

FREYA WHITTAKER, M.S.

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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Oregon State University, Experimental Psychology	Anticipated June 2026
M.S.	Oregon State University, Experimental Psychology	2024
B.A.	Dickinson College, Psychology & French <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Honors in Psychology Honors in French & Francophone Studies	2021
Study Abroad	Danish Institute for Study Abroad Copenhagen, DK	2019

HONORS AND AWARDS

Oregon Lottery Graduate Scholarship	2023
State-level award for graduate student academic merit and service	
Oregon State University Provost Distinguished Graduate Scholarship	2022
Awarded for outstanding academic achievement and promise	
Phi Beta Kappa	2021
Academic Honor Society	
Caroline Heath Kennedy French Literature Prize	2021
For excellent French Honors thesis	
Pi Delta Phi	2021
National French Honor Society	
Psi Chi	2019
Psychology Honor Society	
Selma K Asbell Award	2019
For exceptional scholastic performance in the study of French	
Benjamin and Portia Hosler Scholarship	2019
For overall undergraduate academic achievement	
James G Stemler Study Abroad Scholarship	2019
Full funding for study abroad awarded based on academic merit	
Alpha Lambda Delta	2017
National First-Year Honor Society	

PUBLICATIONS

Whittaker, F., DeFalco, A., Sanders, S. M., Perkins, E. R., Joyner, K. J., & Bradford, D. E. (2024). Racial Biases in Skin Conductance Response-Based Polygraphs and Their Legal Implications. *Nature Human Behavior*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-024-02025-0>

Oldham J.R., DeFalco, A., Willwerth, S., Nagle, S., **Whittaker, F.**, Mannix, R., Meehan, W.P., Bradford, D.E. (2024) Concussion-Related Suppression of General Startle Reactivity in Adolescent Athletes. *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation*.
<https://doi.org/10.1097/HTR.0000000000000979>

Guardino, C., **Whittaker, F.**, Williams, E., Franchini, M. (2023). Resilience Resources, Coping, and Health Outcomes in College Students during the Covid-19 Pandemic. *Journal of American College Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07448481.2023.2269446>

Bradford, D. E., Dev, A. S., DeFalco, A., **Whittaker, F.**, Timpano, K. A. (2023). Increasing ecological validity in neuropsychopharmacology research on the relationship between alcohol use and uncertain stressors. *Neuropsychopharmacology*.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41386-023-01672-7>

Whittaker, F., & Kingston, S. (2022). Stress, social support, and substance use in the COVID-19 pandemic. *Translational Issues in Psychological Science*, 18, 1-17.
<https://doi.org/10.1037/tps0000322>

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW & IN PREPARATION

Whittaker, F., DeFalco, A., Sant'Ana, S.J., Starr, M.J., Curtin, J.J., & Bradford, D.E. (under review). Alcohol increases the subjective value of uncertain rewards in a reward decision-making task: Behavioral and electrocortical correlates.

Zhao, Z., **Whittaker, F.**, Bradford, D. E., & Green, C. S. (under review). Lack of evidence for increase in video game addiction symptoms in college-aged gamers over an eight-year period (2017-2024).

Whittaker, F., Elhusseini, S., Loskot, T., La Bash, H., Thomas, F., Finley, E., Lagdamen, J., Monson, C., & Wiltsey Stirman, S. (under review). Comparing and Evaluating Methods of Coding Qualitative Interviews in Implementation Research.

LaBash, H., **Whittaker, F.**, Elhusseini, S., Monson, C., & Wiltsey Stirman, S. (in preparation). Combinations of facilitators and barriers that result in successful and unsuccessful CPT implementation across US and Canadian healthcare systems.

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

Bradford, D.E., DeFalco, A., **Whittaker, F.**, Dooley, C., Curtin, J.J. *Risky business: alcohol increases the subjective value of uncertain rewards in a gambling task*. (2023, October). Invited presentation for the Oregon Problem Gambling Services Fall Summit, Lincoln City, OR.

Whittaker, F. *Stress, Social Factors, and Health Outcomes in the Age of COVID-19*. (2023, September). Invited talk presented for the Rotary Club of Greater Corvallis, Corvallis, OR.

Whittaker, F. *Womanhood in STEM: why sex differences in research cannot be ignored.* (2023, July). Invited talk presented to Oregon State University's summer 2023 cohort of Saturday Academy's Apprenticeships in Science & Engineering Program interns.

Whittaker, F. (2023, June). *Navigating diversity in the classroom: considerations for teaching team members.* Invited talk presented at training for Oregon State University Teaching Assistants, Corvallis, OR.

