

Kayla A. Wilson, M.S.

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EDUCATION

- Current** **Texas A&M University (TAMU), College Station, TX**
Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology
Dissertation: *Reactivity to Negative Picture and Transdiagnostic Distress and Fear: An ERP Investigation*
Chair: Dr. Annmarie MacNamara
Committee: Drs. Mary Meagher, Brian Albanese, Steven Woltering
- 2023** **Texas A&M University, College Station, TX**
Master of Science, Clinical Psychology
Thesis: *Predictable and Unpredictable Threat Reactivity Prospectively Predict Increases in Fear and Anxiety: An ERP and Startle Investigation*
Chair: Dr. Annmarie MacNamara
Committee: Drs. Israel Liberzon, Mary Meagher
- 2018** **University of Central Arkansas (UCA), Conway, AR**
B.S. in Psychology, *summa cum laude*
Minor: Honors Interdisciplinary Studies & Health Psychology
Thesis: *Exploring the Replicability Crisis through Illusory Correlations*
Chair: Dr. Michael Scoles
Committee: Drs. Kenneth V. Sobel, Donna Bowman

PUBLICATIONS

- Bauer, E.A., **Wilson, K.A.**, Phan, K.L., Shankman, S.A., & MacNamara, A. (2023). A neurobiological profile underlying comorbidity load and prospective increases in dysphoria in a focal fear sample. *Biological Psychiatry*, 93, 4(352-361). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biopsych.2022.08.009>.
- Wilson, K.A.** & MacNamara, A. (2022). Transdiagnostic fear and anxiety: Prospective prediction using the no-threat, predictable threat, and unpredictable threat task. *Biological Psychiatry: Global Open Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bpsgos.2022.10.004>.
- Barley, B., Bauer, E.A., **Wilson, K.A.** & MacNamara, A. (2021). Working memory load reduces the electrocortical processing of positive pictures. *Cogn Affect Behav Neurosci*. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13415-021-00875-z>
- Wilson, K.A.**, Clark, D.A. & MacNamara, A. (2021). Using item response theory to select emotional pictures for psychophysiological experiments. *Int J Psychophysiology*, 162(166-179). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijpsycho>

Wilson, K.A. & MacNamara, A. (2020). Savor the moment: Willful increase in positive emotion and the persistence of this effect across time. *Psychophysiology*, 58(3).
<https://doi.org/10.1111/psyp.13754>

Wilson, K.A., James, G.A., Kilts, C.D., & Bush, K.A. (2020). Combining physiological and neuroimaging to predict affect processing induced by affectively valent image stimuli. *Sci Rep*, 10, 9298.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-66109-3>

Neher, T. L., Udochi, A. L., **Wilson, K. A.**, Guillory, D.M., Zaller, N.D., & Zielinski, M. J. (2020). Conducting health research in carceral systems: Considerations and recommendations. *Am J Public Health*, 110(S1): S52-S55. <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2019.305449>

Wilson, K.A. & Sobel, K.V. (2018). The size congruity effect in visual search: Further evidence for late interaction. *Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research*, 23(4).
<https://doi.org/10.24839/2325-7342.JN23.4.311>

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Wilson, K.A. & MacNamara, A. (under review). Generalization of savoring positive stimuli.

Jackson, L. E., **Wilson, K. A.**, & MacNamara, A. (submitted). Deficits in savoring positive imagery in depression: An ERP investigation.

MacDonald, S., Zhang, Y., **Wilson, K.A.**, Bauer, E.A., Maren, S., & MacNamara, A. (writing). Backwards conditioning and intolerance of uncertainty: An ERP and SCR investigation.

Wilson, K.A. & MacNamara, A. (writing). Associations between transdiagnostic distress/misery and fear symptoms and negative picture processing: An ERP investigation.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Bauer, E.A., **Wilson, K.A.**, & MacNamara, A. (2022). Using psychophysiological methods in clinical research. In *Comprehensive Clinical Psychology: Research and Methods, 2nd Edition*.

