



# Psychology Research Labs

CLINICAL

Pamphlet by Psi Chi Chapter of Mississippi State  
Current as of Spring 2021



## HOW TO APPLY TO BE IN A LAB:

- EMAIL THE FACULTY MEMBER POLITELY AND PROFESSIONALLY. INCLUDE WHY YOU'RE INTERESTED IN THEIR LAB'S RESEARCH AND ASK IF YOU NEED TO HAVE TAKEN EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY AND INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGICAL STATISTICS IN ORDER TO JOIN THEIR LAB. TIP: IT MIGHT BE BENEFICIAL TO LOOK INTO THEIR LAB'S PUBLICATIONS WHICH ARE LOCATED ON THE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT WEBSITE -> FACULTY & STAFF -> MORE -> PUBLICATIONS.
- BE PATIENT. IF THE FACULTY MEMBER DOES NOT ANSWER IMMEDIATELY OR DOES NOT RESPOND, SEND A CHECK-IN EMAIL 1-2 WEEKS AFTER THE INITIAL EMAIL. IF THERE IS STILL NO RESPONSE, SEND ANOTHER CHECK-IN EMAIL 1-2 WEEKS AFTER THE SECOND EMAIL. THEY ARE BUSY. DON'T WORRY! THEY WILL GET BACK TO YOU. ASK THE FRONT OFFICE FOR THE FACULTY MEMBER'S OFFICE HOURS AND TRY TO MEET THEM IN PERSON.
- ONCE ACCEPTED INTO A LAB, PICK UP A DIS FORM FROM THE FRONT OFFICE IF YOU WANT COURSE CREDIT. FILL OUT THE DIS FORM. GIVE THE DIS FORM TO THE FACULTY MEMBER, SO THEY CAN SIGN THE FORM. TURN THE FORM INTO THE FRONT OFFICE.

## DR. CAROLYN E. ADAMS-PRICE

MY RESEARCH LAB FOCUSES ON DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF HEALTHY AGING AND WELL-BEING, WITH TWO PRIMARY FOCI. THE FIRST FOCUS IS ON THE BENEFITS OF LONG-TERM PARTICIPATION IN CREATIVE ACTIVITIES FOR MIDDLE-AGED AND OLDER ADULTS. THESE BENEFITS INCLUDE GREAT WELL-BEING, NEW SOURCES OF IDENTITY, RESPECT AND ADMIRATION FROM PEERS, AND EVEN IMPROVEMENT IN COGNITION. THE SECOND FOCUS IS ON RURAL AGING AND WELL-BEING, AND ATTACHMENT TO PLACE, PARTICULARLY AMONG OLDER RURAL AFRICAN AMERICANS.

TO GET INVOLVED, CONTACT ME AT [CEA1@MSSTATE.EDU](mailto:CEA1@MSSTATE.EDU), OR IN MY OFFICE AT 662-325-7658.

## DR. KEVIN J. ARMSTRONG

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR & LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST  
GRADUATE COORDINATOR  
MY LAB HAS RECENTLY EXAMINED SELF-REGULATION MODELS FOR ATTENTION-DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER (ADHD) IN EMERGING ADULTS AND ILLICIT USE OF PRESCRIPTION STIMULANT MEDICATION (IUPS). WE'VE LOOKED AT THE ROLE OF SLEEP AS A MODERATOR OF THE IMPACT THAT EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING SKILLS HAS ON LIMITING THE IMPAIRMENT ASSOCIATED WITH ADHD SYMPTOMS. WE'VE ALSO LOOKED AT VARIABLES SUCH AS GENDER, GREEK STATUS, RACE/ETHNICITY, GPA, AND BELIEFS ABOUT THE RISKS & BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH IUPS IN ORDER TO BETTER UNDERSTAND WHAT MIGHT MAKE FOR EFFECTIVE COMPONENTS OF TREATMENT AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS TO REDUCE IUPS. I EXPECT US TO CONTINUE WITH PROJECTS ASSESSING THESE TWO BROAD TOPIC AREAS.

