

Travis A. Alvarez, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae (March 2023)

146-26 230th Street

Springfield Gardens, NY 11413

Email: taa52@pitt.edu

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. University of Pittsburgh (2019)
Program: Cognitive Psychology
Advisor: Julie A. Fiez
- M.S. University of Pittsburgh (2015)
Program: Cognitive Psychology
Advisor: Julie A. Fiez
- B.A. Brooklyn College (2011)
Major: Psychology
Advisor: Laura Rabin & Joseph Rath (NYU Langone Medical Center)
- A.A. City College of Technology (2009)
Major: Liberal Arts (Computer Science)
Advisor: Reginald Blake

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Course Coordinator & Director

- Research Methods Lab Spring/Fall 2019-22
University of Pittsburgh, 15 teaching instructors
- Hot Metal Bridge Scholars Seminar Spring/Fall 2019-22
University of Pittsburgh, 2 teaching instructors

Instructor of Undergraduate Courses

- Research Methods Lab Spring/Fall 2019-2023, Spring 2016, Fall 2015
University of Pittsburgh
- Cognitive Psychology Lab Fall/Spring 2017 - 2023
University of Pittsburgh
- Cognitive Psychology Lecture Summer 2021
University of Pittsburgh
- Introduction to Psychology Lecture Spring/Summer 2018, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
University of Pittsburgh 90+ students

Teaching Assistant of Undergraduate Courses

- Cognition and the Brain Spring 2019
University of Pittsburgh
- Psychology of Human Sexuality Spring 2019
University of Pittsburgh
- Research Methods Lecture Fall 2015
University of Pittsburgh

Professional Workshop Instructor

- Laser Etching & 3D Printing Spring 2019
Turner Elementary School, Pittsburgh PA | 15 – 30 students
- Queens Gambit Chess Institute Spring 2018
Pittsburgh Learning Commons, Wilkinsburg PA, 18 middle school students

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING DEVELOPMENT

Teaching of Research Methods Course Training. Spring 2019

- University of Pittsburgh, Observed in-class lectures and reviewed course curriculum with instructor

Teaching of Psychology Workshop Spring 2017

- APS Society for the Teaching of Psychology Conference; Attended workshop in developing “Advising Strategies to Promote Occupational Success in Job-Seeking Psychology Majors” (Dr. Drew C. Appleby)

Teaching of Psychology Course Fall 2015

- University of Pittsburgh, Graduate course on the teaching of psychology and designing a personal teaching portfolio

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND TRAINING

2022	Apple Sponsorship – Boot Up PGH, Pittsburgh PA Dollar Bank Grant – Business Support Program, Pittsburgh PA Richard King Mellon Foundation – Playground Renovation, Pittsburgh PA Department of Health Services Grant – Boot Up PGH, Wilkinsburg PA PNC Bank Sponsorship – Bloom Program, Pittsburgh PA
2020 - 2021	Community Business Accelerator Grant, The Heinz Endowments, Pittsburgh PA Department of Community & Economic Development Grant, Wilkinsburg PA
2020	Course Incubator Large Course Redesign Grant Finalist, U. of Pittsburgh
2012 - 2019	Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition Fellow, Carnegie Mellon University
2016	Analysis of Functional Neuroimages Bootcamp Training, NIH, Bethesda, MA
2013 - 2015	Behavioral Brain Research Training Fellow, U. of Pittsburgh
2014	Mediation and Moderation Analysis Training, Philadelphia, PA (The Hub)
2013	Multimodal Neuroimaging Training Fellow, Carnegie Mellon University
2012 - 2013	K. Leroy Irvis Fellowship, U. of Pittsburgh, Mentor: Julie Fiez
2011	Hot Metal Bridge Fellowship, U. of Pittsburgh, Mentor: Kirk Erikson The Emily Lin Lee Award, Brooklyn College
2010 - 2011	Minority Access to Research Careers, Brooklyn College, Mentor: Laura Rabin
2010	Leadership Alliance Fellowship, Stanford U., Mentor: Brian Knutson