Whittaker, F. (2021, May). *Femininity in the French diaspora: blackness, womanhood, and power.* Invited presentation at the Dickinson College 2021 Women of Color Summit, Carlisle, PA.

Whittaker, F. (2021, May). *Les femmes folles: Representation of female madness in 19th century French literature.* Invited presentation at the 2021 Dickinson College Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality (ROWGS) Symposium, Carlisle, PA.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Whittaker, F., Respini, S. E., Gilmore, E. M., Tognoli, M. I., Ransford, K., Byrne, L., Xu, C. P., Ma, Q., & Bradford, D. E. *Shots In The Dark: Alcohol Dampens Startle Potentiation In A Novel Threat Of Darkness Paradigm.* (2024, October). Poster presented at the 64th annual Society for Psychophysiological Research, Prague, Czech Republic.

Whittaker, F., Respini, S. E., Watkins, G. M., Gilmore, E. M., DeFalco, A., Peavey, N., Tepe, L. R., Rifkin, E. J., Perez, M., & Bradford, D. E. *Lost in the Shadows: a Novel Dark-Enhanced Startle Task.* (2024, August). Poster presented for the American Psychological Association 2024 Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA. *Nominated for poster award

DeFalco, A., **Whittaker, F.,** Dooley, C., Curtin, J.J., Bradford, D.E. *Risky business: alcohol increases the subjective value of uncertain rewards.* (2023, October). Poster presented for the International Council for Responsible Gaming Conference on Gambling and Addiction, Las Vegas, NV. *Honorable mention for poster award

Whittaker, F., DeFalco, A., Tognoli, M.I., Gilmore, E., & Bradford, D.E. (2023, September). *A refined dark enhanced startle task.* Poster presented at the 63rd annual Society for Psychophysiological Research, New Orleans, LA.

DeFalco, A., **Whittaker, F.,** Dooley, C., Curtin, J.J., Bradford, D.E. (2023, September). *Spirited away: alcohol may dull error monitoring and encourage risky choices.* Poster presented at the 63rd annual Society for Psychophysiological Research, New Orleans, LA.

La Bash, H., **Whittaker, F.,** Elhusseini, S., Mallard-Swanson, K., Lagdamen, J., Masina, T., Song, J., Ajmain, S., Loskot, T., Liebman, R., Lane, J., Finley, E., Shields, N., Monson, C., & Wiltsey Stirman, S. (2022, September). *Use of a novel method to identify combinations of facilitators and barriers that result in successful and unsuccessful CPT implementation*

- Coordinated a multisite, NIMH-funded study designed to disseminate and evaluate the efficacy of Written Exposure Therapy (WET) in VA clinics
- Coordinated a NIMH-funded study comparing Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR) ratings of interview transcripts vs. ratings of interview recordings
- Rated Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) sessions for treatment protocol fidelity, and working alliance to support projects aimed at evaluating the sustainability of CPT implementation programs at VA sites, and testing innovative methods to assess fidelity of CPT delivery in routine mental healthcare settings
- Prepared and submitted materials for IRB review
- Cleaned and analyzed quantitative data in R

Psychology Honors Thesis

Aug 2020 – May 2021

Stress, Social Support, and Substance Use Behaviors in the COVID-19 Pandemic

Advisor: Sharon Kingston, PhD.

Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA

- Designed and executed a study investigating the extent to which greater stress and social isolation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic were associated with increased substance use
- Performed literature reviews to develop novel hypotheses and evaluate measurement instruments
- Collected, analyzed, and interpreted quantitative data

French Honors Thesis

Aug 2020 – May 2021

Representations of Female Madness in 19th Century French Literature

Advisor: Adeline Soldin, PhD.

Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA

- Read and analyzed the portrayal of female mental illness and emotional distress in French literature of the 19th and early 20th centuries
- Demonstrated the broader implications of these portrayals in reflecting and shaping contemporary stereotypes about women
- Produced significant literary analysis (55 pages) in French

Research Assistant, Stress, Resilience, and Health Lab

Aug 2020 – May 2021

Supervisor: Christine Guardino, PhD.

Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA

- Quantified target outcome variables and developed hypotheses in a longitudinal study investigating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on undergraduate students' mental and physical health
- Conducted literature searches and assisted in the preparation of manuscripts for conferences and peer-reviewed journals
- Performed statistical analyses (e.g., regression, correlations), scored and managed quantitative data in SPSS

Research Assistant, Improving Outcomes for Children of Caregivers with Substance Use Disorders

Jan 2020 – May 2021

Supervisor: Sharon Kingston, PhD.
Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA

- Developed instruments to evaluate effectiveness of a community-based intervention for children impacted by caregiver substance use disorder
- Collected, managed, scored, and analyzed data from interviews with adults and children
- Prepared reports and presentations for local professionals, funding sources, and peer-reviewed journals

Independent Research

Sept 2019 – Dec 2019

Nutritional Access and Social Psychiatry Treatment Outcomes

Advisor: Eleftherios Saftis, M.A.

