2008–2013, 2020–Present

Newcomb Fellow / Faculty Affiliate, Newcomb Institute, 2006–2013, 2014–Present

Professors of Practice Task Force, School of Science and Engineering, 2011–2013

Revenue Generation Task Force, Department of Psychology, 2022–2023

School of Science and Engineering Alumni Relations Committee, Faculty Liaison, 2008–2010

School of Science and Engineering Graduate Studies Committee, 2023–Present

Search Committee, Visiting Assistant Professor of Psychology, Department of Psychology, 2021

Undergraduate Psychology Majors, Faculty Advisor, Department of Psychology, 2006–2013, 2014–Present

Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of Psychology, 2006–2013 and Fall 2014

University Senate, Committee on Committees (2021–2023), Elected Faculty Senator for the School of Science and Engineering (2018–2024), and Elected Faculty Senator-at-Large (2024–2025)