SERVICE

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Board Chair/President, Locally Grown NPO, Wilkinsburg PA (2020 – 2022)
Curriculum Facilitator: Creating Peace Program, Children’s Hospital, Wilkinsburg PA (2020-2022)
Curriculum Facilitator: Youth Leadership in Action, Children’s Hospital, Wilkinsburg PA (2020 – 2021)
Curriculum Facilitator & Developer: Manhood 2.0, Children’s Hospital, Wilkinsburg PA (2018 - 2021)
Coordinator, Mental Health First Aid Training Workshop, Allegheny Health Choices, Pittsburgh PA (2018)
Co-Founder & Owner, Community Forge LLC, Wilkinsburg PA (2017 – 2021)
Youth Educator, Pittsburgh Learning Commons NPO, Pittsburgh PA (2017 – 2020)
Tutor & Mentor, Homeless Children’s Education Fund, Pittsburgh PA (2012 – 2014)
Counselor/Curriculum-evaluator, S.T.A.R.R. Shelter Homes Program, Brooklyn, NY (2007 – 2011)
Pre-Calculus & Calculus Tutor, NYC College of Technology, Brooklyn, NY (2008 – 2009)
GED Tutor, Downtown Learning Center, Brooklyn, NY (2007 – 2008)

COMMITTEE & INITIATIVE SERVICES

Departmental

Moskowitz Award Selection Committee, Teaching Program, U. of Pittsburgh (2022)
Faculty Development Committee, Psychology Department, U. of Pittsburgh (2021 – 2022)
Director of the Hot Metal Bridge Program for Psychology Department, U. of Pittsburgh (2019-2022)
Psychology Committee on Equity, Inclusion and Community, U. of Pittsburgh (2020 – 2021)
Behavioral Brain (B2) Research Training Program Advisory Committee, U. of Pittsburgh & CMU (2020)
Hiring Committee for the Psychology Teaching Faculty, U. of Pittsburgh (2020, 2022)
Interview & CV Content Reviewer, VIPitt Program, U. of Pittsburgh (2018)
Learning Research & Development Center’s Diversity Committee, U. of Pittsburgh (2017 – 2018)
Learning Research & Development Center’s Communications’ Committee, U. of Pittsburgh (2016 – 2018)
Graduate Mentor, U. of Pittsburgh BRIDGES Mentoring Program (2016 – 2017)
Social Coordinator of Hot Metal Bridge Post-bac Program, U. of Pittsburgh (2014 – 2015)
Liaison of the Black Male Initiative & SGO, NYC College of Technology (2009 – 2010)

Community

Executive Committee Chair, Locally Grown NPO, Wilkinsburg PA (2021 – 2022)
Advancement in Fundraising Committee, Locally Grown NPO, Wilkinsburg PA (2021 – 2022)
Hiring Committee for Executive Staffing Positions, Community Forge, Wilkinsburg PA (2020)
Co-Founder & Coordinator, Community Forge Youth Council Committee (2018 – 2022)
Assistant Director, Community Forge Tenant Relations Committee (2018 – 2020)
Director, The Mentorship Project NPO, Brooklyn, N.Y. (2015)

Research Journals

Ad hoc reviewer: *Human Brain Mapping*
Ad hoc reviewer: *European Journal of Psychological Assessment*

MENTORING

PERSONALLY DIRECTED UNDERGRADUATE MENTORING (5)

Greg Lauray (Senior at University of Pittsburgh)
 Aishat Okunade (Senior at University of Pittsburgh)
 Clara Lewis (Master's at University of Kentucky)
 Nima Patel (Master's at Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine)
 Herlide Joseph (Master's at Montclair University)

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS (3)

Bailey Lien (MD student at Temple University)
 Colin Reinhart (Fellow at Eastern Virginia Medical Post-baccalaureate Program)
 Breana Downey (PhD, Assistant Professor at University of Central Oklahoma)

UNDERGRADUATE SUMMER INTERNS (2)

Brandon Scott
 Breana Gallagher (Master's at Chatham University, Physician's Assistant)

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS, INSPIRING DIVERSITY, AND GENERATING EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP (BRIDGES) PROGRAM (2)

Jade Remar
 Julia Siracuse

HOT METAL BRIDGE POST-BACCALAUREATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (5)

Nabila Jamal Orozco (PhD student at University of Pittsburgh, Cognitive Psychology)
 Nilda Trujilo
 Monica Navaro (PhD, Education)
 Brook Sims (PhD, Clinical & Counseling Psychology)
 Karla Rivera-Torres (PhD, Research Analyst)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 2012 - 2019 | Doctoral Candidate: Cognitive Psychology, University of Pittsburgh
Research Project: Exploring functional specialization within cerebro-cerebellar circuit
Mentor: Julie A, Fiez, Ph.D. |
| 2011 - 2012 | Pre-Doctoral HMB Fellow: Cognitive Psychology, University of Pittsburgh
Mentor: Kirk Erickson, Ph.D.
Research Project: Aerobic fitness moderates an age-related decline in serum-BDNF |
| 2010 - 2011 | Research Assistant: NYU Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine
Co-mentors: Joseph Rath, Ph.D., Laura Rabin, Ph.D.
Research Project: Elevated brief symptom inventory scores in outpatients with acquired brain injury: Psychopathology or cognitive/physical symptoms? |
| 2010 - 2010 | Research Assistant: Neuropsychology, Stanford University
Mentor: Brian Knutson, Ph.D.
Research Project: Effects of spatial and temporal resolution on fMRI reward-related activation |
| 2009 - 2010 | Research Assistant: Behavioral Psychology, Brooklyn College (CUNY)
Mentor: Janina Scarlet, Ph.D. |

