

Curriculum Vitae

Susannah M. Searce, Ph.D.

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Education

- 2007 to 2014 **University of North Texas** **Denton, TX**
Ph.D., Clinical Psychology August 2014
- Dissertation: *Complex Posttraumatic Stress Disorder as a less pejorative label: Is the proposed diagnosis less stigmatizing than borderline personality disorder?*
Dissertation chair: Patricia Kaminski, Ph.D.
- Master of Science, Psychology* May 2011
Thesis: *The Relation of Witnessing Interparental Violence to Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Complex Posttraumatic Stress Disorder*
Thesis chair: Kenneth Sewell, Ph.D.
- 2002 to 2005 **University of North Carolina** **Chapel Hill, NC**
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Psychology and Studio Art December 2005

Academic Scholarships and Awards

2013 Dallas Psychological Association's Student Dissertation Award
2013 UNT Psychology Department Bonney Award for dedication to community service
2010 UNT Research Travel Grant

Clinical Experience

- Sept. 2014 **Psychologist** **Wake Forest, NC**
to present *Perkins Counseling and Psychological Services*
- Psychologist under supervision at this group practice serving the psychological needs of children, adolescents, and adults. Primary focus is on aiding parents' psychological understanding of their children through psychological assessment in order to advocate for their success at home and school. Also administer psychological assessment with adults to facilitate their treatment and self-understanding, and conduct individual therapy with children, adolescents, and adults.
- Supervisor: Pamela Perkins, Psy.D.

Aug. 2013 to **Doctoral Psychology Intern** **Miami, FL**
Aug. 2014 *Institute for Child and Family Health (ICFH)*

Outpatient intern at this non-profit community mental health center serving children and families from diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. Child, adolescent, and adult clients presented with a variety of behavioral, emotional, and health difficulties. Duties included psychological assessment and diagnosis, intervention, consultation, supervision, administration, and teaching activities.

Assessment and Diagnosis

Conducted initial diagnostic interviews with clients and their parents to gather a thorough history of the client and presenting problem, formulate diagnosis, and develop comprehensive treatment plans. Administered 10 comprehensive psychological assessments: conducted effective clinical interviews; chose, administered, and scored assessment measures; authored reports; and explained results in feedback to parents.

Intervention

Provided weekly individual, dyadic, and/or family therapy to children, adolescents, and adults; maintained meaningful progress notes; regularly reviewed progress toward treatment goals; consulted with parents, teachers, physicians, and other mental health professionals; completed and maintained documents to ensure compliance with state Medicaid managed care regulations. Co-facilitated weekly psycho-educational group therapy with teenage first-offenders and their parents.

Supervision and Training

Participated in weekly individual and group supervision. Provided weekly individual supervision to a practicum student. Attended weekly case conferences and didactic seminars. Presented case conferences and seminar.

Supervisors: Mercedes Garcia, Psy.D., Larisa Palmer, Psy.D.

Aug. 2011 to **Therapy Practicum Student** **Irving, TX**
May 2013 *Irving Family Advocacy Center (IFAC)*

IFAC, a community mental health clinic operated through the Irving police department, was developed to meet the acute mental health needs of victims of violence. Clients from diverse socioeconomic and racial/ethnic backgrounds presented with a variety of issues, commonly including mood, anxiety, adjustment, PTSD, and personality disorders. Provided individual therapy to adults and adolescents, play therapy with children ages 3 to 12, and parent consultations and training; conducted diagnostic intake interviews; developed treatment plans and continually

monitored progress toward treatment goals; determined need for services and provided referrals through telephone triage process; attended weekly didactic seminars (past topics include series on play therapy and working with families in the foster care system); developed curriculum and co-facilitated psycho-educational group for children ages 6 to 12 who had witnessed domestic violence; co-led behavior modification workshop for teachers at a private K-12 school.
Supervisors: Sharon Shepherd Burr, Ph.D., Douglas Cheatham, Ph.D., Avni Vyas, Ph.D.

Aug. 2011 to **Assessment Practicum Student** **Allen, TX**
July 2012

Erick Gonzalez, Psy.D., Private Practice

Administered comprehensive assessment batteries to adults and children ages 6 and up. Referral questions focused on determining diagnoses (most commonly mood, anxiety, autism spectrum, learning, and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorders) to inform treatment and school accommodation. Batteries included cognitive, neuropsychological, and personality testing. Conducted testing, scored and interpreted results, and authored reports.

Supervisor: Erick Gonzalez, Psy.D.