PROFESSIONAL INTERVENTION EXPERIENCE:

**Clinical Student Therapist
MAclab at TAMU**

August 2020-Present

Project Title: *Exploring Positive Affect Therapy as a Treatment for Affect Sensitivity and Depression.*

- *Supervisor:* Annmarie MacNamara, Ph.D.
- *Treatment Experience:* Administering a 2-session manualized Positive Affect Therapy (PAT) intervention for a Randomized Control Trial testing the impact of PAT (vs. study skills training) on Major Depressive Disorder.
- Collaborated with a supervised work-group to design/adapt the intervention.

**Practicum Student Therapist
Texas A&M Psychology Clinic**

- *Supervisors:* Douglas K. Snyder, Ph.D., Mary Meagher, Ph.D. Laura Osborne, Ph.D., Robert Heffer, Ph.D.
- *Treatment Experience:* Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), Emotionally-Focused Therapy (EFT), Cognitive-behavioral treatments (CBT), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Psychodynamic Approach
- Conducted intake evaluations, initial assessments, and provided empirically-supported psychotherapy to community members in a department-run outpatient setting, as well as through Telehealth.
- Conceptualized and treated cases of anxiety and mood disorders, traumatic distress, personality disorders, grief, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and ADHD.
- Presented and discussed casework with peers and supervisors during individual and group supervision.
- Maintained a caseload of 5-6 long-term clients who were seen on a weekly basis

PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT EXPERIENCE

**Clinical Student Assessment Evaluator
MAClab at TAMU**

August 2021 - Present

Project Title: *Heightened Alarm Reduced Motivated Attention (HARM-A)*

- *Supervisor:* Annmarie MacNamara, Ph.D.
- *Assessment Experience:* Psychodiagnostic evaluations utilizing a continuous Structured Clinical Interview in DSM-V.
- Presented and discussed evaluations with peers and supervisor during group supervision.

**Practicum Student Assessment Evaluator
Texas A&M Psychology Clinic**

May 2021- December 2022

- *Supervisors:* Robert W. Heffer, Ph.D., Leslie Morey, Ph.D., Laura Osborne, Ph.D., Sherecce Fields, Ph.D.
- *Assessment Experience:* Psychodiagnostic evaluations, LD-ADHD Evaluations.
- Assessed academic achievement, intellectual functioning, cognitive functioning, and psychopathology. Reviewed and integrated previous health, testing, and/or school records and contacted previous providers.
- Communicated results and recommendations to clients, caregivers, and community decision makers including behavioral health agencies, medical care providers, therapists, and university-based offices for disability services.

**Practicum Student Assessment Evaluator
Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Brazos Valley (MHMRABV)**

May 2021- December 2022

- *Supervisors:* Robert W. Heffer, Ph.D.
- *Assessment Experience:* Psychodiagnostic evaluations, IDD evaluations, Autism evaluations
- Conducted eligibility evaluations and complete integrated reports for persons with intellectual disability and related conditions as determined by the state of Texas.

Practicum Student Assessment Evaluator**May 2021- December 2022****Police Department Employment Eligibility Practicum Evaluator and Consultant**

- *Supervisors:* Robert W. Heffer, Ph.D., Leslie Morey, Ph.D., Laura Osborne, Ph.D., Sherecce Fields, Ph.D.
- *Assessment Experience:* L-3 evaluations for local police academies
- Evaluated pre-employment fitness-for-duty for local law enforcement agencies utilizing a battery of intellectual, behavioral, and emotional measures

ADDITIONAL CLINICAL TRAINING

Couples Therapy Seminar**2023****TAMU, Dept. of Psychological & Brain Sciences**Instructor: Douglas K. Snyder, Ph.D.

Trained in a polymodal theoretical approach to working with distressed couples. Learned the scientific and therapeutic context for integrating diverse approaches to couples therapy into a coherent framework tailored to specific emotional needs. Learned specific skills for working with couples using videotaped exemplars, role play enactment, and discussion of ongoing clinical cases.