PUBLICATIONS

- Ganger, J., Kucinski, B., Ciccocioppo, M., Cousins, J., Streeter, S., & **Alvarez, T.A.** (October, 2020). Advanced Achievement in the Teaching of Psychology (AATOP): An Elective Program for Graduate Students. Abstract accepted but not presented at the Society for Teaching of Psychology Annual Conference on Teaching due to cancelation of the in-person conference. (We have been pledged that our abstract will be included in e-book to be published later in the coming year. URL to be added.)
- Alvarez, T. A.,** & Fiez, J. A. (2018). Current perspectives on the cerebellum and reading development. *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews*. 92, 55–66.

INVITED TALKS

- Guest Lecturer: Graduate Engagement Opportunities. Center for Civic Engagement. Northwestern University. Evanston IL (2022)
- Speaker: Balancing Teaching and Service in the Community. Teaching Program Advanced Achievement in the Teaching of Psychology Seminar. U. of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh PA (2022)
- Panellist: Professional Research and Community Service. Free the Ph.D. Career Design Summit. Virtual Zoom Summit (2020).
- Keynote Speaker: Community Forge Youth Council. National League of Cities Congressional City Pre-Conference. Washington, DC (2020).
- Moderator: Oral Presentations, Leadership Alliance National Symposium, Hartford, CT (2017)
- Speaker: Professional Research, HealthSouth Harmarville Rehabilitation Hospital. Pittsburgh, PA (2016)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

*Undergraduate Advisee

- Alvarez, T. A.,** & Fiez, J. A. (2015, July). Phonological recoding and orthographic learning: Testing the self-teaching hypothesis in young adults. Poster presented at the Annual Society for the Scientific Studies of Reading, The Big Island, HI.
- Downey, B. K.*, **Alvarez, T. A.,** Lien, Y. C., & Fiez, J. A. (2015, April). Phonological recoding during orthographic learning: An examination of self-teaching in adult readers. Poster presented at the *Annual University of Pittsburgh Undergraduate Research Fair*, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Lien, Y. C.*, **Alvarez, T. A.,** Downey, B. K., & Fiez, J. A. (2015, April). Visual word acquisition using artificial orthography of English. Poster presented at the *Annual University of Pittsburgh Undergraduate Research Fair*, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Alvarez, T. A.,** Lopresti, C. J., Durisko, C., & Fiez, J. A. (2013, Nov). The cerebellum and cognition: Investigating functional specialization within the cerebellum. Poster presented at the *Annual Society for Neuroscience Conference*, San Diego, CA.
- Lopresti, C. J., **Alvarez, T. A.,** & Fiez, J. A. (2013, Nov). Motor sequencing in the human cerebellum: How movement predictability and effector influence activity. Poster presented at the *Annual Society for Neuroscience Conference*, San Diego, CA
- Alvarez, T. A.,** Turney, I. C., Leckie, R., Voss, M. W., Prakash, R. S., . . . Erickson, K. I. (2012, May). Aerobic fitness moderates an age-related decline in serum-BDNF. Poster presented at the *Annual Cognitive Aging Conference*, Atlanta, GA.

- Alvarez, T. A.,** Rabin, L., & Rath, J. (2011, May). The BSI as a screening tool for psychological symptoms in outpatients with traumatic brain injury. Poster presented at the *Annual Brooklyn College Science Day*, Brooklyn, NY.
- Alvarez, T. A.,** Rabin, L., & Rath, J. (2010, Nov). Elevated brief symptom inventory scores in outpatients with acquired brain injury: Psychopathology or cognitive/physical symptoms? Poster presented at the *Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students*, Charlotte, NC.
- Alvarez, T. A.,** & Knutson, B. (2010, July). Effects of spatial and temporal resolution on fMRI reward-related activation. Presented at the *Leadership Alliance National Symposium*, East Brunswick, NJ.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for the Teaching of Psychology
Society for the Scientific Study of Reading
Society for Neuroscience
American Psychological Society
Black Tech Nation