Jan. to May **Therapy and Assessment Practicum Student** **Fort Worth, TX**
2011

University of North Texas Health Science Center

Patient Care Center (PCC)

Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Clinic

Major Rotation (January to May, 2011)

Provided weekly individual therapy with adults and adolescents presenting with diverse psychopathology (including major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, dementia, anxiety disorders, severe interpersonal difficulties and suicidal behavior) at this community outpatient medical center. Administered testing, scored and interpreted results, authored reports, and provided feedback for comprehensive psychological assessments, including cognitive, neuropsychological, and personality testing.

Supervisor: Mandy Jordan, Ph.D.

Memory Disorders Clinic

Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Clinic

Minor Rotation (March to May, 2011)

Administered cognitive and neuropsychological assessments with geriatric outpatients to determine differential dementia diagnoses. Administered testing, scored and interpreted results, and authored reports. Attended multidisciplinary family feedback meetings.

Supervisor: James Hall, Ph.D.

Trauma and Intensive Care

John Peter Smith Hospital

Minor Rotation (January to March, 2011)

Screened adult inpatients in the trauma and intensive care units in this general hospital for deficits in memory, processing speed, language, and executive functioning. Administered, scored, and interpreted neuropsychological assessments and mental status exams to inform discharge planning.

Supervisor: Kelly Stille, Psy.D.

Trinity Springs Pavilion

John Peter Smith Hospital

Minor Rotation (January to March, 2011)

Conducted comprehensive psychological evaluations with adult outpatients to inform treatment. Batteries included cognitive, neuropsychological, and personality testing. Administered testing, scored and interpreted results, and authored reports. Scored previously administered Rorschach tests. Co-facilitated psycho-educational group therapy for clients recently discharged from inpatient psychiatric unit.

Supervisor: Mandy Jordan, Ph.D.

June 2009 to
May 2011

Therapy Practicum Student

Denton, TX

University of North Texas Psychology Clinic

The UNT Psychology Clinic provides UNT students and the surrounding community with therapy and assessment services. Provided individual therapy to adults and adolescents of diverse socioeconomic and racial/ethnic backgrounds presenting with mood, anxiety, adjustment, personality, and psychotic disorders. Duties also included conducting initial clinical intake interviews, covering weekly on-call hours, routinely assessing working alliance and current distress with standardized measures, and case observation. Provided weekly supervision to junior practicum students. Supervisors encouraged application of various psychological techniques and taught from a variety of approaches, including cognitive-behavioral, object relations, interpersonal, and gestalt therapies.

Supervisors: Richard Rogers, Ph.D., ABPP, Charles Guarnaccia, Ph.D., Randall Cox, Ph.D., Mandy Jordan, Ph.D., and Jennifer Callahan, Ph.D., ABPP

June 2008 to
May 2009

Assessment Practicum Student

Denton, TX

University of North Texas Psychology Clinic

Conducted comprehensive psychological assessments with adult and child clients from the community and UNT student population to inform treatment and school accommodations. Referrals were for differential diagnosis of Axis I and II disorders. Administered, scored, and interpreted intellectual, achievement, diagnostic, personality, and

vocational measures. Authored reports and provided feedback to clients. Duties also included conducting initial clinical intake interviews, covering weekly on-call hours, and case observation. Provided weekly supervision to pre-practicum students.

Supervisors: Kenneth Sewell, Ph.D., Charles Guarnaccia, Ph.D., and Randall Cox, Ph.D.

Aug. 2007 to May 2008 **Pre-Practicum Student** **Denton, TX**
University of North Texas Psychology Clinic
 Observed and discussed psychotherapy and assessment cases of advanced clinical doctoral students on a variety of mood, anxiety, adjustment, psychotic, and personality disorders. Administered, scored, and interpreted intellectual and achievement measures under supervision of advanced students.
 Supervisor: Craig Neumann, Ph.D.

Clinical Supervision Experience

Aug. to Dec. 2009, 2010 **Teaching Fellow**, Diagnostic Interviewing Lab **Denton, TX**
University of North Texas Department of Psychology
 Graduate level course: PSYC 6460 lab
 Evaluated student administration and scoring of structured and semi-structured diagnostic interviews; presented specific, comprehensive feedback on interview administration; provided group and individual supervision of complex assessment cases.
 Supervisor: Richard Rogers, Ph.D., ABPP

Publications and Presentations

Beckham, J.C., Wiley, M., **Miller, S.**, Dennis, M.F., Wilson, S., McClernon, F., Calhoun, P. (2008). Ad lib smoking in posttraumatic stress disorder: An electronic diary study. *Nicotine and Tobacco Research*, 10, 1149-1157.