THE CONTACT PERSON IS ME. EMAIL IS BEST - [kja3@msstate.edu](mailto:kja3@msstate.edu) NOTE I DO NOT TYPICALLY HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF UNDERGRADS INVOLVED IN MY RESEARCH ALTHOUGH THAT COULD CHANGE FOR 2020-2021 BASED ON WHICH STUDIES MY DOCTORAL STUDENTS AND I DECIDE TO PURSUE.

## DR. MITCHELL E. BERMAN

OUR LAB INTERESTS FOCUS AROUND SOME BASIC QUESTIONS: WHY DO PEOPLE ENGAGE IN AGGRESSION OR DELIBERATE SELF-HARM (INCLUDING SUICIDE)? WE HAVE STUDIED THE ROLE OF BIOLOGY, PERSONALITY, SOCIAL CUES, PAIN EXPERIENCES, AND OTHER CONSTRUCTS TO ADDRESS THESE QUESTIONS.

WE DO NOT MAINTAIN A FANCY WEBSITE (TOO BUSY WITH MY DAY JOB AS DEPARTMENT HEAD), BUT YOU CAN GET A SENSE OF WHAT WE DO FROM:

[HTTPS://WWW.PSYCHOLOGY.MSSTATE.EDU/PEOPLE/MITCHELL-BERMAN/](https://www.psychology.msstate.edu/people/mitchell-berman/). CHECK OUT MY CV FOR OUR RESEARCH PRODUCTS.

WE TAKE VERY FEW UNDERGRADUATE TRAINEES INTO MY LAB, BUT FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME AT [MEB636@MSSTATE.EDU](mailto:MEB636@MSSTATE.EDU) IF YOU THINK THAT YOU HAVE THE CHOPS, GRIT, AND ACADEMIC RECORD TO MAKE A CASE TO JOIN OUR RESEARCH TEAM.

## DR. TOM CARSKADON

WE ARE ACTIVE IN THE FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE—I.E., INVESTIGATING WAYS TO MAKE THE EXPERIENCES OF OUR NEW INCOMING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS MORE SATISFYING AND SUCCESSFUL. EACH YEAR WE DO A NATIONALLY CIRCULATED STUDY ON “COMMON READING” BOOKS. APPROXIMATELY 500 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES REQUIRE ALL THEIR INCOMING STUDENTS TO READ ONE BOOK IN COMMON, AND HUNDREDS OF DIFFERENT BOOKS HAVE BEEN USED; BUT WE ARE THE ONLY AVAILABLE SOURCE OF BOOK RATINGS FROM REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLES OF FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS WHO ACTUALLY READ AND RATE THE MOST FREQUENTLY USED COMMON READING BOOKS NATIONWIDE. THIS PROVIDES UNIQUE AND VERY PERTINENT INFORMATION THAT CAN BE USED AT MISSISSIPPI STATE AND AT SCHOOLS AROUND THE COUNTRY.

CONTACT: DR. CARSKADON,  
TOMCARSKADON@PSYCHOLOGY.MSSTATE.EDU

## DR. HILARY L. DESHONG

IN THE PERSONALITY, EMOTION, AND TREATMENT LABORATORY, WE STUDY THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN PERSONALITY, PSYCHOPATHOLOGY, AND BEHAVIORS. THE GOAL IS TO HELP BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN GENERAL PERSONALITY AND PERSONALITY PATHOLOGY USING DIMENSIONAL MODELS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND PERSONALITY PATHOLOGY. WE DO THIS THROUGH THREE SPECIFIC AVENUES OF RESEARCH: 1. PERSONALITY MODELS AND RELATED CONSTRUCTS; 2. ASSESSMENT AND CLINICAL UTILITY; 3. ADAPTIVE AND MALADAPTIVE BEHAVIORS. CURRENT PROJECTS ARE INVESTIGATING PERSONALITY IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOW CONSTRUCTS: CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES, GRIT, INSIGHT, RELIGIOSITY, RUMINATION, SLEEP, SUBSTANCE USE, ALCOHOL USE, AND SUICIDE RISK.