Danish Institute for Study Abroad, Copenhagen, DK

- Designed and developed a correlational study on the extent to which a healthful, nutrient-dense diet was associated with more positive outcomes of psychological interventions in the Danish welfare state-funded social psychiatry network
- Collected, coded, and analyzed both qualitative and quantitative data
- Conducted literature searches and review
- Communicated findings and implications of independent research to stakeholders and the general public

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Instructor of Record, Department of Psychology

March 2023 –

PSY 202: General Psychology

Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

- Generate and present lectures to classes of 50 students
- Design course, materials, assignments, etc. based on desired student learning outcomes and undergraduate psychology program requirements
- Assess student work through grading written assignments

Student Mentor, Project SHORT

Jan 2023 –

- Provide one-on-one mentorship about application and assimilation to graduate programs to incoming and prospective students from low-income backgrounds
- Lead programming to support Project SHORT (Students for Higher Education Opportunities and Representation in Training)'s goal of shrinking socioeconomic gaps and increasing diversity in medical and graduate school

Undergraduate Mentor, OSU STEM Leaders Program

Jan 2023 –

Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

- Involved 2 first-year undergraduates from underrepresented backgrounds in research experiences and guided their growth as a researcher
- Facilitated mentees' application to additional research and professional development experiences

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology

Sept 2022 – March 2023

PSY 202: General Psychology

Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

- Assessed student work through grading written assignments
- Created exams, study guides, presentations, and other teaching materials
- Presented lectures to classes of 300+ students

Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology

Aug 2020 – Dec 2020

PSY 120: Introduction to Health Psychology

Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA

- Supervised and facilitated class discussions based on course content
- Instructed students in applying and differentiating between course concepts
- Supported teaching activities as a liaison between instructor and 41 undergraduate students

Statistics Tutor, Department of Psychology

Jan 2019 – May 2020

Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA

- Worked with a total of 7 undergraduate students individually to facilitate an understanding of statistical logic and analyses in psychological research
- Developed student competencies in SPSS and statistical computer programming

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Research Consultant (Wearables), MyKiki

May 2024 –

Remote

- Informed design of user interface and data collection procedures to support research goals of app startup
- Provided expertise and insight on feasibility and challenges of physiological data collection via wearables to inform research plan and app development

Student Interviewer, Dickinson College Office of Admissions

Aug 2020 – May 2021

Carlisle, PA

- Conducted evaluative interviews with prospective undergraduate students to assess interpersonal factors that contribute to undergraduate admission outcomes
- Maintained professionalism with prospective students and families
- Adhered to strict confidentiality protocols regarding details of students' admission materials and decisions

Summer Data Assistant, University of Massachusetts Med. School

June 2020 – Aug 2020

Worcester, MA

- Worked with Director/ PI for the University of Massachusetts Medical School's MassAHEC (Area Health Education Center) Network
- Learned and used federal software to complete data entry and analysis
- Coordinated and performed data entry for the federal Annual Performance Report (USDHHS/HRSA Grant #U77HP03016), making zero errors

SERVICE

OSF Ambassador Sept 2023 –
Open Science Framework
Organized advocacy for open science principles of research integrity, openness, and reproducibility through delivering presentations and creating training material for my home institution.

Reviewer, *Psychophysiology*

Co- Reviewer, *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors, Biological Psychiatry, Psychophysiology, International Journal of Psychophysiology, Stress & Health*

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee Member Jan 2024 –
Oregon State University Honors College

Committee Member, *Diversity and Outreach Student Subcommittee* Oct 2022 – Aug 2024
Society for Psychophysiological Research

Committee Member, *Project SHORT Planning Committee* Jan 2023 – Jan 2024
Project SHORT (Students for Higher Education Opportunities and Representation in Training)

Title IX Peer Educator Jan 2019 – May 2020
Dickinson College Office of Title IX

SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

Technical Skills

Julia	Working experience
MATLAB	Intermediate
Python	Intermediate
Qualtrics	Advanced
R	Advanced
REDCap	Advanced
SPSS	Advanced
SQL	Working experience

Foreign Languages

French	Advanced Reading Proficiency
	Advanced Writing Proficiency
	Intermediate Speaking Proficiency