Benjamin Lira Luttges

Duckworth Lab   blira@sas.upenn.com
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Research Interests

Executive control   Self-regulation and motivation
Decision making   Moral reasoning

Education

2015 – 2017   Universidad de Lima, Peru
               Professional Licensure in Psychology
               Thesis Topic: Parental predictors of children's effortful control
               Thesis Advisor: Carolina Camino, M.A.

2009 – 2015   Universidad de Lima, Peru
               B.A., Psychology. GPA 4.0 (18.6/20)
               Class Rank: 1st out of 40 psychology graduates

2013   Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
               Exchange student in master level courses
               Relevant courses: Education, Society and Culture, Cognitive Science, Artificial
               Intelligence
               6 courses (29 credits)

Grants and Awards

2018   Annual Research Competition winner, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú
               Basic Psychological Needs in the Context of Poverty
               Grant Award: 135 000 and 45 000 PEN (53,576 USD)

2010 – 2015   Full scholarship, Universidad de Lima
               Est. Value: 146 523 PEN (43,612 USD)

Academic Positions

2020   **Predoctoral Visiting Scholar,** University of Pennsylvania
               Duckworth Lab, PI: Angela Duckworth
               PSYC 005-401: Grit Lab (TA)

2017 – 2019   **Instructor,** Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú
               PSB229: Motivation and Emotion
                       2019 – 2: Enrollment 27.   2018 – 1: Enrollment 26.
                       2019 – 1: Enrollment 51.   2017 – 2: Enrollment: 16.

               PSG207: Psychological Test Construction
                       2018 – 1: Enrollment 49.   2017 – 2: Enrollment 51.

               PSG204: Psychological Research
               2017 – 2: Enrollment 28.

2018   **Guest Lecturer,** Universidad Cayetano Heredia
               Cognitive Behavioral Intervention Methods

Work Experience

2020 –	**Visiting scholar,** Duckworth Lab, University of Pennsylvania Duckworth Lab, PI: Angela Duckworth

- Participated in all aspects of the research process: conceptualization, data collection, data analysis, writing, submission and revision.
- Mentored an undergraduate researcher and a group of high-school interns.
- Designed activities for an undergraduate course on motivation.
- Designed and taught a series of lessons on statistical analysis using R.

2016 – 2020	**Research assistant,** Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú Motivation and Emotion Research Group. Projects:

- Basic psychological needs and poverty
- Maternal autonomy support
- Basic psychological need support and thwarting and engagement in school and university
- Autonomy support intervention program
- Need support and thwarting in competitive sports

2015 – 2017	**Lead research analyst,** Cerebrum

- Was responsible for research and intervention programs.
- Taught and supervised graduate students' theses.
- Wrote articles for the education community.
- Participated in conferences.
- Developed content for graduate courses in educational neuroscience.

2016	**Statistical consultant,** EVACP Consulting

- Carried out psychometric and statistical analysis for a social program impact evaluation for the Peace Corps in Peru.

2015 –	**Thesis advisor**

- Coached and supported +30 undergraduate and graduate students from Universidad de Lima, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas in multiple stages of their thesis projects.

2014 – 2015	**Research and educational psychology intern,** Cerebrum

- Created an intervention program for the development of self-regulation and executive function and designed a tool to evaluate its impact.
- Developed content for graduate courses in educational neuroscience.

2013	**Assistant to Ricardo Braun Ph.D.,** Universidad de Lima

- Edited and reviewed a book manuscript about the philosophy of the mind.

2012	**Assistant to Sandra Inurritegui Ph.D.,** Universidad de Lima

- Designed the methodology, developed experiments, and coordinated school logistics.

Languages

Spanish: Native   English: Advanced   German: Basic

Test Scores

Graduate Records Examination (GRE) – Nov 14, 2019.
    Verbal: 169 (99th Pc.), Quantitative: 166 (89th Pc.), Analytical Writing: 5.5 (98th Pc.)
Test of English as a Second Language (TOEFL): 119/120 – Sept 28, 2019.
    Writing: 30, Speaking: 29, Reading: 30, Listening: 30.

Publications
[Google Scholar](#)

Published
Lira Luttges, B. (2017). The predictive role of parental and maternal emotion regulation, empathy, and alexithymia in toddler's effortful control. Universidad de Lima Undergraduate Thesis. ([link](#))

Gleichgerrcht, E., **Lira Luttges, B.**, Salvarezza, F., & Campos, A.L. (2015). Educational neuromyths among teachers in Latin America. *Mind, Brain, and Education 9*(3). 170–78. doi:10.1111/mbe.12086. ([link](#))

Gleichgerrcht, E. & **Lira Luttges, B.** (2014). Attention: fostering educational neuroscience 5. Lima: Cerebrum Ediciones.

Submitted
Duckworth, A.L., Gardner, M., Quirk, A.; **Lira Luttges, B**.; Stone, C.; Rao, A.; Hutt, S.; D'Mello, S. (2020). Using machine learning to identify motivational themes in college applications. Manuscript submitted for publication.