PETLAB@PSYCHOLOGY.MSSTATE.EDU  
[HTTPS://PETLABMSSTATE.WIXSITE.COM/MSUPETLAB](https://petlabmsstate.wixsite.com/msupetlab)

## DR. MARY E. DOZIER

MY LAB FOCUSED ON THE ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT OF HOARDING AND ANXIETY IN LATE LIFE. WE ARE CURRENTLY CONDUCTING A STUDY ON THE CHARACTERISTICS OF OLDER ADULTS WITH HOARDING DISORDER IN RURAL MISSISSIPPI. UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS HELP WITH RECRUITMENT THROUGH FLYERING AROUND THE COMMUNITY AND ALSO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASSIST WITH ASSESSMENTS IN PARTICIPANTS' HOMES.

INTERESTED STUDENTS CAN CONTACT ME DIRECTLY (MARYEDOZIER@PSYCHOLOGY.MSSTATE.EDU) MY LAB DOESN'T HAVE A WEBSITE; HOWEVER, INTERESTED STUDENTS CAN CHECK OUT MY GOOGLE SCHOLAR PAGE TO SEE MY PREVIOUS RESEARCH: [HTTPS://SCHOLAR.GOOGLE.COM/CITATIONS?USER=3REDGQWAAA&HL=EN&OI=AO](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=3REDGQWAAA&hl=en&oi=ao)

## DR. CLIFF MCKINNEY

I INVESTIGATE THE PROCESSES BY WHICH PARENTING IS ASSOCIATED WITH PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS IN THE CONTEXT OF GENDER, PARENTAL PSYCHOPATHOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL MALTREATMENT, AND EMERGING ADULTHOOD.

CLIFF MCKINNEY,  
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[HTTPS://WWW.RESEARCHGATE.NET/P  
ROFILE/CLIFF\\_MCKINNEY/RESEARCH](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Cliff_McKinney/research)

## DR. ROBERT MCMILLEN

WE PROVIDE OBJECTIVE, TIMELY DATA AND ANALYSES TO INFORM PROGRAMMATIC AND POLICY DECISIONS REGARDING TOBACCO CONTROL. IN ADDITION TO PUBLISHING OUR RESEARCH IN INTERDISCIPLINARY SCHOLARLY JOURNALS, WE DISSEMINATE OUR FINDINGS THROUGH MEDIA INTERVIEWS; TESTIMONIES TO LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL AGENCIES; AND FACT SHEETS AND REPORTS AIMED TOWARDS POLICY MAKERS. THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS, THE MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AND THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY ARE AMONG THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE FUNDED OUR RESEARCH THROUGH GRANT SUPPORT.

EMILY MCCLELLAND,  
EMILY.MCCLELLAND@SSRC.MSSTATE.EDU  
[HTTPS://MSTOBACCODATA.ORG/](https://mstobaccodata.org/)

## DR. DANIELLE K. NADORFF

DR. DANIELLE NADORFF'S PROGRAM OF RESEARCH IS PRIMARILY FOCUSED ON CUSTODIAL GRANDCHILDREN (CHILDREN WHOSE PRIMARY CAREGIVERS ARE THEIR GRANDPARENTS) AND THEIR GRANDPARENTS. IN PARTICULAR, SHE INVESTIGATES THE PHYSICAL, SOCIAL, COGNITIVE, EMOTIONAL, AND BEHAVIORAL OUTCOMES FOR THESE CUSTODIAL GRANDCHILDREN, AS WELL AS EXAMINING HOW THEY COMPARE TO CHILDREN RAISED IN FOSTER CARE. SHE IS ALSO THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR THE GRANDFAMILIES SUPPORT GROUP OF STARKVILLE, MS, A RELATIVES AS PARENTS PROGRAM (RAPP) FUNDED BY THE BROOKDALE FOUNDATION, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILY-CENTERED PROGRAMS.

READ MORE AT  
[HTTP://WWW.GRANDFAMILIESLAB.CO  
M](http://www.grandfamilieslab.com), OR EMAIL DR. NADORFF AT  
DANIELLE.NADORFF@MSSTATE.EDU.

