

***Julie A. Alvarez, Ph.D.***  
***Curriculum Vitae***

Department of Psychology  
Tulane University  
2007 Percival Stern Hall  
New Orleans, LA 70118  
504-862-3304  
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**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

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- August 2005**      **Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, Emory University**  
Dissertation: Applying Cognitive Science to Clinical Issues: A Clinical Version of Posner's Covert Orienting of Visuospatial Attention Task
- December 2001**   **M.A. in Clinical Psychology, Emory University**  
Thesis: Temporal Parameters of Inhibition of Return
- May 1998**        **B.A. in Psychology, *Summa Cum Laude* with Honors in Psychology, Tulane University**  
Minor: Classical Studies, Ancient Literature and Culture  
Honors Thesis: Effects of Estrogen on Barnes Circular Platform Maze Performance in Rats

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

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- 2006–present**    Professor of Practice, Department of Psychology, Tulane University
- 2005–2006**      Postdoctoral Fellow, Mental Health Care Line, Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center
- 2003–2004**      Dean's Teaching Fellow, Department of Psychology, Emory University

**ACADEMIC HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

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- 2002-2003**      **Alpha Lambda Delta Adele Hagner Stamp Fellowship for Graduate Study**  
One of twenty-three awarded nationally for doctoral students in any field
- 1999-2002**      **Beinecke Brothers Memorial Scholarship for Graduate Study**  
One of seventeen awarded nationally for doctoral students in any field  
Support for three years of graduate study, awarded 1997

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

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Stress and trauma  
Cognition and emotion  
Attention and executive functioning

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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Vasterling, J. J., Grande, L., Graefe, A., & **Alvarez, J. A.** (in press). Neuropsychological assessment of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). In C. Armstrong (Ed.), *Handbook of Medical Neuropsychology*. New York: 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). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

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). Thorofare, NJ: Slack Incorporated.

**Alvarez, J. A.**, & Emory, E. (2006). Executive functions and the frontal lobes: A meta-analytic review. *Neuropsychology Review*, *16*, 17-42.

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.

**Alvarez, J. A.**, & Freides, D. (2004). Research on attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder using the covert orienting paradigm of Posner. *Developmental Neuropsychology*, *26*, 627-645.

## **PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

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**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**

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### **Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellow** **2005–2006**

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

Administered an extensive 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," which examined cognitive changes associated with surgical interventions for Parkinson's disease.

### **Clinical Psychology Predoctoral Intern** **2004–2005**

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

Administered an extensive neuropsychological assessment battery to Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans at Fort Lewis and Fort Hood who participated in a longitudinal national research study entitled "Prospective Neurocognitive Assessment of Future Deployed and Non-Deployed Military Personnel."

### **Graduate Student Research Assistant** **1999–2004**

#### **Emory University, Department of Psychology, Neuropsychology Laboratory**

Responsible for conceptualization of laboratory projects, data collection and analysis, submission of findings, and supervision of undergraduate research assistants. Doctoral research involved testing a modified version of Posner's covert orienting task, a chronometric procedure that provides information about specific types of brain dysfunction, in order to determine whether this task may be used as a diagnostic tool for the measurement of attention in clinical settings.

### **Professional Psychology Trainee** **1998–1999**

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

Completed full-time, 12-month program designed to combine didactic and applied training in mental health research and psychological services. Attended clinical and research seminars and 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 mental retardation and comorbid behavioral disorders.

### **Undergraduate Student Research Assistant** **1997–1998**

#### **Tulane University, Department of Psychology, Psychobiology Laboratory**

Examined the effects of estrogen and sex 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 examining the effects of estrogen on performance of Long-Evans rats on a reference memory and a working memory version of the Barnes circular platform maze task.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **Undergraduate Courses**

**Clinical Neuropsychology Honors, Tulane University** **2007–2008**

Provided an introduction to the study of human clinical neuropsychology within a developmental perspective. Presented an overview of brain structures and functions. Covered conditions that are due to some malfunction in the central or peripheral nervous system. Surveyed current neuropsychological research as it pertains to normal functioning and to both neuropathological and psychopathological conditions.

**Psychological Testing and Measurement, Tulane University** **2006–2009**

Exposed students to the process of test development and analysis. Emphasized: (1) appreciation of the various types of psychological tests available for commercial use and the criteria used to evaluate them, (2) analysis and interpretation of data collected as part of a test development and administration, and (3) communication of results.

**Introductory Psychology, Tulane University** **2006–2009**

Introduced students to various areas within the field of psychology. Discussed the field of psychology from a scientific perspective, using experimental findings to explain behavior.

**Neuropsychology of Childhood Disability, Emory University** **2003**

Covered the neuropsychology of developmental disorders. Described psychological consequences of nervous system disabilities. Emphasized information processing capabilities and limitations of these disorders and implications for personality development, education, and social adjustment.

**Adult Abnormal Psychology, Emory University** **2003**

Covered all major adult psychological disorders in terms of their etiology, diagnosis, and treatment. Emphasized: (1) exposing students to the major theoretical and conceptual models of abnormal behavior, and (2) providing students with the skills to become more critical consumers of the burgeoning literature on psychopathology.

**Laboratory in Experimental Methods, Emory University** **2001**

Exposed 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).

### **Graduate Courses**

**Psychoeducational Assessment II, Tulane University** **2008–2009**

Familiarized students with research related to clinical judgment and diagnostic decision-making, as well as the assessment of personality and socioemotional functioning in children, adolescents, and adults. Presented students with basic training in techniques of clinical assessment through the use of clinical interviews, symptom rating scales, and personality instruments.