Wiley, M., **Miller, S.**, Beckham, J.C., Dennis, M.F., Calhoun, P. *Ad lib smoking in PTSD: An electronic diary study*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Hollywood, California, November 2006.

Community Presentations

Hill, J., **Miller, S.**, Lewis, K., & Herbert, G. (2011, March). *Evaluation and treatment of suicidality*. John Peter Smith Hospital Grand Rounds, Fort Worth, TX.

Betancourt, M., **Miller, S.**, Pollard, S., Dotson, R., & Turet, D. (2012, March). *Behavior Management Workshop*. Didactic and experiential workshop presented to K-12 teachers at the Islamic School of Irving, Irving, TX.

Hamel, B., Hamet, J., Housiaux, J., Massa, C., **Miller, S.**, & Salinas, M. (2014, July). *Making the Most of Your Psychological Evaluation Referral*. Institute for Child and Family Health, Inc., Miami, FL.

Teaching Experience

Fall and Spring 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 **Teaching Fellow**, Quantitative Methods I and II Labs **Denton, TX**
University of North Texas Department of Psychology
 Graduate level course

Developed comprehensive, step-by-step lesson plans for this weekly laboratory section of graduate statistics courses. Instruction focused on a review of lecture material and guided examples in data analysis with SPSS and R. Tutored students individually as needed.
 Supervisors: Camilo Ruggero, Ph.D., Michael Clark, Ph.D.

Fall 2010, 2009 **Teaching Fellow**, Diagnostic Interviewing Lab **Denton, TX**
University of North Texas Department of Psychology
 Graduate level course

Supplemented course lecture with instruction of administration, scoring, and interpreting specific Axis I and II structured and semi-structured diagnostic interviews, facilitated group discussion of material, developed exercises to practice interview administration, coordinated interview check-outs, determined students' competency at administration, provided comprehensive individual and group feedback, supplied individual and group supervision of complex assessment cases, and met individually with students to resolve administration difficulties and revise assessment reports.
 Supervisor: Richard Rogers, Ph.D., ABPP

2007 to 2011 **Teaching Assistant** **Denton, TX**
University of North Texas Department of Psychology
 Undergraduate courses

Teaching assistant for undergraduate developmental psychology, qualitative methods, general psychology, and personality psychology courses. Conducted guest lectures, developed test items from lectures, created tests, met with students, calculated and maintained grades.

Related Work Experience

April to June 2012 **Student Mentor** **Dallas, TX**
Aim Truancy Solutions

Aim Truancy Solutions is a program of intensive monitoring and mentoring to at-risk middle and high school students to resolve truancy issues. Mentored students three times weekly via telephone to develop

academic and career goals, encourage attendance, praise effort, inspire confidence, and resolve obstacles to academic achievement. Students experienced a range of difficulties, including abusive home environments and involvement in gang activity.
Supervisor: Karina Shroff, M.A., L.P.C.

Jan. 2006 to
June 2007 **Research Assistant** **Durham, NC**
Duke University/Durham VA Medical Centers
Coordinated Ad Lib Smoking study. Duties included conducting all experimental procedures, providing informed consent, determining diagnosis of PTSD through administration of structured clinical interview, entering data, contributing to IRB renewals and grant submissions, collecting samples for neurosteroid and genetic analysis, and aiding in the development and execution of concurrent research projects in the Nicotine Lab.
Supervisor: Jean Beckham, Ph.D.

Related Volunteer Experience

May to June
2010 **Volunteer** **Enmore, Guyana**
Hope Children's Home
Volunteered daily for one month at this orphanage in Guyana, South America with a team of three other doctoral-level psychology students. Preparations for the trip included securing monetary and supply donations and grant funding, researching behavioral modification, developing behavioral modification materials, planning anger management and coping skills activities, and designing art expression activities. Volunteer duties included facilitating discussions with teachers and staff to solve behavior problems and working with teachers, staff, and children to implement a points system for behavioral modification; meeting individually with girls ages 6 to 16 to develop career goals, encourage self-esteem, and teach relaxation strategies and anger management skills; leading groups of boys and girls in artistic expression activities; and overseeing the children as they designed and painted an 8' by 20' mural in their school. Director Tania Khalaf documented the efforts of this project in her film, *Journey to Hope*.