Telepsychology Best Practices 101 (8 CEU)**2020***American Psychological Association*Facilitator: Dr. Marlene M. Maheu**CLINICAL SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE**

Doctoral Peer Intervention Supervisor**2021-Present****Texas A&M Psychology Clinic**Supervisor: Dr. Doug K. Snyder

Supervised doctoral graduate student clinicians during their first year of clinical training in conducting intake interviews; administering validated assessment measures; providing evidence-based therapy to individual adults, children, and couples; and writing intake and closing reports as well as session notes.

Clinical Peer Intervention Supervisor**2021-Present****MAClab at TAMU**Supervisor: Dr. Annmarie MacNamara

Supervised doctoral and masters-level graduate student clinicians and staff on administering a 2-session manualized Positive Affect Therapy (PAT) intervention for a Randomized Control Trial testing the impact of PAT (vs. study skills training) on Major Depressive Disorder. Provided peer supervision weekly to review cases.

Clinical Peer Assessment Supervisor**2021-Present****MAClab at TAMU**Supervisor: Dr. Annmarie MacNamara

Supervised doctoral and masters-level graduate student clinicians and staff on psychodiagnostic evaluations utilizing a continuous Structured Clinical Interview in DSM-V. Provided peer supervision on a case-by-case basis and led peer supervision groups that presented and discussed each case.

Doctoral Peer Assessment Supervisor

Texas A&M Psychology Clinic

Supervisor: Dr. Robert W. Heffer

Supervised doctoral and masters-level graduate student clinicians during their first, second, and third year of assessment training in conducting structured intake interviews; administering diagnostic, intelligence, and achievement assessments; providing detailed assessment feedback to caregivers and families; and writing comprehensive integrated psychological assessment reports.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Annmarie MacNamara

May 2019-Present

Texas A&M Multimethod Affect and Cognition Lab (MAClab)

Use brain and psychophysiological measures such as event-related potentials (ERPs), functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), eyeblink startle and skin conductance response to investigate emotion in psychiatric health and disease. Proficient skills in Brain Vision Analyzer, Python, Presentation, Matlab, and R.

Research Assistant for Dr. Melissa Zielinski

August 2018-May 2019

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS)

Behavioral, Relational, and Intervention Sciences Lab (BRISL)

Assessing health and disorder among people who are incarcerated in the Pulaski County Jail. Responsible for data collection using self-report forms and instruments. Using SPSS for data entry and analysis.

Research Assistant for Dr. Keith Bush

July 2018-May 2019

UAMS Brain Imaging Research Center (BIRC)

Research Intern January 2019-June 2018

Training in neuroimaging science and scripting Python code. Independent contributions in the analysis of psychophysiological data related to heart rate variability (HRV) responses to affective stimuli. Research on brain mechanisms of emotion regulation through real-time feedback using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) and electromyographic (EMG) responses to affective stimuli. Database development and optimization for participant recruiting.

Research Assistant for Dr. Kenneth V. Sobel

August 2017-May 2019

UCA Visual Cognition Lab (VCL)

Examining visual search and size congruity effects. Responsible for conceptualization of laboratory projects, data collection, and the dissemination of findings.

SYMPOSIUMS

Wilson, K.A., Jackson, L.E., & MacNamara, A. (2023, September). Difficulty savoring mental imagery in depression. Society for Psychophysiological Research, New Orleans, LA.

MacNamara, A. & **Wilson, K.A.** (2023, September). Predictable and unpredictable threat responding as transdiagnostic correlates and predictors of fear and anxiety. Society for Psychophysiological Research, New Orleans, LA.

Wilson, K. A., Cheng, Y. & MacNamara, A. (2022, October). Positive emotion up-regulation: Durability, generalization and effectiveness under working memory load. Society for Psychophysiological Research, Vancouver, Canada.