**Neuropsychological Assessment Practicum, Emory University** **2002**

Taught advanced graduate students how to administer, score, and interpret over thirty neuropsychological tests. Observed students administer tests. Provided feedback about administration and scoring of tests.

## **Teaching Assistantships**

### **Introduction to Psychology, Emory University**

**2004**

Held weekly office hours; assisted instructor with course planning and administrative responsibilities.

### **Neuropsychology of Childhood Disability, Emory University**

**2001–2002**

Assisted instructor with administrative responsibilities, gave guest lectures, and graded weekly tests.

### **Elementary Statistics, Emory University**

**2000**

Taught weekly lab and review sessions, including how to use Statistical Package for the Social Sciences. Graded lab assignments, organized an on-line conference room, and proctored examinations.

### **Undergraduate Summer Study Abroad Program, Emory University**

**2000**

Oversaw neuropsychological data collection at elementary schools in Canterbury, England. Helped students analyze the data and prepare a written report of a research project on Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) at University College London. Served as a Teaching Assistant in London to Emory University professors who taught classes on the visual system, attention, and ADHD.

## **Guest Lectures**

### **Tulane InterDisciplinary Experience Seminars (TIDES) Program, Tulane University**

**2006**

Topic of Lecture: Covert Orienting of Visuospatial Attention

### **Psychology Assessment Seminar Series, Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center**

**2006**

Topic of Lecture: Assessment of Dementia

### **Vasterling Research Group, Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System**

**2004**

Topic of Lecture: Posner's Covert Orienting of Visuospatial Attention Task

### **Neuropsychology of Childhood Disability, Emory University**

**2002**

Topic of Lecture: Seizure Disorders / Ictal Conditions

### **Neuropsychology of Childhood Disability, Emory University**

**2001**

Topic of Lecture: Human Visual System

### **Freshman Advising and Mentoring at Emory (FAME) Seminar, Emory University**

**2000**

Topic of Lecture: How to Study Efficiently and Effectively in College

## **Teaching Workshops**

### **Teaching Workshop, Emory University**

**2000**

Participated in a four-day training seminar designed to develop teaching skills. Attended seminars on lecturing, grading, writing syllabi, using writing as a pedagogical tool, using technology in the classroom, and facilitating group discussions.

## **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Fellow**

**2005 – 2006**

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

Reviewed neuropsychology consults, conducted clinical interviews with veterans (and family members, where 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 with seriously mentally ill veterans on an inpatient psychiatry unit. Attended VA Postdoctoral Program Seminar, VA Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Centers Career Development Seminar, VA Neuropathology Rounds, and Baylor Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Grand Rounds. Responsible for independent reading related to individual cases and the field of neuropsychology in general. Presented an assessment case and a psychotherapeutic case at the VA Postdoctoral Program Seminar.

### **Clinical Psychology Predoctoral Intern**

**2004 – 2005**

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

Reviewed neuropsychology consults, conducted clinical interviews with veterans (and family members, where 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; submitted a written report of the findings to the VA Regional Office. Provided individual psychotherapy to selected neurologically compromised veterans. Led smoking cessation, chronic pain management, and hepatitis C psychoeducational groups. Attended and participated in weekly clinics and seminars including the Memory Disorders Clinic, Comprehensive Pain Evaluation Team, Neuroradiology Case Conference, Neuroanatomy Seminar and Laboratory, and Mental Health Service Line Inservice. Presented an assessment case and a psychotherapeutic case at the Mental Health Service Line Inservice.

### **Clinical Psychology Extern**

**2001 – 2004**

#### **Emory University Psychological Center (Atlanta, GA)**

Provided individual psychotherapy to community clients in a low-cost, sliding scale clinic. Diagnoses included: major depression, bipolar disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, panic disorder, social phobia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, adjustment disorder, personality disorders, and substance abuse. Supervision in interpersonal, behavioral, cognitive-behavioral, and family systems approaches. Conducted psychological and neuropsychological interviews, evaluations and feedback with children, adolescents and adults with various disorders including learning disabilities, cognitive disorders, personality disorders, and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder. Presented cases at a weekly case conference meeting. Assisted fellow graduate students with administering, scoring and interpreting tests.

### **Neuropsychology Extern**

**2003 – 2004**

#### **Emory Center for Rehabilitation Medicine (Atlanta, GA)**

Conducted clinical interviews with patients (and family members, where 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, cognitive disorders, and post-traumatic amnesia. Presented cases at a weekly case conference.

**SERVICE TO DISCIPLINE/UNIVERSITY/ DEPARTMENT**

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**Discipline**

Memberships: American Psychological Association, American Psychological Society

**University**

Newcomb Fellow, Newcomb College Institute, 2006–present

Newcomb Alumnae Awards Committee Member, 2008–2011

Mortar Board National Honor Society, Faculty Advisor, 2007–present

**School**

Faculty Liaison to the School of Science and Engineering Alumni Relations Committee, 2008–present

**Department**

Colloquium Committee Member, 2006–2007

Undergraduate Studies Committee Member, 2006–present

Adviser to Undergraduate Psychology Majors and Minors, 2006–present

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee Member (students: Philip Fontenot, 2008–2009; Kristie Vail, 2008–2009; Cynthia King, 2007–2008; Jenna Rosen, 2007–2008; Samantha Shinsato, 2007–2008)

Doctoral Comprehensive Exam Committee Member (student: Tara Mathews, 2007)

Doctoral Dissertation Committee Member (student: Tara Mathews, 2007–present)