Caffarena, C., **Lira Luttges, B**., Campos, A.L., Rojas-Barahona, C. (2020). Psychometric properties of the Child Behavior Questionnaire (CBQ) in Chile. Manuscript submitted for publication.

Herrera, D., Matos, L., Gargurevich, R., **Lira, B.**, Valenzuela, R. (2020). Context matters: Teaching styles and basic psychological needs predicting flourishing and perfectionism in university music students. Manuscript submitted for publication.

In Prep
Flynn, K. R., **Lira Luttges, B.**, & Duckworth, A.L. (2020). Lesson previews vs. reviews: How the timing of additional instruction affects achievement. Manuscript in preparation.

Lira Luttges, B., & Duckworth, A.L. (2020). Grit is about internal motivation. Manuscript in preparation.

Lira Luttges, B., Matos, L. (2020). To engage or to disengage. Exploring the unique and interactive role of achievement goals and underlying reasons among Peruvian university students. Manuscript in preparation.

Lira Luttges, B., Matos, L. (2020). Examining different configurations of learning climate. A person-centered approach. Manuscript in preparation.

Lira Luttges, B., Marquina, V., Campos, A.L. (2020). The effectiveness of an intervention to promote executive function and self-regulation in children. Manuscript in preparation.

Putnam, S., …, **Lira Luttges, B.**, et al. (2020). Global temperament project. Manuscript in preparation.

Lira Luttges, B. & Lopez, F. E. (2020). Conspiracy beliefs, cognitive reflection and belief in science and pseudoscience. Manuscript in preparation.

Presentations
Lira Luttges, B. (2018, May). The predictive role of parental emotion regulation, empathy, and alexithymia on preschooler's effortful control [Poster presentation]. 22nd Occasional Temperament Conference (OTC). Murcia, Spain.

Lira Luttges, B. (2016, November). *Self-regulation and its impact in and out of the classroom* [Presentation]. Self-Regulation Seminar: Cerebrum. Puerto Varas, Chile. ([link](#))

Lira Luttges, B. (2016, September). *Educational neuromyths in Latin America* [Conference Session]. Fifth Peruvian Society for Educational Research Conference (SIEP) Seminar. Ayacucho, Peru. ([link](#))

Lira Luttges, B. (2016, September). *The importance of cognitive regulation in the classroom* [Presentation]. Self-regulation Seminar: Cerebrum. Medellin, Colombia. ([link](#))

Lira Luttges, B. (2015, March). *Neurodiversity and Inclusion in Education* [Panel participant]. International Seminar on Neurodiversity: Cerebrum. Lima, Peru. ([link](#))

Technical Skills
Programming: Qualtrics, R, SPSS, Factor, MPlus, MLWin, Psychopy
Statistical Methods: Exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis, multilevel modelling, structural equation modelling, cluster analysis, polynomial regression with response surface analysis (RSA), nonparametric regression methods including logistic, Poisson, and negative binomial regression, and machine learning methods including classification and regression trees (CART), random forests, text analytics and sentiment analysis.

Additional Education
Foundations of Data Analysis – Part I. University of Texas at Austin. MOOC.
The Analytics Edge. MITx. MOOC.
Quantitative Biology Workshop. MITx. MOOC

Additional Projects
- #Investigatips. Video library explaining research methods and statistics. +55K video views. (In Spanish)
- Statistics for Psychologists with R. A series of self-guided tutorials and practice sets exploring common data manipulation, visualization, and analysis tasks in R. Collaboration with Chayce Baldwin
- R Package. Custom functions for ordinal alpha, Mahalanobis outlier detection, discriminant validity analysis, and data simulation.
- R Programming. Web application to predict grape harvest dates and volumes based on weather and agricultural data.

Community Service
- Volunteer for the program Un Techo Para Mi País, building houses after the Chincha 2007 earthquake. Constructed 5 houses for the benefit of 5 families.
- Volunteer for CPDI, a malnutrition prevention center in Pamplona. Worked with the community to generate appropriate strategies to promote healthy eating habits.
- One hundred and fifty hours of service in the IB-CAS program: building homes, tutoring children, among other service labors.
- Volunteer for the Peruvian Ministry of Education. Conducted interviews with teachers and principals regarding the effectiveness of feedback received by schools after the Census Student Evaluation.

Organizational Involvement
Member of Colegio de Psicólogos del Perú (National Association of Psychologists of Peru). CPsP. 31816

References
Angela Duckworth	Ph.D. in Psychology	aduckworth@characterlab.org
Lennia Matos	Ph.D. in Psychology	lmatosf@pucp.edu.pe
Sandra Inurritegui.	Ph.D. in Psychology	sinurrit@ulima.edu.pe
Dora Herrera	Ph.D. in Psychology	diherrer@pucp.edu.pe