MacNamara, A., Cheng, Y., Zhang, Y., **Wilson, K. A.,** Bauer, E. A., Jackson, T. B., Maren, S. & MacDonald, S. E. (2022, October). Modeling anxiety and its treatment in the lab: A novel means of eliciting context and modulation of threat extinction by working memory load. Society for Psychophysiological Research, Vancouver, Canada.

Wilson, K.A., Cheng, Y. & MacNamara, A. (2022, September). Savoring Positive Emotions: Examining the durability, generalization, and effectiveness of working memory load during positive emotion up-regulation. Texas Trauma and Neuroimaging Initiative (TTNI), Houston, TX.

PRESENTATIONS

Wilson, K.A. & MacNamara, A. (2022, October). *Generalization of savoring to novel positive stimuli: An ERP investigation.* Society for Psychophysiological Research, Vancouver, Canada.

Wilson, K.A., MacDonald, S.E., Bauer, E.A., Zhang, Y., Maren, S. & MacNamara, A. (2022, April). *Backward Conditioning Indirectly Retrieves Threat Memories: Implications for Internalizing Psychopathology.* Society of Biological Psychiatry, New Orleans, LA.

Wilson, K.A. & MacNamara, A. (2021, December). *Predictable and unpredictable threat responding uniquely predict transdiagnostic fear and anxiety.* American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Wilson, K.A., MacDonald, S.E., Bauer, E.A., Zhang, Y., Maren, S. & MacNamara, A. (2021, October). *Backward conditioning and intolerance of uncertainty: An ERP and SCR investigation.* Society of Psychophysiological Research, Virtual.

Wilson, K.A. & MacNamara, A. (2021, April). *Neural responses to unpredictable and predictable threat prospectively predict increases in anxiety and fear.* Society of Biological Psychiatry, Virtual.

Wilson, K.A. & MacNamara, A. (2020, October). *Savor the moment: An ERP investigation for savoring and its lasting effects.* Texas A&M Psychological & Brain Sciences 2nd Year Poster Session, Virtual.

Wilson, K.A. & MacNamara, A. (2020, October). *Savor the moment: An ERP investigation for savoring and its lasting effects.* Society of Psychophysiological Research, Virtual.

Wilson, K.A., Phan, L. K., Shankman, S. A., & MacNamara, A. (2020, May). *Negative emotion generation across an anxiety spectrum: A multimethod approach using EEG, startle, & fMRI.* Society of Biological Psychiatry, Virtual.

Wilson, K.A. (2019, April). *Is Visual Search for Numerical Quantity Distinct from Traditional Visual Search?.* Southwestern Psychological Association (SWPA) Symposium, Albuquerque, NM.

Wilson, K.A., James, G. A., Kilts, C. D., & Bush, K. A. (2019, March). *Functional Brain States Outperform Heart Rate Change in the Encoding of Affective Valence*. UAMS Student Research Day, Little Rock, AR.

Wilson, K.A. (2018, April). *Participant Engagement in Online vs. Laboratory-Based Experiments: Two Attempts at Replicating the Illusory Correlation Effect*. College of Health & Behavioral Sciences Research Symposium, Conway, AR.

Wilson, K.A. (2018, April). *How Numerical Size Affects Visual Search*. South Western Psychological Association (SWPA) Symposium Poster Showcase, Houston, TX.

Wilson, K.A., Baltzell, K., & MacLaird, B. (2016, December). *Family Predictors of Self-Control*. Arkansas Symposium for Psychological Sciences (ASPS), Conway, AR.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

Multilevel Modeling for Psychophysiologicalists **2021**

Society for Psychophysiological Research

Facilitator: Elizabeth Page-Gould, Ph.D.

Received one day of training on the fundamentals of multilevel modeling, with an emphasis on applying the methodology to psychophysiological data.

Mini Event-Related Potential (ERP) Bootcamp **2020**

Society for Psychophysiological Research

Facilitator: Emily S. Kappenman, Ph.D.

Received two full days of training on the fundamentals of ERP research, including data collection and processing, laboratory setup, ERP components, neural origins of ERPs, design of ERP experiments, and data analysis.

TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Mentor for Undergraduate Honors Thesis Student **2022-Present**

Advisor: Annmarie MacNamara, Ph.D.

Mentored an undergraduate's honors thesis project under direct supervision of Dr. Annmarie MacNamara. Provided direct training in EEG data processing, EEG data interpretation, data analysis and statistics, and manuscript preparation to the undergraduate student.

Graduate Student Mentor for Undergraduate Research Assistants **2019-Present**

Advisor: Annmarie MacNamara, Ph.D.

Supervised undergraduate research assistants enrolled in Directed Research (PSYC 485/491) during data collection in Dr. Annmarie MacNamara's lab. Provided direct instruction on EEG data collection and data quality, research protocol and ethics, and interacting with participants. Additional responsibilities included training undergraduates in EEG data processing, mentoring groups of undergraduates on a research presentation (once per semester), and advising undergraduates on graduate program applications.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Course: Research Methods & Design in Psychology (PSYC 302)

Gave weekly lectures on research methods and design during lab sections. Instructed undergraduate students on SPSS and JASP to conduct analyses. Instructed students on writing research papers and reporting statistics in APA format. Assisted students with statistical analyses for course papers and projects. Graded papers and projects, held weekly office hours.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Summer 2020

Course: Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 107)

Graded written assignments. Provided additional direct support to the instructor as needed.

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Graduate Student Travel Award, Dept. of Psychology and Brain Sciences, TAMU

2020-2023

3rd Place for the Best 2nd Year Poster Award

October 2020

Dept. of Psychological and Brain Sciences at TAMU

For poster, "Savor the moment: An ERP investigation of savoring and its lasting effects", presented at the 2020 Texas A&M 2nd Year Poster Session

Psi Chi Regional Research Award Competition Finalist

April 2019

For abstract, "Is Visual Search for Numerical Quantity Distinct from Traditional Visual Search?", submitted to 2019 SWPA Symposium.

**2nd Place for the Richard Allen Scott Outstanding Psychology Student Award
Psychology & Counseling Dept. at UCA**

Spring 2018

**Nominated by the Psychology & Counseling Dept. at UCA for Outstanding Student in the College of
Health and Behavioral Sciences**

Spring 2018

Southwestern Psychological Association Awards Showcase

April 2018

For abstract, "How Numerical Size Affects Visual Search," submitted to 2018 SWPA Symposium.

UCA President's List (4.0 GPA)

2015-2018

UCA Dean's List (3.5 GPA or greater)

2014-2015

GRANTS

Excellence in Undergraduate Research Grant

Fall 2018

Awarded \$500 for excellence in undergraduate research at UCA

Psi Chi Undergraduate Research Grant

Summer 2018

Awarded \$1,500 for the proposal, "Is Visual Search for Numerical Quantity Analogous to Traditional Visual Search?"

Kayla A. Wilson
Spring 2018

Psi Chi SWPA Regional Travel Grant

Awarded \$225 for travel to the Annual Southwestern Psychological Association Convention

Norbert O. Schedler Honors College Travel Abroad Grant

Summer 2017

Awarded \$1,500 for a two-week faculty-led trip to the UK to study The Beatles

Norbert O. Schedler Honors College Travel Abroad Grant

Summer 2016

Awarded \$3,500 for a self-planned and budgeted month-long trip through Europe

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND AFFILIATIONS

Society of Psychophysiological Research Member

2020-Present

Student Newsletter Committee 2022-Present

**Clinical Psychology Cohort Representative
TAMU**

2020-Present

Admissions Coordinator 2021-Present

**Psychology Department of Graduate Students (OGAPS) Member
TAMU, Dept. of Psychological & Brain Sciences**

2019-Present

Activities Committee Co-Chair 2020-2021

Psi Chi, The International Honor Society in Psychology Member

2015-Present

Secretary 2017-2018

University of Central Arkansas Psychological Society Member

2015-2018

President 2017-2018

Norbert O. Schedler Honors College Member

2014-2018