## DR. MICHAEL R. NADORFF

OUR LAB STUDIES THE LINK BETWEEN SLEEP PROBLEMS AND SUICIDAL BEHAVIOR ACROSS THE LIFESPAN, BUT WITH A SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON OLDER ADULTS. IN PARTICULAR WE ARE INTERESTED IN THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF TREATING INSOMNIA AND NIGHTMARE DISORDERS IN AN EFFORT TO REDUCE SUICIDE RISK.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE APPLICATION ON OUR LAB WEBSITE AND RETURN TO DR. NADORFF  
[WWW.SUICIDELAB.COM](http://WWW.SUICIDELAB.COM)

## DR. ARAZAIS OLIVEROS

OUR RESEARCH FOCUSES ON THE INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY VARIABLES THAT AFFECT EMOTION REGULATION AND DYSREGULATION, AS MANIFEST IN PARENTING, RELATIONSHIP CONFLICT, AND PSYCHOPATHOLOGY, WITH THE OVERARCHING GOAL OF DISCONTINUING INTERGENERATIONAL TRANSMISSION OF TRAUMA. PARTNERING WITH CHILD ADVOCATES AND EDUCATORS, THE LAB PROVIDES TRAINING AND EVALUATION IN TRAUMA-INFORMED COMPETENCIES FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IN CHILD SERVICES AND COMMUNITY-BASED PREVENTION.

INTERESTED? CONTACT  
[AOLIVEROS@PSYCHOLOGY.MSSTATE.EDU](mailto:AOLIVEROS@PSYCHOLOGY.MSSTATE.EDU)  
[HTTPS://RNRLAB.WEEBLY.COM/](https://RNRLAB.WEEBLY.COM/)

## DR. BEN PORTER

MY WORK INVESTIGATES MILITARY VETERANS' HEALTH AND ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIPS, BOTH SEPARATELY AND TOGETHER. MUCH OF THE WORK I DO FOCUSED ON RE-UTILIZING ARCHIVAL DATASETS TO ANSWER PRESSING QUESTIONS.

I AM NOT REALLY LOOKING FOR RESEARCH ASSISTANTS RIGHT NOW, BUT IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED THEY SHOULD EMAIL ME AT  
[BENNETT.W.PORTER@SSRC.MSSTATE.EDU](mailto:BENNETT.W.PORTER@SSRC.MSSTATE.EDU).

**DR. H. COLLEEN SINCLAIR**

WE RESEARCH INTERPERSONAL AND INTERGROUP RELATIONS, THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

MY LAB EMAIL IS RELATE@SSRC.MSSTATE.EDU (MY GRADUATE STUDENT CURRENTLY LEADING THE LAB IS JESSICA UTLEY) MY LAB IS THE SOCIAL RELATIONS COLLABORATIVE AT SOCIALRELATIONSLAB.COM

**DR. EMILY SARA HELMS STAFFORD**

I SERVE AS A CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR ON THE MS GLS 19 GRANT. THIS GRANT, FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (SUBSTANCE AND ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION) AIMS TO REDUCE YOUTH SUICIDE IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI. THE PROJECT IS A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH. GRANT GOALS INCLUDE STATEWIDE SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAININGS, MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING FOR MISSISSIPPI YOUTH, AND INCREASED ACCESS TO CLINICAL SERVICES ACROSS THE STATE.

CONTACT DR. STAFFORD AT EMILY.STAFFORD@MSSTATE.EDU

**DR. E. SAMUEL WINER**

OUR NIMH-FUNDED RESEARCH FOCUSES ON FINDING COGNITIVE AND AFFECTIVE PREDICTORS OF DISTRESS AND DYSFUNCTION. IN OTHER WORDS, WE STUDY THE DIFFERENT WAYS IN WHICH PEOPLE PROCESS EMOTIONAL INFORMATION AND HOW THAT GUIDES HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT THEMSELVES AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT. WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN HOW THOSE PREDICTORS DETERMINE HOW REWARDING INFORMATION IS PROCESSED BY INDIVIDUALS WITH SYMPTOMS OF DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY, THOUGH WE CONDUCT EXPERIMENTS THAT LOOK AT INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT THOSE SYMPTOMS, AS WELL.

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